

# RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

## MARCH 2011

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A meeting of the parish council was held on 7th March 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at The Memorial Hall Ruyton XI Towns.

COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr T. Allison; Mr C Brown; Mr C. Case (Chairman); Mr S. Gittins; Mr A. Johnston; Mr M. Lewis; Mrs M. Lycett; Mrs A. White; Mrs R. Slowley (Vice-Chair); and Mr J.Hamlett.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk - Sue Hackett; 3 members of the public.

146.10 INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN & APOLOGIES: The Chairman opened the meeting. The Clerk reported the absence and apologies of Cllr D Needham due to personal commitments. **These was unanimously accepted and approved by the Council.**

147.10 PUBLIC SESSION – Members of the public raised the following concerns:

Church Bank walls in poor repair. Pavement from school to Cross & along School Rd in poor state of repair – Clerk to report.

Platt Bridge –concerns as to why repairs were taking so long. It was agreed by the council that the issues were to be addressed at Min 156 &158.10.

148.10 COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: - In accordance with S50-52 of LGA 2000 the following declarations were made and noted by the Council:

- Cllrs Slowley; Allison, and Case; expressed their ongoing personal interest as members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC).
- Cllrs Allison, White and Case expressed their ongoing personal interest as members of the Village Hall Committee.

149.10 CONFIRMATION & ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Draft minutes of the PC meetings held on 7/2/11 which had been circulated to members were confirmed by the Council as accurate following an amendment which stated that Cllr Hamlett had been present. **By unanimous agreement the Chairman was then instructed by the council to sign them as accurate.** (TA Proposed RS Seconded.)

150.10 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL (SC) REPORT – Unavailable.

151.10 PLANNING MATTERS *Cllr Lewis joined the meeting.*

a. Council to consider the following planning application:

Reference: 11/00498/MAW (validated: 09/02/2011)

Address: Wind Turbine Site, Abbotsmoor Farm, Haughton, West Felton, Shropshire

Proposal: Installation of 1 wind turbine (66m high), erection of small substation, formation of new access track and hard standing and associated infrastructure

Comments: Following some discussion council concluded that the turbine would be visible within parts of the parish; particularly as it requires to be lit because of air craft control. It was also noted that Natural England had also submitted concerns with regard to bird life.

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Cllr Johnston proposed that the council object due to noise and visual impact on the environment. Cllr Slowley seconded (Vote For: 3; Against:7) .

The following alternative proposal was put forward. The council did not feel qualified to respond to the application; as it supported more environmentally friendly energy production but **resolved unanimously to make the following comments:**

- **That the structure proposed disfigured the rural landscape;**
- **The council had significant environmental concerns and;**
- **That as a result councillors and parishioners were encouraged to individually respond to the application.** (Proposed: C.C; Seconded S.G.)

The Chairman reported on the SC planning decisions notified to the Council:

10/05574/FUL	22/12/2011	Wykey Farm Wykey Ruyton Xi Towns	Conversion of a traditional agricultural building into one residential dwelling	Passed
10/05589/LBC	04/01/2011			
10/05588/FUL	04/01/2011	Talbot Inn Church Street	Alterations in association with conversion of former barn and stable into dwelling	Application Withdrawn
10/05407/HRM	08/12/2010	Land North East Of Hanley Hall Elbridge Ruyton Xi Towns	To remove 106 metres of hedgerow to combine two small fields	Grant Hedgerow Removal

b. Severn Trent Plant - Ruyton XI Towns. Deferred to the next meeting.

152.10 LOCAL POLICE REPORT – A villager reported that past disturbances had reduced significantly and the Chairman confirmed that he had received a verbal report to this effect from the Police Team.

153.10 CONSULTATIONS:

- a. SC Draft SPD (Part 1); Draft Developer Contributions; Draft Charging Schedule for Community Infrastructure Levy- Following some discussion the council resolved to respond as follows:

What was the justification for the huge disparity between the proposed levy of £40 per sq m in urban areas and £120 per sq m in rural areas? What guarantee was there that income derived from this levy from rural development will be allocated to the infra structure needs of that specific parish. To ensure this transparency exists within SC it is recommended that such income is transferred to the specific parish council's accounts and treated as a restricted fund.

Would Shropshire Council please define a "place plan". The Parish had invested considerable time and effort in trying to produce a parish plan and therefore wished to know whether these were the same documents.

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SC Charter – The council discussed the recent letter received from Cllr M.Taylor-Smith relating to ICT service provision and were of the opinion that SC were unreasonable in the actions as precepts had already been set by parish and town councils prior to the letter having been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to SC to this effect **The council unanimously resolved that they would not at this point sign the Charter as the terms of the agreement were being changed without consultation by SC.** ( Proposed CC; Seconded SG.)

### 154.10 LOCAL REPORTS

- a. Ruyton Primary School – Cllr Slowley & Case reported on the financial stability of the school. The pre-school was slightly behind schedule but confident that the new building would open for the Summer Term.
- b. Ruyton Sports Committee – Cllr Brown reported that they were now in the position to meet Clive Dean and commence the improvements. Cllr Gittins reported that promotional leaflets about the formation of a new football team would be distributed in the village.
- c. Nesscliffe Advisory Group – Cllr Slowley reported that the group would be meeting latter in the month.
- d. Parish Plan Steering Group – Nothing to report.

### 155.10 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS; ST LAMPS & ST FURNITURE – The following were highlighted:

- School crossing beacon still faulty and not working.
- SC had confirmed that Marches Meadow St. lights have been adopted by SC.
- Park Bank finger post now repaired required painting. **Council agreed to meet the cost of the paint from its Village Maintenance budget.**

### 156.10 MAINTENANCE OF THE PATH BETWEEN VILLAGE HALL (VH) & CHURCH

The Chairman reported on the repairs necessary to the facing of the wall following considerable debate the council unanimously agreed to:

- Repair the existing council notice board and attach it to the wall of the VH.
- Ramp the existing step to the pavement at the village hall and raise the gate.
- Obtain best quotes for work using the Church builders and delegate the allocation of the work accordingly within a £500 budget to the Chairman.

Clerk to report poor state of village pavement near Memorial Cross; Brownhills and repairs required to Church Bank Walls.

### 157.10 FINANCE -The council examined the following invoices and reimbursements which required authorisation for payment and instructed Cllrs Lycett and Lewis to sign them.

Date	Chq No	Payee	Description	£
07/03/2011	244	Clerk	4th quarter salary	1,227.42
07/03/2011	245	Post office Services Ltd	4th quarter tax/ni	339.49
07/03/2011	246	V & W Electrics Ltd	Old Smithy light mtce	73.46
07/03/2011	247	Clerk	Mileage reimbursement	25.72

- a. Clerk to present Co-Op Banking Information – Deferred to next meeting.
- b. Council agreed to meet a third of the costs of registering for Clerk's CILCA training with other two councils. Council also agreed to allow time within contracted hours for the Clerk to assimilate portfolio.

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c. Clerk presented draft year end accounts 2010-11 and budget monitoring report for the year. Appendix B. The report was noted by council.

158.10 CLERK'S REPORT & COMMUNICATION – See Appendix C.

The Chairman commented on the need to support the letter sent by Baschurch PC to SC. It was agreed following a lengthy debate that the council would also write to SC supporting the need for restrictions on the volume of HGV traffic using the bridge; which was after all a listed monument and would encourage a meeting between all interested parties i.e. representatives from both parish councils and SC Bridge & Highway officers to discuss the way forward which best suited all.

159.10 COUNCIL POLICIES – The council renewed its adoption of the following policies i.e. Standing Orders; Finance Procedures; Communications; Complaints.

160.10 INSURANCE & RISK ASSESSMENT – The council considered the current risk assessment (Appendix A) as amended earlier in the year in light of the Chairman and Vice- Chair's visit to the Clerk's home office. The assessment was noted and adopted by the council.

The council's register of assets (below) was confirmed as accurate and the Clerk was instructed to obtain the necessary insurance quotes.

Description	Insured per Policy 2009/10	Insured per policy 2010/11	Insured per policy 2011/12
	£	£	£
	*Insurance Value £	*Insurance Value £	*Insurance Value £
War Memorial	1,010	1,010	1,010
Stone Cross	22,165	22,165	22,165
20 Lamp Light columns	11,000	11,000	11,000
28 Lighting Fixtures	11,200	11,200	11,200
Bus Shelter	11,045	11,045	11,045
New Bus Shelter	8,000	8,000	8,000
Memorial Bench	537	550	550
Parish Notice Boards (4)		2,000	2,000
	<u>64,957</u>	<u>66,970</u>	<u>66,970</u>

161.10 PARISH HANGING BASKET PROJECT – Council agreed to support the project and display posters about the village.

162.10 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA – Cllrs White and Lycett reported that the preparation for binding council minutes for archiving was in progress.

*CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – The council resolved that the press and public be asked to leave the meeting in view of the confidential nature of the remaining item of business to be transacted. In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by s.100 LGA 1972. (The Clerk was also asked to leave the meeting.)*

163.10 CLERK'S APPRAISAL – The Chair and Vice-chair reported that they had completed the clerk's appraisal. The council authorised them to carry out appropriate discussions with the Clerk within agreed boundaries. The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05 and stated that the next meeting was to be held on **Monday 4th April 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at The Memorial Hall.**