

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

The parish council held an ordinary meeting at the Memorial Hall, Ruyton XI Towns on Monday 29th March 2010 at 8.30 pm.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Mr T. Allison	Mr C. Case - Chairman	Mrs M. Lycett	Ms R. Slowley
Mr M Lewis	Mrs A White	Mr J Hamlett	Mrs D. Needham
Mrs Caesar-Homden - SC & Parish Councillor			Mr C Brown

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk – Sue Hackett; 10 members of the public.

118.09 WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN & APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting. There were no apologies.

119.09 COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Slowley; Needham; White; Case; and Allison expressed their ongoing personal interest as members of the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC) and resulting involvement in the Playbuilder Scheme

Cllr Caesar-Homden expressed her dual hatted interest in all items on the agenda relating to Shropshire Council (SC). She added that she would be representing local residents on agenda item 128.09 a and not SC.

Cllr Lycett expressed her ongoing personal interest and involvement in the Playbuilder scheme.

Cllrs Slowley and Case reported their ongoing personal interests as School governors.

Cllr Slowley reported that she had a predetermined interest in Min Ref 128.09 1 as she had already submitted personal comments on the application.

120.09 PUBLIC FORUM

Various members of the public spoke on the following parish matters:

Laura Jefferies : Reported that the public were generally unaware of which websites to visit in order to gain a better understanding of planning issues, local police reports etc and needed to be provided with direction. This was noted by the Parish Council.

Irene White: Reported that she understood that SC were renegotiating the S106 agreement relating to The Dairy Site with Pentons and requested that it would be in the village's best interest if the need for a new village hall with parking was taken in to account in the negotiation as the existing Perry hall and car park were integral to the existing site. (See Appendix D.) **The Council agreed to the suggestion and supported that it should be brought to the attention of SC Planners by the Clerk.**

Minutes confirmed as accurate by:

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

A further request was made for a monthly Progress Report to be introduced by the Parish Council so that the progress of specific issues could be tracked by the public. The Clerk agreed to incorporate a progress report on Lighting Issues and Correspondence in the Clerk's Report for a trial period. **This was agreed by Council.**

A Great Ness resident spoke on the residents of Great & Little Ness's concerns on the planning application ref: 09/01583/FUL which she stated would cause:

- Traffic related issues for Ruyton XI Towns
- Be visually intrusive when viewed from the Cliffe a local beauty spot
- Have a knock on effect to the open countryside which would include neighbouring parishes and
- Cause air pollution as a result of the high density of chicken stock in the area.

Mr Slowley spoke of his concerns about the development and the traffic movement studies carried out which did not include tractor and trailer movements. The distribution of chicken manure was also generally discussed.

The Chairman thanked all for their comments and stated that the planning application would be considered by the Council latter in the meeting at Min 128.09 1.

121.09 CONFIRMATION & ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Draft minutes of the parish council meeting held on 1/3/10 were considered and amended as follows. Cllr Caesar-Homden requested that Min Ref 99.09 read as follows:

"Cllr Caesar-Homden believed that it had always been the Clerk's duty to keep the notice boards up to date."

Cllr Slowley requested that Min Ref 107.09 (h) be changed to read as follows:

"Cllr Slowley reported that there had been some tree removal."

Having amended the minutes to the Council's satisfaction they were duly signed as correct by the Chairman.

122.09 LOCAL REPORTS

(a) Ruyton Primary School, Safe to School Routes March Meeting- Cllr White stated that she was unable to provide a report as she had not been notified of the date of the meeting. Cllr Caesar-Homden confirmed that she would ensure that Cllr White was notified of future meetings and confirmed that an April meeting was to take place where the possibilities of banning lorries access to the xx road during school put down and pick up times would be explored further.

(b) Ruyton Parish Plan Steering Committee – Cllr Allison stated that he was unable to progress the installation of the stiles as earmarked by the Parish Plan because of landowners.

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

(c) Local Joint Committee (LJC) - Cllr Slowley summarised the brief presentation given on Affordable Housing at the last meeting on 17/3/10. She went on to add that should any community groups wish to apply for LJC grant funding they should submit their applications to the Committee asap. The next meeting would be held in Ruyton XI Towns on 19/5/10 at Ruyton Primary School. Cllr Slowley urged those who had attended meetings to complete the LJC Survey now available on the SC website. She stated that she would be attending the LJC Summit taking place in April on behalf of the PC.

(d) Ruyton Drs Meadow Playbuilder Site - Cllr Slowley reported that the site was near completion and urged the community to ensure that children be responsible when using the superb facilities. Cllr Caesar-Homden confirmed that she was arranging the official opening of the site and would keep the community and Parish Council informed of arrangements made. She concluded by thanking Cllr Slowley and the Parish Council for their work on the scheme.

(e) SALC March Extraordinary Meeting – The Clerk reported although poorly attended the new constitution had been adopted at the meeting.

(f) Ruyton Sports Committee – Cllr Brown spoke of his concerns should the proposed “spiking” method not resolve the issue of poor drainage at the field. It was agreed that the Clerk would write on behalf of the PC to SC thanking them for the work they planned to carry out but requesting assurances that should this not resolve the drainage problems SC would address the issue with an alternative plan. Cllr Caesar-Homden gave her personal assurances that she would ensure the matter was resolved by SC to the satisfaction of the community and Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Simon Gittins and Cllr Brown for their work and suggested that those members of the public who could contribute further valuable information with regard to the existing drainage system should contact them.

(g) Nesscliffe Advisory Group – Cllr Slowley reported that the next meeting was to be held in May 2010.

(h) Shropshire Council Report - Cllr Caesar-Homden provided a summary report on the following:

- The SC LJC Review being carried out; and requested that people feed back to her their thoughts on LJC's.
- The SC HGV Survey Results which were circulated in the form of a report see Appendix D.
- That SC were exploring the possibilities of banning lorries access to the village section of the B4397 road during school put down and pick up times.

123.09 FINANCE (a) Update of The Asset Inventory - The Council agreed to defer this item to the Chairman & Clerk and confirm it at the April meeting due to insufficient time being available to discuss it properly.

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

(b) The Clerk confirmed the placement of the order with Mr Ingarm for the Elbridge notice board which was expected to be in situ by early May.

(c) The Clerk presented the following payments which were approved and authorised for payment unanimously by the Council. (*Proposed; Cllr Allison Secoded Cllr Lewis.*) They were duly checked to supporting documentation by Cllr Lycett and Cllr Lewis, the Clerk confirmed that they had already been included in the year end draft accounts which had been distributed earlier at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Payee	Description	Chq No	
Cllr R Slowley	27/6 – 17/3/10 mileage claim for attendance at meetings on behalf of PC	691	£46.96
Staples Direct	Stationery; 2 box files, staples,	692	£47.04
Mrs SD Hackett	Mileage, 2 PC meetings, 2 journeys to Shirehall	693	£55.29
The 3 Parishes Newsletter	Printing & Distribution Spring newsletter	690	£87.00

(d) An examination of the year end budget monitoring report was deferred by Council till the April meeting.

(e) Report by Cllr Lycett confirming that she had checked the annual Receipts & Payments Account castings and agreed the bank reconciliation was agreed by Council to be deferred to the next meeting.

124.09 NEW BUS SHELTER – The Clerk reported that SC had reported that no feedback had been received from AMEK Investments and as a result they proposed to consult with the Highways on the proposals . They also confirmed that the 75% funding grant was still available to the parish council in 2010-11. The Council agreed that they still supported the project and that it should be further progressed by SC. Clerk to advise SC.

125.09 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- Chairman reported that the progress of the village's traffic management proposals had been covered in detail at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Hamlett raised concerns that due to an invasive hedge buses had been forced to mount the pavement on Church Bank. The Chairman reported that he would speak to the householder concerned and report back at the next meeting.
- Report on litter picking event – Cllr Caesar-Homden reported that it had been poorly attended (3 residents) and in future would be organised to take place at weekends.

126.09 THE CLIFFE – The Council agreed to defer the item till the April meeting.

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

127.09 SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS

(1) LDF Core Strategy Policy Consultation - The Chairman remarked that several parish councillors had spent considerable time digesting the information and following the LJC meeting had concluded that they had no comments to make on the soundness of the policy document. **This was agreed by all councillors.**

(2) LJC meeting presentation on the Site Allocations and Management development consultation policy and possibility of assisting SC to host a rural engagement event using the SC Rural Toolkit was discussed. After much debate on the advantages and disadvantages of supporting such an event the following was proposed by Cllr Needham and seconded by Cllr Slowley:

The Parish Council support such an event being held for Ruyton XI Towns Parish providing the organisers use the parish's Parish Plan results as these represent the views of approximately a third of the community. This was regarded as a significant achievement and in sampling terms more representative than a sample size of merely 20 or 30 residents required by the event. It was also recognised as important not to undermine the Parish Plan which the Parish Council had approved and supported.

It was resolved that the Clerk communicate the above resolution to Lois Dale at SC in order for the event to be organised preferably in early July. (In Favour 7 councillors; Against 2; Abstention Cllr Caesar-Homden)

128.9 PLANNING MATTERS

1. The following planning applications were discussed by the parish council:

(a) 09/01583/FUL – Erection of 4 poultry units & ancillary works incl off site high way improvements at Poultry Broiler Units; Rodefern Lane; Great Ness

The Chairman introduced the application and Cllr Slowley; spoke of her concerns as she believed that the planning application would adversely affect tourism in the area; the Rights of Way network which linked surrounding villages and be overall detrimental to the local community. She stressed that its environmental impact and increased HGV traffic movement would have an effect on all communities in the vicinity and that the scale of the development was most concerning.

Cllr Slowley then left the meeting.

The Chairman explained that the proposals did not directly affect Ruyton. He invited the remaining councillors present to individually air their views on the application. **After some discussion it was agreed that the following comments be made to SC Planning Authority.**

The parish council recognised that the large scale development would have serious impacts on the neighbouring communities of Great & Little Ness and believed that although Ruyton XI Towns itself was not principally affected by the proposed application there would be an effect on the wider rural community. A planning application of this scale would adversely affect:

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

- Tourism;
- The surrounding countryside;
- The Rights of Way and Bridle path network; and
- The existing infrastructure of narrow country lanes which make up the local area.

In particular the council noted the visual impact the proposed development would have on the landscape and supported the need for conditions to be imposed which would mitigate this:

The need for the planning authority to strictly monitor traffic movements to ensure adherence to those forecasted and adherence to the given prescribed routes was also considered important.

This was agreed without dissent by the Council. (*Proposed by Cllr Allison; Seconded by Cllr Case.*)

Cllr Slowley returned to the meeting.

(b) 10/00524/FUL – Hafen Deg, Brownhill – Formation of a new drive way

Councillors considered the plans and decided neither to support or oppose the application but wished to make the following comments which were proposed by Cllr J Hamlett:

The Parish Council assumed that the application was in retrospect as the work was already in progress. It was hoped that sandstone materials taken down would be reused and that the restoration would be sympathetic and in keeping with other village properties. **This was agreed to without dissent by the Council.** (*Seconded by Cllr Case.*)

(c) 09/02729/OUT - Proposed two dwellings and new access on land adjoining Cliffe House, Big Walls, Ruyton X1 Towns, material changes to plans.

Councillors repeated their earlier concerns and strong objections to the proposals in the planning application and **agreed without dissent that the PC's objection to the proposals based on the following comments be made as the material changes had not in their opinion addressed the concerns raised:**

- The wall is regarded as an important historical feature of the Parish, should not be lost as proposed. It is appreciated that the wall is not listed and therefore not protected however it is intrinsic to the parish as a local landmark.
- Suggestions in the proposals that the wall is deteriorating and presents a hazard are disputed and supported by an inspection report produced in 2005.
- The proposed dwellings are in an elevated position and of a size which will dominate the skyline and not meet the local housing needs which have been recognised in the local Parish Plan of smaller affordable homes.

2. No new planning applications directly relating to the parish had been decided by Shropshire Council (SC). An analysis of the status of applications made since September 2009 was provided See Appendix B.

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

- 129.09 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED – See Clerk’s report at Appendix C.
- 130.09 REQUEST BY PC FOR ALLOTMENT GROUND IN PARISH – Council agreed to defer this item to the April meeting.
- 131.09 EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BY THE PARISH COUNCIL – Council agreed to defer this item to the April meeting.
- 132.09 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR – The Clerk has not received official confirmation from SC *that no election is to take place; therefore publication of the vacancy has been delayed. The Clerk informed the Council that 3 individuals had expressed an interest in being co-opted as councillor.*
- 133.09 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA – Council considered the following:
1. Observation received from a resident that new Severn Trent Plant in Ruyton XI Towns is an eyesore and not sufficiently screened or in harmony with its surrounding landscape - Council agreed to discuss this item at the next council meeting having first viewed the site.
 2. Complaint received from Mr Gittins that recent Parish Council newsletter publication did not specifically name him as being responsible for organising the hanging basket project. This would make it difficult for the general community to provide him with donations towards the project. The Chairman reported that he had not wished to offend Mr Gittins by his actions when compiling the article and mistakenly believed that people preferred not to be named. It was agreed by Council that this would be dealt with when the PC’s Communication Policy was revisited at the next meeting.
 3. Chris Ayers has advised on behalf of the PCC, that they intend to arrange for ferrets to be used to reduce the rabbit population on the land at Church Bank – This was noted by the Council.
 4. Chairman reported that it would be necessary to change the July meeting date due to the holiday commitments of the Clerk. Proposal agreed by Council.
 5. Chairman reported that he was prepared to go to the RAF Shawbury Noise Liaison Group meeting this week on behalf of the PC if no councillors had objections to this proposal. None were voiced.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30 pm and thanked all for attending. The next Parish Council is scheduled for 19th April 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at The Memorial Hall; Ruyton XI Towns.

RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

Appendix A SC Rural Toolkit Invitation Example

“Shropshire Council is piloting an approach which could give local people more of a say on planning policy and this affects our parish as we are taking part in it. This scheme is your chance to get involved and have your voice heard, whether you are from Ryton, Stapleton, Dorrington, Condover itself and any points in between; we want your opinion.

Up to 30 people are needed to come along to a ‘community testing event’ in May. This is so local people can help make sure the Council has the best quality information about where you live so that we can make the best possible long term decisions concerning housing development and needs for services. The Council is looking for a variety of people from across the 4 villages of the parish and ideally, therefore a balance of views. The Parish Plan will be used as a key source of information in providing the basis for discussions.

The event itself will be held on **Thursday 20th May, at Dorrington Village Hall**, and will promptly start at 6pm and finish at 9pm. High Tea is being organised, and refreshments are also included on arrival. If you’re interested and would like to take part and give your views then please contact Lois Dale at Shropshire Council as soon as possible. Places are given on a first come first served basis and the closing date for volunteering is Tuesday 4th May.

Contact Lois Dale Tel: **01743 255667** or alternatively email: lois.dale@shropshire.gov.uk”

Appendix B

Status of Existing Planning Applications:

09/03388/FUL	18/11/2009	Packwood Haugh School Park	Proposed single storey extension to the existing laundry facilities	Permission Granted
09/03139/FUL	04/11/2009	Ivy Cottage The Cliffe Ruyton	The erection of a timber building	Permission Granted
09/02729/OUT	01/10/2009	Cliffe House Big Walls	Outline application for the erection of 2 detached dwellings to include siting and means of access	Pending Consideration
09/02516/COU	28/09/2009	Pradoe Church West Felton	Change of use of land to provide extension of existing burial ground.	Permission Granted
09/02596/DIS	18/09/2009	Kynaston Farm	Discharge of condition in respect of Consent No. 06/14683/FUL	No Objection

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RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

Appendix C Clerk's 29th March 2010 Meeting Report:

The following summarises communication received to date (28/3) since our last meeting (1/3/10):

1. Notification for SALC Training events for :
Nat Ins & Ext Audit Arrangements – Shirehall – as yet no date given.
Fundamentals of Chairmanship Skills – 13/4 Shirehall
How to work in Partnership with SC – 26/4 Shirehall
Community Leadership & Engagement – 26/5 Shirehall
Staff Appraisal – 25/5 Shirehall

Please let me know if you wish to attend any. Clerk attended Finance & Planning Training feedback to given at future meeting.
2. Minor Highways & Environmental Mtce Grant 2010/11 – Response sent confirming council's wish to continue the scheme 9/3.
3. Planning on the agenda; had to apply for extensions to consultation dates. Had to chase for Big Walls documentation.
4. LCR Review received please ask Clerk for her copy should you wish to read it.
5. LJC Summit – email invitation received from CEO forwarded to Cllr Slowley as our present rep.
6. Invoice received from Parish Mag; authorised for payment by Chairman. Included in 09/10 a/cs.
7. Thank you email received from Charter Group – to read out at meeting.
8. Mileage Claim received from Cllr Slowley; checked by Clerk awaits authorisation for payment included in 09/10 draft a/cs.
9. Two quotes received to date for provision of notice board at Elbridge:

M Connell £725.....and **Mr Ingram £463**. Order placed with latter once confirmation had been received from Chairman. Having spoken to Mr Peate re repairs to Cliffe notice board which is a soft wood board; suggestion that balance is put towards costs of replacing Cliffe board in hard wood and not returned to SC. Request permission to obtain necessary quotes after Elbridge board installed. Update quote received from Mr Peate by Chairman late (25/3); in excess of £700. Could not consider this quote as order already awarded as instructed by PC at last meeting.
10. Three interested parties contacted me with regard to becoming a parish councillor; agenda item. They have been invited to the meeting.

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RUYTON XI TOWNS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

29th March 2010

11. Mr Gittins, and four other landowners have responded that they regret they are not interested in allocating their land for allotment purposes.
12. Mr Gittins has serious concerns that the Severn Trent Water plant is not painted in muted green/brown colours and stands out on the landscape as inadequate screening exists on the western side. Could the PC please follow this up.