

# RUYTON XI TOWNS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## MON 23 MAY 2023 MINUTES

This meeting was held at St John's primary school, Ruyton XI Towns at 6.30 pm on Mon 23rd May 2022.  
Parish councillors in attendance: Mr S Denyer, Mr B Edwards, Mr M Eyles, Mrs A Lister (Vice Chairman).  
Also in attendance: Lydia Bardsley (Clerk), Nick Bardsley (Shropshire County Councillor), Public: 1  
Meeting started at: 6:32pm.

### **P1/22. Chairman's welcome and apologies**

In the absence of the Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Spicer, it was **AGREED** that Vice Chairman Cllr Lister should be elected to chair this meeting. Cllr Lister took the chair and welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs David Spicer, Simon Gittins, David White (Village Hall Committee).

### **P2/22. Confirmation of 2021 Annual Parish Meeting Minutes.**

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm that the 2021 Annual Parish Meeting minutes were accurate, and these were signed by the Chairman. A copy can be found on the PC's website [2021 Annual Parish Meeting minutes](#).

### **P3/21. Annual Reports**

- Ruyton XI Towns Parish Council

The Parish Council Chairman Cllr Spicer had shared a [Chairs' Annual report](#) which included an update on the Safer Roads Group. The Clerk gave the [PC Financial Report for 2021-22](#). Copies of these reports will be included as appendices to these minutes.

- Annual Police Report

This was shared. Copies of the [police report](#) will be available as an appendix to the minutes. It was noted that the figures in isolation are not very helpful without context or comparison against other similar villages, or against previous years. Cllrs also noted that it would be helpful to have breakdowns on follow ups on crimes, convictions etc. The element of public reassurance is lacking, which would be especially helpful for elderly residents. It was **NOTED** that report only goes up to end March. It was **AGREED** that the clerk will ask the police for a report from April to end May.

- St John the Baptist C of E Primary School report

Chairman read out an update from school. School will be up to four classes again from September (didn't have staff needed previously), there are an extra 15 children joining. Everything becoming more normal since covid, routine etc. Residential trip to Liverpool went ahead after half term, taking years 4 and 5 as yr 5 had missed it last year, and it was very successful. Staff were delighted with the children's attitude re. SATS, the children have gotten through this difficult stage very well. The School also thanked the PC for the nomination to attend the Lord Lieutenant's Garden Party, the staff were delighted to be nominated.

- Ruyton XI Towns Village Hall Committee – Annual Report.

Clerk read out the following update from the VHC.

#### **Village Hall Committee Report year ending Dec 2021.**

Still a year with Covid problems but we were able to restart some activities with caution.

Apart from some usual activities we were able to resume the Home Grown Show and the Pantomime. Home Grown Show was reasonably successful albeit Shropshire Council gaming rules now put a stop on door-to-door sales of raffle tickets. An online raffle was organised but not so well supported. Footfall was not great, but we think people were still very nervous. The Panto was a good success with Snow White and

Seven Dwarfs, it was well supported and performed. Bingo was introduced by both the Village Hall Committee and RATS complimenting each other throughout the year.

#### **Works carried out during the year.**

- New stage curtains were purchased by the Village Hall Committee and RATS, so we now comply with the latest regulations.
- New Fire Doors were fitted to both Fire exists and the external door to the downstairs room was also replaced, to comply with current regulations.
- The floor upstairs beside the stage, leading to the metal fire escape, has also been replaced as it was unsafe.
- New front doors were to be fitted but Covid has delayed this until 2022.

Like all businesses, going forward we will face pressure in recovering costs for lighting and heating of the Hall, and unfortunately, we have an old and inefficient system by modern standards.

- **Basnett Mathew & Minton Trust – Annual Report**

Chairman gave an update as one of the trustees, in addition to [annual charity accounts](#) which will be available as an appendix to these minutes. It was **NOTED** that no money had been spent this year as there was no need, which is a positive thing. Ukrainian families fleeing conflict may well increase demand when they start arriving in the village. It was **NOTED** that the Trust does not actively promote itself, most “referrals” come via the school, or from direct contact with trustees. It is expected that there could be a surge in demand for support with cost of living crisis. There had also been some good collaboration with food bank in Morrisons in Oswestry.

#### **P4/22. Shropshire Council – Annual Report by SC Cllr Nick Bardsley.**

[Shropshire Councillor Nick Bardsley gave a report](#) which will be available as an appendix to these minutes.

**Draft Local Plan** - The report included concerns about the LPR being approved in its present form, and particularly the vague exemption site policies for development in open countryside. Some concerns were raised about rumours of possibly extending the parish development boundary West from Pentons former dairy site, but and this caused some confusion as no extension to the boundary appears to have been included in maps within previous stages of consultation, and neither was this in the draft Local Plan submitted to inspectors. It was **AGREED** that SC Cllr Bardsley will clarify with SC Planning Policy Dept if there have been any changes re. development boundary and whether anything else has been changed.

**CIL road safety scheme** – various options are being costed, but PC is awaiting a response from SC. It has been 2 or 3 months since last meeting. SC Officer is on maternity leave so project is possibly on hold. There is no update on timeframes for road resurfacing at this stage, and there was some frustration with poor communication in recent months. It was **AGREED** that clerk will contact Ffion Horton and Dave Davies, Matt Johnson, and Andy Moreton/Andy Wilde to ask for an update.

**Parish boundaries review** – Community Governance Review is complicated by Parliamentary Electoral Divisions review going on at same time in Shropshire. There could be more, or fewer, Shropshire Council Cllrs at end of the review, but no idea at present, but there could be an impact on PCs.

**Bus services plans** – Cllr Allison is keeping an eye on things, but it is important to keep local bus station in Shrewsbury.

#### **P5/22. Community Governance reviews**

Cllrs Spicer and Allison had been looking at some possible minor changes to boundaries with neighbouring parishes, and would bring these to the next Parish Council meeting, but the Parish Council was interested to hear from residents whether they had any proposals for changes to parish boundaries. The deadline for responding to the review is October, but if there are proposals there needs to be appropriate community engagement before these are put forward to SC. It was **AGREED** clerk will put info on PC website to ask if residents have any requests to change parish boundary (not development boundary).

## **P6/22: Platinum Jubilee activities**

Clr Lister and a member of public gave an update on the planned Jubilee activities. This will include: Bring your own picnic at school 12-3pm on Sat 4th June; old fashioned sports day on field, tug of war, sack races etc.; Vintage tractors and old cars parked on big field; 3 ponies; Cake stall and cream teas; tombola with Guides and Rainbows. In Village Hall, there will be dressing up with royal theme with AmDram Society, and a face cut out photo stand. There will be official photographers, with a chance to buy photos. The raffle and cake stall sales etc., will go to Air Ambulance. Jubilee badges are on sale in Cafe XI, any leftover will be given as prizes for races, fancy dress competition etc. Apple tree are being planted in school grounds as part of the Queen's green canopy, trees have been donated by Cafe XI. A time capsule is also being prepared for children to fill and to bury near the apple tree. The Vicar will come on 4th and say prayers before national anthem plays at the picnic, and there will also be a Church service on Sunday. There has also been a badge design competition at the school (for Friends of St John the Baptist) and the winning badge is being produced, every child will get one. There will also be an art exhibition in school by school kids and the local art group. There will also be a Jive group demo on car park, and 50s music. There will also be a best decorated house competition. Hanging baskets have been done in red, white and blue, Cllr Lister will collect these the Weds before Jubilee weekend.

## **P7/22. Public session**

- Cllr Lister gave a brief update on the meeting with loss adjusters re. Stone Cross damage.
- It was **AGREED** that Cllrs Lister and Denyer will ask PC's contractor about securing hanging basket by Platt bridge to ensure it does not get stolen again.
- Arboretum Mill Lane – there is possibly a role for PC to maintain paths, but this will be discussed in more detail another time. A forestry charity was on board to take care of the maintenance of the trees etc., which were of national significance.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.06 pm.

Confirmed as accurate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_