
RUSPIDGE & SOUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING held on the Tuesday 11th July, 2023

(These minutes remain in draft form until approved at the next meeting of the Council)

Parish Councillors Present:

Cllrs. Jo Smith Chairman, Norman Snell, William Acland, Tony Matthews, Helen Medcraft.

County Councillors Present:

Cllr. Beki Hoyland, Graham Morgan.

District Councillors Present:

Cllr. Andy Moore

Parish Council Clerk – Roland Dowding

Apologies:

Cllrs. Bernie O’Neill.

Standing Declarations of Interest

- A) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. William Acland.
- B) Soudley Village Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Jo Smith.

Public Present:

No Public Present.

RUSPIDGE WELFARE TRUST (RWT)

Members were mindful that these items were considered and determined as trustees to the RWT.

7.1 There were no matters arising from the minutes.

7.2. No other business.

Public Participation

No Public Present.

7.1. **Apologies** received and recorded from absent members.

7.2. Declaration of prejudicial interest was declared by Cllr. Smith regarding Soudley Village Hall.

7.3. **Minutes** - the minutes of the council meeting held on the **13th of June, 2023** were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

7.4. **Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising from the minutes.

7.5. **District Councillor Reports**

Report is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

7.6. County Councillor Reports

Report is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

7.7. Planning – completed schedule is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

7.8. Financial Matters - Following a report by the Treasurer the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for the **July** payment totalling **£4,220.96**, this figure is inclusive of confidential expenditure.

7.9. GRANT APPLICATIONS – 1st Ruspidge Brownies – Girlguiding, application for £500.00 assistance with hall rental, unanimously approved. St John Evangelist Church, application for £250.00 to assist with grass cutting. Unanimously approved.

7.10. SOUDLEY VILLAGE HALL GRANT APPLICATION £3,500 HANDRAILS LOWER RD BRIDGE – Council unanimously approved Central Grant application. Funds are to be taken from unallocated PC reserves.

7.11. CLARKE TELECOM – Have proposed to site a telecom tower on land owned by Soudley Village Hall. Proposed plans have been supplied and studied by Soudley Village Hall Committee. Said plans are to be copied and distributed to PC members and GCC Cllr. Hoyland. The Hall Committee is opposed to the proposal, reasons stated, the development would considerably reduce the Village Hall parking area, issues with any necessary machinery accessing the Village Hall land, additional concern as to damage to Lower Rd bridge, due to heavy vehicles requiring access. Concern over Clarke Telecom proposing to use existing Village Hall mains power infrastructure. Proposed tower's 'footprint' at 20 meters tall, causing concern for residential dwellings in the immediate vicinity. The Parish Council supports Soudley Village Hall in opposing such a development. Alternative locations for said telecom tower were discussed, but none were found to be suitable.

7.12. BLUE ROCK TRAIL – Members updated on the recent mailshot to appropriate surveying contractors to obtain quotes/professional advice for necessary repairs to the buttresses and banks along the BRT. A full report is required. Only one contractor of the five contacted has shown any interest/availability in a site visit at a cost of £150.00 plus V.A.T. Members approved the visit. The community Payback Team is undertaking repairs to the surface of the BRT in particular at the Ruspidge end of the trail, where the need is greatest. This work is proposed to start in August. Members agreed that Community Payback Team was the preferred route in attending to current and future repairs to the surface of the trail. It was noted by Cllr. Matthews that a few years back work was undertaken on the brook running through the trail by we believe a 'Conservation Group'. It is advised the Clerk to check the records of this event as the same body could be contacted for additional conservation work along the trail. Cllr. Matthews to be supplied with appropriate deeds to the BRT to ascertain the extent of parish council ownership of the land.

7.13. Correspondence - The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:

The Parish Councillors accepted all relevant correspondence has been forwarded via email to all members.

- 7.14. **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Memorial Hall** at **7.00 pm Tuesday, 12th September 2023**. The agenda deadline is **Monday, 4th September, 2023**.
- 7.15. **Exclusion of the Press and the Public** - the council **RESOLVED** that for any remaining business of a confidential nature, the press and the public should be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 10.xi (2020).

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Signed:.....Chair.

Dated:.....

APPENDIX

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council Planning Schedule for July 2023 meeting.

P0792/23/FUL

Land To West Of 9 Hewlett Way, Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Gloucestershire.
Erection of detached dwelling with associated works.

No Objection.

P0391/23/FUL

Land Parcel East Of 40 - 43 Edmunds Way Cinderford
Erection of a pair of 3-bedroom semi-detached houses with associated access, parking, and amenity area.

Objection to this application in the respect that it is supposed to be an amenity area that was specified in the original site application, and then the public was barred from using it by virus of padlocked gates. The developer then uses the fact that the amenity area is not used and should therefore, be granted planning permission.

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

Planning Reference
Site Address & Detail

P0260/23/FUL

77 Ruspidge Road Ruspidge Gloucestershire GL14 3AW
Change of use of restaurant and first floor flat into dwelling house.

Parish Comment; No objection. District decision; Refused. Date; 23/06/2023

P1184/22/LD2

9 Peacock Lane Ruspidge Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 3ET
Application under section 192 to establish whether the erection of a single storey rear extension requires planning permission.

District decision; LDC Issued. Date; 05/06/2023

County Councillors Report.

COUNTY REPORT FOR JULY 2023.

Below is a summary of what I am aware of that could be of interest but please feel free to contact me about any more specific issues.

Beki Hoyland

beki.hoyland@gloucestershire.gov.uk

07815660013

ROADS.

Gloucestershire residents are being asked for their views on all things highways. The **survey** asks residents for their views on road condition, grass verges, pavements, street lighting, road signs and more.

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engagementhq.com/local-roads-feedback-survey>

Here is a link to report it for any problems on the road, please use it, maybe have it on your phone for quick access while out and about. Put it on parish council website for others to find.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/>

This link is for seeing what roadworks are planned and happening in your area.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/roadworks/>

my summary of this is:

28th June - 11th July **Sutton Road** closed for Gigaclear

19th - 21st July **Cinderford Road** closed AGAIN! For Severn Trent work just past the Dean Heritage Centre towards Blakeney.

6th - 7th July **Viney Hill road** from A48 closed for patching

30th June - 17th July **Lower Road Soudley** closed for Gigaclear

7th July **Dean Road, Newnham** closed for Open Reach

Between now and end of August various lanes **off Cinderford Road around Two Bridges** closed for Gigaclear

Lanes around **Awre** closed throughout July for Gigaclear

FULL COUNCIL 28TH JUNE

A motion from the Lib Dems asking for more money for roads and declaring a “roads emergency” was amended by the Conservatives to say that they were implementing a transformational program around mending potholes which councillors will be informed about on the 20th July. The amendment was passed.

A motion from the Greens asked for a letter to be written to the Government requesting changes to the NPPF that demonstrate planning proposals for mineral extraction demonstrate how they will positively contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with locally declared climate emergencies. This was passed unanimously.

As the first motion took over an hour and a half (there is a 2 hour limit for motions) we were unable to debate the other motions which were on fostering, refugees host families, flooding and hunting.

GLoucestershire County Council's COMPOSTING CAMPAIGN IS COMING TO AN END.

All the information from the campaign will stay on [our website](#). You can:

- Learn using our self-led [course on composting](#) (it takes about an hour)
- Find information about [community composting](#) and [composting in schools](#)
- Request a visit from one of our [Master Composters](#)
- Troubleshoot common [compost problems](#)
- Find out about the different [types of composters and composting](#)

Careers in Care

The careers and coffee drop-in aims to showcase the wide variety of health and social care career opportunities available across Gloucestershire, working with adults who have care and support needs.

It takes place on **Wednesday 12 July** at GL1 Leisure Centre, 1 Bruton Way, Gloucester, from 10am to 2pm. Tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided free of charge. There is no need to book, people can turn up on the day.

“If you are looking for a career change, are returning to work, or just starting out, there’s a role in care that is perfect for you. Come along for coffee and a chat, and we’ll help find that perfect role for you.”

<https://www.proudtocareglos.org.uk>

Foster Careers needed.

There are over 800 children in care from Gloucestershire, almost a third are living out of county as we do not have enough foster careers within Gloucestershire. As a Parish Council are you able to help by putting up a poster on your parish notice board and putting a link on your website and following and sharing posts on your social media. The link is below and I will bring a poster for the notice board to the meeting. <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/fostering/>

Cllr Graham Morgan

I am pleased to announce that I have supported two Build Back Better applications from the £3000-00 Youth Fund, these are as follows: CANDI youth Cafe this was for £1475-00 for pool table recovering, two TV sets, one Nintendo switch controls & games.

This has now been granted by the County Council.

Also, an application for St Whites School for £546-00 for Barney & Echo Caught in the Web Safety Project covering 85 pupils, this is one of five across the County and is being processed.

This will leave £975-00 in my youth fund for Cinderford & Ruspidge.

I have received requests for Traffic Regulation Orders for Railway Road this as been attached to a TRO to strengthen St Whites School safety zone in Buckshaft Road.

Requests have also been made for TROs for St Whites Road from Ruspidge Road to Edmonds Way entrance, and also for double yellow lines for Severn View Cinderford where indiscriminate parking is taking place at drop of and pick up times at Forest View School.

I have also contacted Highways over drainage issues in the paved area opposite the War Memorial in the Triangle Cinderford.