

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

MINUTES of the MEETING held in the on the Tuesday 9th February, 2021

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

Parish Councillors Present:

B. Acland, Chairman
Cllrs. Mrs. B. Wood, Ms. H. Medcraft,
T. Matthews, C. Richardson, N. Snell
J. Smith

County Councillor Present:

R. Boyles & G. Morgan.

District Councillor Present:

Ms. N. Packer, B. O'Neill & R. Boyles.

The Clerk - Ms. Joanne Rawlings.

Apologies:

Standing Declarations of Interest

- (a) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllrs. Matthews & Snell.
- (b) Soudley Village Hall – Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Wood.

RUSPIDGE WELFARE TRUST

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

1. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

MINUTES - the minutes of the council meeting held on the 12th January, 2021 were ACCEPTED as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

2.1 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes.

2.2 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

(N/P)

- Homeseekerplus is a choice-based lettings (CBL) scheme run by the seven local authorities in partnership with social housing landlords. The seven local authorities are Tewkesbury Borough Council, Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council, Stroud District Council, Forest of Dean District Council, Cotswold District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council.

https://www.homeseekerplus.co.uk/choice/content.aspx?pageid=30&fbclid=IwAR2oeT2SYqAms5yS3jP5A2yT_neaOTgkJEmI2iuq_hojnMzhvRVTvOUXOf8

- FEP & Rural Technologies Ltd are conducting a survey to find out your travel habits to help create a netzero solution to rural travel.
(BO'N)
- St Whites Rd to Buckshaft Rd junction all correspondence has been forwarded to Cabinet Member Chris McFarley responsible for Planning.
- Local plan consultation has now been completed and being accessed and all correspondence will be published.
- Business Grants have processed over £3 million since November.
- There has been police activity in breaches of regulations in our area.

St White's school and junction of Buckshaft Road and St White's Road. I reported at the last meeting on 'building activities' at this site and I have had numerous emails and I have escalated this perceived breach of Conditions and the responses we have received, including Parish Cllrs and residents. I am very concerned that the builders are getting away with completely ignoring the Conditions placed upon them.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

(R/B)

- Soudley Bridge road closure, Environmental Agency measuring device caused the blockage is being moved so repetition will not occur.
- Gloucestershire starts the year with an exciting vision to build on our strong history of collaboration thanks to new funding and support from The King's Fund and The National Lottery Community Fund. The county has been selected as one of six areas to receive an initial £50,000 grant alongside development support from the Healthy Communities Together programme. A nine-month planning and development period will be followed by the opportunity to access substantial further funding and support to deliver the plan.
The project and funding will enable the voluntary and community sector (VCS), the NHS and local authority to work in unison with communities and individuals to tackle health inequalities and improve health and wellbeing for everyone.
- Gloucestershire County Council has announced which roads will be first of many waiting to be resurfaced in 2021, as the £150million investment into your highways enters its fifth year. Originally, there were 207 miles of road planned for be resurfaced, patched, or treated in the current financial year. Despite the pandemic and challenging working conditions, Gloucestershire County Council has fought back against potholes and is on track to resurface their target and an extra 15 miles, bringing the total to 222 miles.
- As part of the Government's new Kickstart scheme, Gloucestershire County Council has brought together employers from all sectors to offer over 300 job opportunities to 16- to 24-year-olds across the county. Opportunities have been pledged by over 50 employers with nearly 80 placements available within the council itself, with a range of options including admin work, construction, marketing, social media, production, hospitality, and retail.
The Kickstart scheme offers six month paid placements to young people who are claiming Universal Credit and are at risk of long-term unemployment. The intention is not to fill existing vacancies, but to create new opportunities at a time when it is becoming increasingly difficult for young people with no past work experience to enter the jobs market.
- Children in Gloucestershire who are entitled to receive Free School Meals, will again be supported with vouchers over February half-term.
All eligible pupils who registered and received support during the October and Christmas holidays, will automatically receive vouchers for February. Parents and carers do not need to register again.
Any families who believe they are eligible, but who have not already registered by either of these routes, can apply for the support by going to the below link: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-schoolmeals/holiday-free-school-meals/>
Eligible families will need to be registered by Friday, 5 February to ensure vouchers can be processed in time for half term. Vouchers will be sent via email.
- Gloucestershire County Council is seeking views on its draft Infrastructure Recovery Strategy (IRS) which aims to provide additional funding to support growth and jobs in the county.
In March 2020, the Government announced that the county council's bid to Homes England's Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) to finance the upgrade of Junction 10 of the M5 had been successful. Since then, plans have been accelerated to build the junction which will give access from the motorway both northbound and southbound into Cheltenham.
The consultation will run for 6 weeks from the 28 January until the 11 March 2021. (G/M)
- Budget up and coming
- On local issues I have been liaising with the Forest of Dean District Council ,County Council and Forestry England with regard to severe flooding over the Christmas period in parts of Cinderford, the main cause of this flooding being from low lying branches being allowed to grow across the water course, debris then flow down with flood water trap against these branches and cause major overtopping of the Cinderford Brook into Valley Road.
This then resulted in 10 homes flooded to a depth three and a half feet over a large area and 40 vehicles destroyed in Forest View Car Park, this was exasperated by County Highways drains totally blocked with

silt to the top of the grills in a high risk flood area, home destroyed which could have been avoided if proper maintenance had been carried out, I also attach a picture of the blockage and blocked drains.

2.3 PLANNING – completed schedule is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

2.4 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Following report by the Treasurer the council APPROVED the accounts presented for payment totalling £3337.89, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.

2.5 Play Areas – The Council RESOLVED to APPROVE to place order to Greenfields Ltd for play area equipment and the improvement of all three play areas.

2.6 Disabled Access Ruspidge Hall – The Council discussed the application from Ruspidge Memorial Village Hall for grant to help improvements to the disabled access but RESOLVED on this occasion, to REFUSE the request.

CORRESPONDENCE

2.7 The council RECEIVED and NOTED the following correspondence:

- a.) GCC Highways - Debris under road bridge at Soudley (fwd)
- b.) FODDC - COVID-19: Business Matters (fwd),
- c.) GCC - Praise for Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service in COVID-19 inspection report (fwd)

2.8 Next Meeting - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the Soudley Hall at 7.00pm Tuesday, 9th March, 2021.

The agenda deadline is Monday, 1st March, 2021.

2.9 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).

2.10 The meeting closed at 7.30p.m.

Signed: Chair. Dated:

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

Planning Schedule for the meeting 9th February, 2021

| | <u>Planning Reference</u> <u>Site Address & Detail</u> | <u>Parish</u> <u>Comment</u> |
|-----|---|--|
| sub | P2119/20/FUL Land At Former St Whites School , St Whites Road, Cinderford, GL14 3DH. Conversion of part former school to two by 2 bed dwellings (subdivision of approved Unit 1 to Units 1A & 1B- revision to approved the plots scheme). Alterations to vehicular access and associated works. | with the access to St Whites Rd and lack of amenity area for both |
| sub | P2204/20/FUL Former St Whites Primary School, Land At St Whites Road, Cinderford, GL14 3DH. Variation of conditions 02 (approved plans), 03 (approved details), 08 (vehicular access), 09 (improvements to existing vehicular access), 10 (vehicular parking), 13 (vehicular accesses), 17 (roof lights), 18 (landscaping) of planning permission P0827/20/FUL. | No Obj |
| sub | P1411/20/FUL 62 Ruspidge Road Ruspidge Cinderford Erection of a detached dwelling with associated works. | No Obj |
| due | P0116/21/FUL 23.2 15B Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Erection of a two storey rear extension and single storey side extension. Partial conversion of garage to additional living space. | No Obj |

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

| <u>Planning Reference</u> <u>Site Address & Detail</u> | <u>Parish</u> <u>Comment</u> | <u>District</u> <u>Decision</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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