

MINUTES of the MEETING of RUSPIDGE and SOUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held in the Ruspidge Hall on the 8th December, 2015
(These Minutes are subject to approval at the next Council Meeting)

Parish Councillors Present:

J. Stanford, Chairman
Cllrs. Mrs. B. Hedges, S. Phelps,
C. Hawkins, B. Rhodes, B. Acland,
C. Richardson, T. Matthews & N. Bowes.

County Councillor Present:

R. Leppington.

District Councillor Present:

No ward rep present.

The Clerk - Mrs. Helen Hook.

Apologies:

B. O'Neill & G. Morgan.

Public:

PC Julie Evans, PCSO Jenny Mansfield &
Seven members of the public were present.

Standing Declarations of Interest

- (a) Dean Heritage Museum Trust - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Phelps.
- (b) Soudley Village Hall Committee - Insignificant personal interest by Cllrs. Hawkins & Stanford.
- (c) Great Oaks Hospice - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Hawkins.
- (d) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Bowes.

- Gloucestershire Healthwatch presentation - they were unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Inspector Steve Chester was unable to attend but officers PC Julie Evans and PCSO Jenny Mansfield were present. Having introduced themselves to council they advised that they were willing to attend meetings on a regular basis.

Public Participation

1. Ruspidge Memorial Hall - The committee has received the surveyor's report (which had been forwarded to all cllrs). A minor error stated that there is no heating in the lower hall but the committee confirmed that the lower hall does have heating. The issues raised had varying degrees of urgency with the Dry Rot being the main issue. Grants are available from the Landfill Community Fund, and it was noted that several halls had been successful. The hall committee will apply to the fund but as the dry rot is a matter of urgency they have asked council to consider approving a grant. See minute 12.7.
2. Royal Forest of Dean Angling Club - The club chairman advised that Lightmoor Pond is losing water and there is necessary works required on the disabled pegs. The club is unable to fund the two stages and the Forestry Commission, its landlords, have no resources available. The club asked if the council could provide support. See minute 12.6.
3. Early Learners - The playgroup provided a business plan and advised the total grant required. They aim to create a new image and work in partnership with other groups. The Council will discuss and determine later in the meeting. See minute 12.6.

RUSPIDGE WELFARE TRUST

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

1. The minutes of the meeting held on the 30th November, 2015 were **ACCEPTED** as a true record and signed by Chris Hawkins, who chaired the meeting.
12. **MINUTES** - The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 10th November, 2015 were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
- 12.1 **MATTERS ARISING** from the Minutes.
 - Defibrillators - FODDC had approved an additional grant towards the second defibrillator.
 - CPRE - has been notified of the planning application at Top Road, Soudley.
- 12.2 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT** - Richard Leppington reported:
 - ♦ Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Status - FODDC lobbying MP/Natural England to gain AONB status for the Royal Forest of Dean and Wye Valley.

12.3 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

- ◆ Lengthsman Scheme to be evaluated.
- ◆ Education - Secondary School concerns - Scrutiny Committee.
- ◆ Council Tax - Govt. to allow councils to raise council tax up to 2% for adult social care and vulnerable persons.

12.4 **PLANNING** – Completed Schedule attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

12.5 Following report by the Treasurer the Council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £4,067.29, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.

12.6 **Grant Requests** - Under Section 137 of the LGA 1972 the Council **DETERMINED** the following:

RFoD Angling Club - £700 subject to being matched by other councils, as per membership.

Forest Health Forum - to be invited to attend, to put their case.

Children with Cancer UK - no grant. Council determined this a personal choice to donate.

Ruspidge Early Learners - £7,596 to be paid directly to the Ruspidge Memorial Hall.

- The amount includes rent up to the end of July, 2016.
- concern was raised re: long term sustainability.

The group is to report a/c's to the council quarterly.

12.7 **Ruspidge Memorial Hall** - Under Section 133 of the LGA 1972 the Council **APPROVED** a grant of £17,210 as per the Elsmore quote.

12.8 Council recommended that enquiries be made to use UPVC fascia boards.

12.9 **Budget 2016/17** - Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the budget, and thereby instructed the clerk to request £42,838 for the precept. The Local Council Tax Support Grant (LCTS) for 2016/17 is £3,150, giving a budget total of £45,988.

12.10 **Changing Facilities, Ruspidge** - Council were briefed on the RWT Meeting held on the 30th November and were asked to consider funding the facility from S.106. Council discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to fund from S.106.

12.11 **Soudley/Blakeney Gateway** - A review of the project was given to the new councillors. Following discussion it was agreed that finalised accounts should be requested from the Two Rivers Community Projects Co-ordinator.

12.12 **Grant Scheme** - Council **ADOPTED** the 'Small Sparks Programme' as an addition to the existing Grant Policy. A copy will be placed on the website.

CORRESPONDENCE

11.13 The Council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:

- a) Mr. V. Hugo - Emergency Plans nuclear concerns (fwded, and to FODDC).
- b) GCC - Draft Local Transport Plan consultation (fwded).
- c) FODDC - Counter Terrorism Awareness and 2020 Vision (fwded).
- d) Matt Caldwell - copied PC in on GCC reply.
- e) GAPTC - 2016/17 subscription fees.

11.14 **Next Meeting** - The next meeting of the Council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 12th January, 2016. The agenda deadline is Monday, 4th January, 2016.**

11.15 **Exclusion of the Press and the Public** - The Council **RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the remaining business the press and the public should be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Standing Order (2013) No. 55.

Signed: Chair. Dated:

Planning Schedule for the meeting on 8th December, 2015

<u>Planning Reference</u> <u>Site Address & Detail</u>	<u>Parish</u> <u>Comment</u>
P1794/15/FUL Rosebank, Ayleford, Soudley, Cinderford. Erection of a single storey timber outbuilding.	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>
P1211/15/FUL 166 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Two storey side extension.	No obj.	PERMIT
P1410/15/FUL 34 Buckshaft Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Retrospective application to raise roof height of rear extension.	No obj.	PERMIT
P1282/15/FUL Bridge Cottage, Lower Soudley, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Erection of a conservatory to the front of property.	No obj.	PERMIT

Signed: Dated: