

# Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

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## **MINUTES of the MEETING**

**held in the Soudley Hall on the 11th February, 2020**

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

Parish Councillors Present:

B. Acland, Chairman  
Cllrs. Ms. H. Medcraft, N. Snell.  
T. Matthews, C. Richardson,

County Councillor Present:

R. Boyles & G. Morgan.

District Councillor Present:

R. Boyles.

The Clerk - Mrs. Helen Hook.

Apologies:

Cllr. Mrs. B. Wood, Ms. N. Packer & B. O'Neill.

Public:

Two members of the public were present.

**Standing Declarations of Interest**

(a) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllrs. Matthews & Snell.

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## **Public Participation**

1. Soudley Village Hall, False roof – the council were advised that the hall committee would like to install a false roof, as it is receiving complaints from users that the rooms are cold. The heating is put on hours before an event, but the wall heaters are not providing enough heat and the hall energy bills are escalating. The committee is aware that, in time, the boiler will need to be updated but, in the meantime, the lowering of the ceiling would save on heating costs and improve aesthetics. Extra radiators could then be installed in place of the wall heaters. Council were asked if it would consider helping to fund the project (see Min.1.8). The County Cllrs. present were in favour of the proposal and advised the hall committee to apply for funding from the Gloucestershire County Council. Any funding will be dependent on the application meeting the necessary criteria; therefore, the committee will need to provide a business type plan to support the application.

## **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.
2. Skatepark – Members were updated on research, including maintenance and PROW diversion costs.

1. **MINUTES** - the minutes of the council meeting held on the 14th January, 2020 were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

- 1.1 **MATTERS ARISING** from the minutes.

BRT Conservation Site Visit – still awaiting a date.

Play Area signs – wording received and agreed.

Viewpoint – due to unforeseen circumstances there is no February issue.

- 1.2 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT (R.B.)**

- New Forest Eco Town – proposal for a single development, location not yet decided.
- Northern Quarter development – way forward.
- Coalition – looking at managing multi-million-pound investments out of the Forest area.
  - Asset management support group disbanded to keep all activities secret.
  - No public consultation.
- Coalition – set a deficient budget – intend to use 'future deficit fund' to address the balance.

**(N.P. - report received in absence and in addition to above)**

- Forest Guardians Facilitation Fund.
- Five Acres – legal negotiations moving forward.
- Local Plan – meetings on policies, responses from public consultation and transport.

**1.3 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT (R.B.)**

- Government grant to enhance the County's bus services.
- Free Adult IT training to reduce digital exclusion and upskill older residents.
- Residents encouraged to recycle waste as appropriate.
- Rough Sleeper Services - £1m received to enhance support.
- Road safety programme to educate students.
- Support for young people in violent relationships.
- STREET (Safe Teenage Relationship Education and Empowerment Team) for young people aged 13-19 yrs old.
- GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service) – for ages 16+.

**(G.M.)**

- Budget.
- Drainage issues – Cinderford and Ruspidge.
- Hart Green – S.T.W.A.
- Valley Road Scheme brought forward.
- St. White's Road and Buckshaft Road junction – manhole.

Council raised concerns regarding bus services when the new surgery and hospital are built. A letter will be sent to Stagecoach.

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

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- 1.5 Following report by the Treasurer the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £2,756.22, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.
- 1.6 Ruspidge Memorial Hall – Council discussed and **APPROVED** the proposed upgrades to the hall.
- 1.7 Skatepark proposal – Further information required from the proposer re: funding; conditions attached and drainage costs, if applicable. Any application for funding is to be submitted on behalf of the Parish Council. Proposer to be advised of PROW costs.
- 1.8 Soudley Village Hall, False roof – The chairman asked council if they were willing to discuss the proposal as put forward in the public participation section. Cllr. Wood having given her apologies was the only member not present, but she had already stated her support via email. Council considered and **APPROVED** the proposal. To allow the work to commence at the earliest opportunity council **RESOLVED** it would initially pay for the total costs of the works from S.106, on condition that any further funding received from GCC would be refunded back to the parish council.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1.9 The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:
- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| a) FC – Our shared forest link. | b) G. Morgan – Age Concern Meals ceasing.     |
| c) G. Morgan – Water issues.    | d) FODDC – Call for sites for future housing. |
- 1.10 **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 10th March, 2020.**  
The agenda deadline is **Monday, 2nd March, 2020.**
- 1.11 **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).
- 1.12 The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Signed: ..... Chair. Dated: .....

# Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

**Planning Schedule** for the February, 2020 meeting

Planning Reference, Site Address & Detail

Parish  
Comment

P0057/20/FUL

**Apple Tree Cottage, Bradley Hill, Blakeney, Gloucestershire.**

No obj.

Conversion of existing outbuilding to holiday let together with the erection of a single storey extension, replacement pitched roof to provide first floor level and associated landscaping and works. (Revised Scheme).

P0085/20/FUL

**Rivendell, Lower Road, Soudley, Cinderford.**

No obj.

Erection of two single storey extensions with associated works.

P0010/20/DISCON

**Land At 28 - 30 St Whites Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3DG.**

No obj.

Discharge of Condition 07 (CEMP) relating to planning permission P0324/17/FUL.

**PARISH COMMENT AMENDED** - originally No obj., amended to support refusal\*

P1878/19/FUL

**62 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge.**

Erection of a rear extension and associated works. (Resubmission.)

\*this was following the PC rep attending the site inspection panel meeting where it became obvious that the extension would have a serious impact.

## Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

Planning Reference  
Site Address & Detail

Parish  
Comment      District  
Decision

P1821/19/FUL

**Wishing Well, Top Road, Upper Soudley, Cinderford.**

No obj.

CONSENT

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a two storey rear extension, erection of a porch on front elevation and external works including removal of front boundary to provide parking. (Revised Scheme).

P1683/19/FUL

**Land Adjacent Sunnyville, Tramway Road, Ruspidge, Gloucestershire.**

No obj.

CONSENT

Erection of a dwelling with improved access, parking and associated works.

Signed: ..... Dated: .....