

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

MINUTES of the MEETING

held in the on the Tuesday 12th October, 2021

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

Parish Councillors Present:

Mr. W. Acland Chairman.
Cllrs. Ms. H. Medcraft,
Mr. T. Matthews, Mr. M Ogden,
Mr. N. Snell, Mrs. J. Smith.

County Councillor Present:

Cllrs. Nicky Packer, Beki Hoyland.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Richard Boyles, Bernie O'Neill,
Graham Morgan.

The Clerk – Mr. Roland Dowding.

Public:

Tracey Raettig, Mike Raettig, Ebony Wallis, Michelle White, Mike Wallis.

Standing Declarations of Interest

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

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.

10.1. **APOLOGIES** received and recorded from absent members.

10.2. No declaration of personal or prejudicial interest declared.

10.3. **MINUTES** - the minutes of the council meeting held on the **14th September, 2021** were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

10.4. **MATTERS ARISING** - there were no matters arising from the minutes.

10.5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr. Nicky Packer.

- Reported to Parish Council, Cllr. Mark Topping has put forward a motion calling for 20mph limits as a default for Forest of Dean residential streets with exceptions where appropriate.
- Parish Council Councillors expressed concern over speed limits being exceeded by motorists throughout the County and the difficulty faced by the police in enforcing motorists to remain within the speed limits.
- St Whites Rd speed limit, Parish Council proposes changing the speed limit from the current 30mph limit down to 20mph.

- A report on how changing to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would affect the Forest of Dean was commissioned some time ago. It will be completed and presented to members before the end of this year.
- FoDDC have not previously adopted CIL because of concerns about delivering affordable housing, which isn't covered by CIL and is dependent on money being left over after the requirements laid out in the CIL have been met. Because house prices are lower in the Forest of Dean than in, for example, Cotswolds district, viability is more challenging in the Forest of Dean.
- The Government have said that they will be reviewing the planning system. They haven't said whether CIL legislation is part of that review. FoDDC would want clarity on whether CIL will be scrapped or not before deciding to spend a large sum of money to change to the CIL system, even if that was decided as the best way forward.

10.6 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr. Beki Hoyland

Build back better (and greener) councillor scheme.

A new COVID-recovery grant scheme for community projects was launched by GCC this summer, with £40,000 (total) available across our division over the next four years.

Unless your funding is very time sensitive, I will be waiting until the end of October before allocating the funding to make sure there is time for as many groups to apply as possible. Applicants may be community/sports/faith groups, schools, CICs or local councils, and relevant projects include those which:

- Promote and encourage community health, wellbeing and inclusion.
- Promote nature and/or the environment
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Encourage safer neighborhoods

Whatever the subject matter, in view of the climate & ecological emergency, I'll be looking most favorably on those that also deliver a net environmental benefit.

I am trying to make sure that all the villages in the division have some of this money, I have been in conversation with Mark George the new manager at the Dean Heritage centre about funding to create a costed plan for more interactive trails and equipment for children at the centre.

It would also be desirable to give Soudley market a grant.

Street lighting, there is evidence that moths are being severely affected by the new LED lighting. The carbon savings from LEDs are positive, but the detriment to local eco system is concerning. The Council was clear that Parish Councils can identify streetlights that can be turned off at night without causing safety issues.

- 10.7 **PLANNING** – completed schedule is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes. Members of the public opposed to the development of planning reference **P1050/21/PIP** residential dwellings and associated highway access on land West Of Upper Soudley. Members of the public attended the site Inspection panel on 5th October 2021 on the aforementioned land. See details of Parish Council objections in Appendix.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 10.8 Following report by the Treasurer the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £11,833.31, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.
- 10.9. **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING** - St Whites Road. Members of the public are expressing strong concerns around road safety and accidents involving children attending St Whites school. Photographs have been submitted and circulated around the parish council showing the traffic conditions on St Whites Rd.

A petition has been started by concerned parents, with currently over 250 names supporting having a pedestrian crossing on St Whites Rd.

Further discussion and evidence gathering is requested, this discussion will be ongoing.

- 10.10. **FIREWORKS GRANT** - Soudley Village Hall.
Parish Council approved a central grant of £400.00 for Soudley Village Hall fireworks.
- 10.11. **FOOTBALL FIELD** - Ruspidge.
Ruspidge football club no longer use the field, therefore no revenue is being generated.
Proposal to investigate the feasibility of turning the football field into community allotments.
The Parish Council Clerk, instructed to investigate any legal issues, covenants regarding the football field and Ruspidge Welfare Trust.
- 10.12. **SNOW WARDENS** - Appointments for Ruspidge & Soudley.
Decision deferred until the November Council meeting.
- 10.13. **HOD BOY** - installation.
Parish Council agreed to invite the local press to the installation of the new Hod boy sculpture.
- 10.14. **GRIT CABINET** - Buckshaft Road.
Parish Council agreed to the removal and replacement of the damaged grit bag storage cabinet on Buckshaft Rd.
Installation of two, 200 litre lockable grit bag containers, Costing £283.10.
To be securely installed at the same location. Labour costing £70.00.
- 10.15. **CORRESPONDENCE** The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:
All relevant correspondence has been forwarded via email to all members.
- 10.16. **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Memorial Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 9th November, 2021**. The agenda deadline is **Monday, 1st November, 2021**.
- 10.17. **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 8.12p.m.

Signed: Chair. Dated:

APPENDIX

Ruspid+B1:E33ge & Soudley Parish Council

Planning Schedule for the October, 2021 meeting.

**Planning Reference
Site Address & Detail**

**Parish
Comment**

P1350/21/FUL

18 Forest View, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.
Replacement of flat roof over garage to fronts of 16 and
18 Forest View. Removal of garage door to Number 18, to
be replaced with brickwork and upvc window.

No Obj

P1596/21/FUL

Town and Country Planning Act,1990 (As Amended)
38 Sneyd Wood Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3GD.
Variation of condition 02 (approved plans) of planning permission
P0738/21/FUL to allow for changes to external materials.

No Obj

P1050/21/PIP

Land West Of Upper Soudley, Gloucestershire.
Permission in Principle for the Erection of Between 5
and 8 residential dwellings (C3) and associated
highway access.

Objections as per
previous applications.
Not on allocated building
land, lack of infrastructure
regarding storm water and
more importantly sewage.
Lack of facilities ie shops.
Most residents totally
opposed to the
development.
This list is not necessarily
exhaustive.

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

**Planning Reference
Site Address & Detail**

**Parish
Comment**

**District
Decision**

Date

P1409/21/FUL

3 Dean View Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 3EE
Demolition of the existing garage and building of a
new side extension to incorporate a utility room,
shower room and snug.

No Obj

Consent

06/10/2021

Signed: Chair.

Dated: