

Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

MINUTES of the MEETING

held in the on the Tuesday 9th November, 2021

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

Parish Councillors Present:

Cllrs. Tony Matthews. Chairman,
Joanne Smith, Bernadette Wood,
Mark Ogden, Norman Snell.

The Clerk – Roland Dowding.

Public Present:

Malcolm Edwards, Jayne Edwards.

County Councillors Present:

Cllrs. Beki Hoyland, Graham Morgan.

District Councillors Present:

Cllrs. Nicky Packer.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Richard Boyles, Bernie O'Neill,
William Acland, Helen Medcraft.

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.

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

11.2. No declaration of personal or prejudicial interest declared.

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

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

11.5. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr. Nicky Packer.

Biophere Reserve The Forest Economic Partnership is running a consultation on the Forest as a Biosphere reserve: <https://fep2050.co.uk/the-forest-we-want>

We seem as far away as ever of obtaining AONB status. In my view, Biosphere reserve status, although requiring a lot of work to achieve, would be better suited to the Forest of Dean. Please give your views on what, I think, is an inspiring initiative.

Motion calling for 20mph limits as a default for Forest of Dean residential streets with exceptions where appropriate

Cllr Mark Topping has put forward a motion:

- i. Write to Gloucestershire County Council (the Highways Authority for Gloucestershire) asking for serious consideration to be given to how best, and most cost effectively, 20mph limits can be progressed throughout residential areas throughout the Forest of Dean;
- ii. Inform the local media of this decision;
- iii. Write to our MP (enclosing a copy of this motion) asking him to support the implementation of 20mph limits for residential areas throughout the Forest of Dean.

11.6 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Beki Hoyland

Church Road Soudley, 20 December till 22nd December 2021 road closed for Severn Trent work, both pedestrian and emergency service access will be retained.

The Bridge repair has been postponed for now, no date for when it will be fixed. Just to be clear, this is the Bridge on the Blakeney side of Soudley rather than the Ruspidge side. Gigaclear is working all around the Forest of Dean installing fibre, this does entail a lot of traffic lights and some smaller local road closures.

I am working with Highways and the police to reduce speed at the Viney Hill junction on the A48 near Blakeney.

I have been made aware that there are issues at the junction just below the ambulance station between Cinderford and Littledean. Any more information regarding this junction could be useful.

Cllr. Graham Morgan

Forest Vale Road resurfaced, has been brought forward, the work is being done through the night as to not disrupt business activity on the Forest Vale Industrial Estate.

I have been in touch with highways with regard to water runoff from the St Johns Church bank happening again at Valley Road toward Cinderford Bridge, this water has been tracking up St Whites Hill and also up Beech tree Hill towards the Dilke Hospital, with the onset of frosts this a major road safety issue, the ditch has now been re-dug and it seems to have solved the issue again.

I have also been in touch with Highways about the Flood that occurs in severe rainfall near the north cattle grid on Forest Vale Road, Andrew Middlecote said that they have jettied the system again and put camera's down and the system is clear, I have said to Andrew that myself as Cinderford Flood Warden and Richard Munday inspected the brook in the middle of the year, the outfall has no non-return valve on, so maybe as the brook rises water flows back up the system and floods the road.

On the county wide issues at Shire Hall the Children Services side of things are not looking much better, still after five years things have not improved very much, there is a major issue keeping Social Workers that are it seems leaving on a frequent basis, this in turn leads to no visits to children in care and no inspections of premisses, Offstead were due to inspect the service again in September but we are now in November and we have still not seen them, we feel that Children are being let down by this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

As a Labour Group we are planning to put forward a motion requesting the County Council go back to a situation where we have a women's refuge in each locality like we used to enjoy, the reason we are asking for this is because of the increased worries nationally over the safety of women.

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

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 11.8 Following report by the Treasurer the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £4,575.06, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.
- 11.9 **DRAFT BUDGET.** 2022/23. Presented to council and approved for submission to the Forest of Dean district council.
- 11.10 **GRANT APPLICATION.** From Soudley AFC, for grass cutting, maintenance & pitch marking. Decision deferred until December's council meeting.
The parish council have instructed Cllr. M Ogden to consult with Soudley village hall committee members regarding the funding, before committing to a decision.
- 11.11 **CCTV** Ruspidge. Council discussed the possibility of putting CCTV cameras on Ruspidge football pitch and the recreational field. Due to costings and the impracticability of staffing a CCTV system council have decided not to implement a CCTV at this time.
- 11.12 **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.** To represent Ruspidge & Soudley parish council in paying our respect at this year's services: Cllr. N Snell will attend Cinderford's service. Cllr. M Ogden and Cllr. J Smith will attend the Soudley service. Wreaths have been provided by the British Legion. At Soudley, Mr M Kibble will perform the duties of bugler and the Reverend Mr M Barnsley will conduct the service.
- 11.13 **BRITISH LEGION DONATION.** The parish council agreed to make a £75.00 donation to the Royal British Legion, for providing two wreaths, for this year's Remembrance services.
- 11.14 **VIEWPOINT.** The Viewpoint newsletter that serves the parish of Ruspidge & Soudley currently has no editor. Council has instructed the clerk, Mr R Dowding, to draft a letter advertising for a volunteer to take on this task. Adverts are to be placed on the parish council's website, Facebook and the parish notice boards. Enquiries are also to be made with Ruspidge memorial hall and Soudley village hall.
- 11.15 **Hod Boy Payment.** The parish council have decided to award the sculptor, Mr J Wakefield a £500.00 honorarium payment in thanks, for the six months of work put into making and siting the new Hod boy sculpture on the Blue rock trail.
- 11.16 **SNOW WARDENS.** Mr R Jackson is continuing in the role of snow warden for Ruspidge. Mr Steve Wood is continuing in the role of snow warden for Soudley. Ruspidge & Soudley parish council thanks them both for their continued service to the community.
- 11.17. **CORRESPONDENCE** The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence: All relevant correspondence has been forwarded via email to all members.
- 11.18. **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the **Soudley Village Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 14th December, 2021.** The agenda deadline is **Monday, 6th December, 2021.**
- 11.19. **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 8.30p.m.

Signed: Chair. Dated:

APPENDIX

Ruspid+B1:E33ge & Soudley Parish Council

Planning Schedule for the November, 2021 meeting.

Planning Reference Site Address & Detail

Parish Comment

P0451/21/FUL

58 Buckshaft Road Ruspidge Cinderford.
Erection of one two bedroomed detached dwelling and two one bedroomed semi-detached dwellings with dedicated parking and separate plant room and associated works.

App Withdrawn

P0830/21/FUL

64 Ruspidge Road Ruspidge Cinderford.
Erection of a detached dwelling with associated works.
Demolition of garage.

App Withdrawn

P1760/21/FUL

Land At The Rear Of 8A Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.
Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings with associated landscaping and works.

No Objection.

Decisions notified by the Planning Authority

Planning Reference Site Address & Detail

Parish Comment

District Decision

Date

P1083/21/FUL

8 Archway Close Soudley Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2TS.
Proposed two storey rear extension and garage.

No Obj

Consent

28/10/2021

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.

Objection

Refused

13/10/2021

P1596/21/FUL

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

Consent

03/11/2021

P1350/21/FUL

18 Forest View Ruspidge Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 3DP.
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

Consent

02/11/2021