

# Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

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## **MINUTES of the MEETING**

**held in the Soudley Hall on the 10th December, 2019**

*(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, N. Snell.

County Councillor Present:

G. Morgan.

District Councillor Present:

Ms. N. Packer.

The Clerk - Mrs. Helen Hook.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Richardson, O'Neill & Boyles.

Public:

Three 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. Ruspidge Memorial Hall – a brief presentation was given on refurbishment plans for the hall. Disabled Access for the lower hall is too expensive and technically difficult, therefore, the upper hall refurbishment will be priority. This will include extending the kitchen and bar area and installing disabled access from the front. Highways will be consulted for their comments. The bar extension will allow storage of the tables and chairs, thus freeing up space in the hall and the kitchen extension will lend itself more favourably for cookery demonstrations/education and parties.  
The council approved the suggestions in principle.
2. Soudley Village Hall – the kitchen refurbishment was plagued by delays, but bookings were able to be honoured and users were happy with the outcome. It has been noted that the central heating boiler cannot be regulated and will require a thermostat or replacement. A leak has been evident in the roof, perished felt replaced, but this remains a major concern.

### **RUSPIDGE WELFARE TRUST**

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

1. French Drain – the trench has been dug and will be filled with sand and stone.

12. **MINUTES** - the minutes of the council meeting held on the 12th November, 2019 were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

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

Conservation work Blue Rock Trail – Still awaiting date for site visit.

Nest Swing – a letter received from the plaintiff's solicitor was read to council. All queries have been answered and relevant documents presented.

Wheelchair friendly roundabout – The roundabout installed is not as ordered or quoted for. The compensation for this is insignificant as it only requires refitting the correct component. Therefore, the council determined that it be replaced with the original design. It has also been noted that water is pooling on one side of the roundabout, which indicates that it may not be level. The contractors will be asked to rectify.

## 12.2 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

### **(NP)**

- Local Plan responses on FODDC website.
- Strategic Land Assessment Register.
- Northern Quarter briefing; further development despite no finances to build spine road.
- Forest Lottery now live. Visit <https://www.forestlottery.co.uk/>
- Solar lighting.

### **(BO’N – sent via email)**

- Draft budget report to Cabinet on 19th December.  
- final recommendations to Full Council on 20th February.
- Gateway Project – liaising with Verderers for their views.
- St. White’s old school planning application – will speak at committee meeting in December.

### **(RB – sent via email)**

- Foxglove Gardens start up units – old Lawnstone House site.
- Corporate Plan – approved by Full council.
- Deputy Chair of Planning – awarded an allowance for the role.

## 12.3 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

### **(GM)**

- Forest of Dean Road Safety – speeding.  
- Mobile Automated Vehicle Recognition – share between parishes.
- 7 deer are struck by cars each day in the Forest.
- Flooding issues.
- Planting trees.

### **(RB – sent via email)**

- Scheme to cut youth offending earns commendation.
- Fire Service – drink drive/drug campaign launched.
- ‘What Next’ guide – aimed at students 9 – 13 years old.
- Social work academy – how to be prepared for court.

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

St. White’s old School – previous application was for 5 dwellings, the St. White’s Road access upheld as there is already a vehicular access to the old school, though unused for years. Recent application increased to 8 dwellings. Flat roofs being replaced is an improvement but with 4 parking bays available for access onto St. White’s Road, this remains a concern.

The parish council will reiterate the request to District Council Planners for a planning condition that the junction be completed prior to any development.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

12.5 Following report by the Treasurer the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for payment totalling £2791.23, this figure being inclusive of confidential expenditure.

12.6 Budget & Precept 2020/21 – Council discussed the draft budget and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be instructed to request £48,903.00 for the 2020/21 precept.

12.7 Play Areas – to erect signage in all play areas, stating equipment is used at own risk. Age restriction signs to be erected on the new equipment in Ruspidge Recreation Field.

12.8 Soudley Village Hall – concerns were raised regarding the Fireworks Event.

The Council **RESOLVED** that it would require assurances and evidence of:

- Trained Personnel
- Adequate Marshalls
- Qualified First Aider

- before it will consider any future funding towards this event or any other which require these obligations.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

12.9 The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| a) GCC – Highways Bulletins   | b) G. Morgan – Road Traffic Collision costs. |
| c) Ms. Jarrett – RMH parking. | d) FODDC – Wind turbine judgement.           |

12.10 **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council is to be held in the **Ruspidge Hall** at 7.00pm **Tuesday, 14th January, 2020.**

The agenda deadline is **Monday, 6th January, 2020.**

12.11 **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 (2018).

12.12 The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

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

# Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council

**Planning Schedule** for the meeting on 10th December, 2019

Planning Reference  
Site Address & Detail

Parish  
Comment

P1821/19/FUL

No obj.

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

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).

P1878/19/FUL

No obj.

**62 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge.**

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

## **Decisions notified by the Planning Authority**

Planning Reference  
Site Address & Detail

Parish  
Comment

District  
Decision

P1393/19/FUL

No obj.

REFUSED

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

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.

P1562/19/FUL

No obj.

CONSENT

**2 Archway Close, Soudley, Cinderford, Gloucestershire.**

Erection of single storey rear and side extensions with associated works.

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