

# **THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL RUSHBURY PARISH MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025 AT 7:00PM AT RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL**

## **1. WELCOME**

Cllr A Richards, Chairman of the Council, welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting for 2025.

## **2. PRESENTATION BY RUSHBURY SCHOOL**

A group of Year 5 students (Axel, Darcy, Hunter and Serenna) accompanied by their Head Teacher, Steve Morris, provided an excellent summary of their school year. It included details of their trips, charity work, clubs and activities throughout the year.

## **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr's R Madeley, C Stevenson and P Bodimeade.

## **4. PRESENT**

Cllr A Richards (Chair), Clerk N Green, Cllr's M Lowndes, A Dixon, E Riley, F Turner, J Hartley.

## **5. MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING 17 MAY 2024**

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 17 May 2024 were noted and will be circulated.

## **6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr A Richards, Parish Council Chairman, highlighted some key events from the previous year.

He thanked Dr Colin Stevenson who had stood down from his role as a Councillor after many years of being on the Parish Council and taking part in many other activities associated with it.

He stated that the new grounds maintenance worker had been a success and that he was to continue after positive feedback.

He stated that the Speed Indication Devices had been a success and again positive feedback had been received. He went on to thank Cllr's Lowndes and Madeley for changing the batteries and locations.

He highlighted that much of the feedback from Parishioners concerned the condition of our roads. He encouraged Parishioners to continue to use 'Fix my Street' on the Shropshire Council web page and that the Parish Council would push the issue where possible.

He thanked the steering committee concerning their efforts to keep the Plough at Wall open.

He highlighted that numerous planning applications had been discussed including the new communications tower planned for Gilberries Lane.

## **7. SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

A report was not submitted from the Shropshire Councillor. It was noted that it was an election period.

## **8. WAINWRIGHT TRUST REPORT**

Mr M Pye presented a report on behalf of the trustees. The report is appended to the Minutes.

## **9. VILLAGE HALL REPORT**

Mrs Christine Beaver presented a report on behalf of the Village Hall. The report is appended to the Minutes.

## **10. CLERK'S REPORT**

Financial Report

Mr N Green advised the following for the financial year 2024-2025.

Opening Balance at 1 April 2024	£10,156.57
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Receipts	£14,312.39
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Payments	£12,853.53
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Closing Balance at 31 March 2025	£11,615.43
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General Reserves £7,884.03 and Allocated £3,731.40

The Clerk commented that the SID devices had cost £5659.67 to date but they had been paid for with £5615.00 received from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Clerk commented that £438.47 was to be paid to the HMRC and that a VAT reclaim was in progress for £1541.09.

## **11. PLANS FOR 2025/26**

The Parish Council will attempt to identify and co-opt a new Councillor and work through planning issues such as the new telecoms mast.

## **12. PARISHIONERS' BUSINESS / QUESTIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

A general conversation took place regarding the provision of Broadband within the Parish.

Cllr A Richards thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8:00pm.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

## **Report from the Wainwright Trust to Rushbury Parish Council**

**Monday 28 April 2025**

The Wainwright Trust\* exists to help with the external maintenance and upkeep of Rushbury School's original buildings and outdoor areas. It also provides funds for services not normally provided by the local authority. In addition, the trust has a role in ensuring that the school maintains constructive links with the Church and upholds a Christian ethos and values. The trust is able to provide support for parishioners (Eaton and Rushbury) in need. An annual notice about this is placed in an edition of *The Honeypot* parish magazine.

The trust owns the original school buildings, part of the school grounds and a roadside parcel of land between the church and the school. The trust leases the premises to Shropshire Council. Most of the trust's income comes from this lease. As part of the lease renewal process, a comprehensive structural survey took place in 2024. This identified a number of defects which are currently being repaired. These include the stone wall between the school and the church, the wall between the top and lower playgrounds and various building matters. Once the remedial work has been completed, the trust will renew the lease to the council for a further 20 years.

There are six trustees. Current trustees are William Hotchkiss, Andrew Henderson, Anna Child, Liz Welsh and Martin Pye. The current chair of the trust is Martin Pye. The Rev'd Lisa Harper will become the sixth trustee later this year.

Trustees have noted BT's intention to decommission the telephone box that is situated on Wainwright Trust land. Trustees have indicated that they may be open to adopting the box and this is on the agenda for our meeting on 1 May 2025.

In the 2024/25 year, the trust:

- provided small grants to support local residents' higher education studies

- funded new educational resources for Rushbury Primary School.

The accounts for the last audited year (2023/24), and subsequently submitted to the charity commission, are attached.

*\*There are actually two separate charities: The Jones and Wainwright Educational Foundation and the Rushbury Charity. Both charities share the same trustees and, to most extents and purposes, operate as one organisation with one bank account. However, we complete two separate financial returns to the Charity Commission, as required.*

#### **Rushbury and Wainwright charities 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024**

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##### **Rushbury Charity**

Opening balance @1 April 2023	£	0
 <u>Income</u>		
M&G	£	251.16
 <u>Outgoings</u>		
To Wainwright Charity	£	251.16
 Closing balance @ March 31 2024	 £	 0

##### **Wainwright Charity**

Opening balance @ 1 April 2023	£	<b>9,871.66</b>
 <u>Income</u>		

From Rushbury charity	£	251.16
Rent from SC, fees and investments	£	1,672.28

#### Outgoings

Discretionary study grant	£	250.00
Insurance	£	294.13
Land registry charges	£	30.00
Rushbury School defibrillator grant	£	400.00
Rushbury School sports equipment	£	675.00
Bank charges	£	60.00
Postage costs	£	5.30

**Closing balance @ March 31 2024** **£10,081.17**

#### Investment holdings

Value of M&G investments @ 31 March 2024	£
Rushbury charity	6934.27
Wainwright charity	145.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>7080.05</b>

### **RUSHBURY VILLAGE HALL**

#### **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

#### **Report for The Meeting on Monday April 28 2025**

This is a short report on behalf of Rushbury Village Hall

During the last 12 months we have seen several changes

Merle Lippitt , our wonderful Chairperson and Committee member , tendered her resignation.

She has been a loyal and dedicated supporter of the Hall and community for numerous years and we thank her for all her work. She still continues to keep an eye on us and offer advice when required and for this we are very grateful.

We made a change to the way Hall Bookings are made and invoicing. We went with a system called Hallmaster which makes it easier for all to see when the Hall is free etc . This is linked to the Xero invoicing software which we have installed. This allows invoices to be generated a lot quicker. Having a Booking Officer is making things more transparent for everyone

Following on from the New windows and doors we had last year we have installed an air source heat pump . Also 44 Solar panels have been put on the south side roof . This is generating power to export in to the feed tariff

Combined this has helped reduce our energy costs. We have established the heat pump is not sufficient to blow heating around the hall in the cold weather so we are installing another unit this summer

The kitchen , meeting room and toilet area we think will be better heated by conventional wall heaters and this will be costed /planned after the second heat pump is working .

We want to install a new water heater in the kitchen to allow a continual hot water supply for washing up etc

The Pop up Pub has continued with great success and we are grateful for the support of the community . A big “thank you” has to go to the wonderful volunteers who each month help us set up the bar , run it and clear up afterwards. These are generally not committee members but dedicated community volunteers.

The support from volunteers is so appreciated and is something I am keen to encourage. You do not have to be “on the committee” to help the Village Hall

We are finding storage a problem with running the P.u.P. ,there is no room to store glasses and alcohol on site . Although the Hall is a large venue storage has always been a problem. We have considered several ideas and at the moment we are looking at perhaps using the meeting room for bar and storage whilst retaining an area for small meetings . The amount of bookings for this room at the moment are very few and we think the space could be utilized more efficiently . This is an ongoing project ,we are checking our insurance cover for alcohol storage

We have installed a cctv camera in the lobby as we have had one or two mysterious visitors and happenings. Nothing just lately

We are trying to encourage more events/users to the hall . We hosted the County Quiz finals again this year and A Tractor Run organized by Cummington VH used us as a mid journey coffee stop . The car park was packed and tractors parked all along the road side . We welcome them back again in October. The Caravan Club enjoyed their usual weekend visit to us

William H continues to keep the outside garden area tidy for us . Thank you and thanks to all volunteers

The Committee will continue to strive to make sure your hall is run and used as efficiently as possible

Thank You

Christine Beaver

Chair

Rushbury Village Hall