
RUSPIDGE & SOUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING held on Tuesday 8th July 2025.

Parish Councillors Present:

Cllrs. William Acland Chairman, Jo Smith, Norman Snell, Tony Matthews, Lori-Leah Griffiths, Paul Firth.

County Councillors Present:

None-Present.

District Councillors Present:

Richard Burton.

Parish Council Clerk – Roland Dowding.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Helen Medcraft, Denis Bagwell-Johnson, Bernie O'Neill, Andy Moore, Ray Donaghue.

Standing Declarations of Interest

- a) Ruspidge Memorial Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. William Acland.
- b) St Whites School - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. William Acland.
- c) Soudley Village Hall - Insignificant personal interest by Cllr. Norman Snell.

Public Present: None Present.

R&SPC Public Participation: None Present.

- 7.1. **Apologies** received and recorded from absent members.
- 7.2. No declaration of prejudicial interest was declared by members present.
- 7.3. **Minutes** - The minutes of the council meeting held on the **10th of June, 2025** were **ACCEPTED** as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.
- 7.4. **Matters Arising** - There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- 7.5. **District Councillor Reports**
Reports are attached as an Appendix to these minutes.
- 7.6. **County Councillor Reports**
None Present, No reports submitted.
- 7.7. **Planning** – The completed schedule for **July** is attached as an Appendix to these Minutes.
- 7.8. Following a report by the Honorary Treasurer, Cllr. Norman Snell the council **APPROVED** the accounts presented for **July** payment totalling **£5,968.96**. This figure is inclusive of confidential expenditure. A financial report is included for this month in the appendix to these minutes.

- 7.9. **R&SPC Grant Awards 2025** – Grants were awarded to the following two applicants.
- Busy Rascals. £500.00 Awarded by unanimous vote.
 - Imjin Veterans Memorial Group. £500.00 Awarded by unanimous vote.
 - Cinderford Town Youth Football Club. Information for the usage of requested grant and financial information requested. Deferred until September's parish council meeting.
- 7.10. **Recreational Grounds & Play Area Inspection Reports** – Member acknowledged receipt of the May quarters inspection attended to by KOMPAN. Actions recommended in the report are requested to be attended too.
- 7.11. **Ruspidge Recreational Ground Swing Removal & Replacement** – After debating the recommendation, the members present voted unanimously to approve a quote supplied by KOMPAN for £10,473.67 to remove the existing swing frame and replace with a new one, attending to damage to the wet pour surface.
- 7.12. **Konica/Minolta Office Copier Contract Renewal** – Replacement of existing copier on a like for like basis. Five-year contract renewal. The members present voted unanimously and approved the new contract.
- 7.13. **Community Speed Watch SNEYD WOOD** – Cllr. Tony Matthews reported, unfortunately speeds this month have not decreased and the highest recorded speed in the last month being 42 mph.
- 7.14. **Liaison's Report for Soudley Village Hall** – Cllr. Norman Snell informed the members present of events to be held at Soudley Village Hall over the next month. One allotment remains vacant. The Car boot sale held on the 5th of July along with the Saturday butty mornings have made a profit. Over the last quarter the Hall Committee have made the following profit £2,934.30 putting the accounts into the black. Cllr. Snell has arranged a stall for the 23rd August at the Soudley Village Hall Fete. He requested that members attend on the day to assist in occupying the stall.
- 7.15. **Liaison's Report for Ruspidge Memorial Hall** – deferred until September.
- 7.16. **Correspondence** - The council **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the following correspondence:
The Parish Councillors accepted all relevant correspondence has been forwarded via email to all members.
- 7.17. **Next Meeting** - the next meeting of the council will be held in the **Soudley Village Hall** at **7.00 p.m. Tuesday, 9th September 2025**. The agenda deadline is **Monday, 1st of September 2025**.
- 7.18. **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 7.35 p.m.

Signed:.....Chairman.

Dated:.....

APPENDIX

Financial report for the July meeting.

[illegible]

Planning Schedule July 2025

<u>Ruspidge & Soudley Parish Council</u>			
<u>Planning Schedule July, 2025</u>			
<u>Planning Reference</u>	<u>Parish</u>		
<u>Site Address & Detail</u>	<u>Comment</u>		
NO PLANNING CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH.			
<u>Decisions notified by the Planning Authority</u>			
<u>Planning Reference</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>District</u>	
<u>Site Address & Detail</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Date</u>
P0517/25/FUL			
82 Ruspidge Road, Ruspidge, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Erection of a 3 bedroom chalet bungalow with associated landscaping, parking and works.	Application Withdrawn		26/06/2025
P0155/25/LBC			
Dean Heritage Centre, Lower Soudley, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Listed Building consent for the Installation of PV panels and associated cables on the roof which covers gallery 1, the cafe and the library.	No Obj	Consent	11/06/2025
P0134/25/FUL			
Dean Heritage Centre, Lower Soudley, Cinderford, Gloucestershire. Installation of PV panels and associated cables on the roof which covers gallery 1, the cafe and the library.	No Obj	Consent	11/06/2025

District Councillor Report.

District Councillor Report – Richard Burton – July 2025

Forest of Dean school children funded to take part in Eco-Schools award

Children at 10 schools across the Forest of Dean are discovering ways they can help to care for the environment thanks to funding from Forest of Dean District Council, which has allowed them to take part in the internationally recognised Eco-Schools programme.

The programme introduces students of all ages to global environmental issues, which include waste, water, litter, biodiversity and energy, and encourages pupils to deliver eco-projects that will make their schools more sustainable, increase environmental learning and benefit their local communities.

Forest of Dean District Council expands recycling collection to include plastic pots, tubs and trays

Residents across the Forest of Dean can now recycle plastic tubs, pots, and trays, as well as bottles, at the kerbside as part of their weekly recycling collection.

Yoghurt pots, margarine tubs and punnets from fruit and vegetables are among the types of plastic that can now be put out for collection in the green recycling box.

New Active Travel maps available for locations across the Forest of Dean

Forest of Dean District Council has provided Active Travel Grant funding to Canopy Creative Network to produce new illustrated maps displaying accessible active travel routes at Soudley Ponds, Linear Park in Cinderford and Cyril Hart Arboretum at Speech House.

To find out more about Canopy Creative Network, their future activities and events, and to download PDF versions of the new maps, please click

here: <https://canopynetwork.co.uk/creative-walks/maps/>

Planning Committee approves Redmarley housing application

Forest of Dean District Council can confirm that yesterday its Development Management Committee approved retrospective planning permission for a pair of semi-detached houses on the previously approved development at Rock Meadow, Redmarley.

The Council recognises the concerns raised throughout the planning process and appreciates the input from the community and Redmarley Parish Council. However, members agreed that the overriding benefits of the scheme, particularly the provision of affordable housing for local people warranted approval.