

**Minutes of The Full Council Meeting held at The Rackliff Centre on
Monday 3rd October 2022 at 7.30pm**

Members Present:

Cllr Liz Ellicott, Chair; Cllr Alex Britcher-Allan, Cllr Chris Ducklin, Cllr Barry Edwards, Cllr Dave Funnell, Cllr Paul Gripper, Cllr M O'Callaghan and Cllr Doug Smith.

Officers Present:

Alison Stevens, Locum Clerk

Others and Members of the Public:

There was one member of the public present.

- 1. Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting**
No one present filmed, photographed or recorded the meeting.

- 2. To receive and approve apologies for absence**
No apologies for absence were received.

- 3. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests**
Cllrs Britcher-Allan and Funnell declared an interest and did not vote in Minute 13.

- 4. Declarations of Lobbying**
Cllrs Britcher-Allan and Funnell declared that they have both been lobbied.

- 5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th October 2022**
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th October 2022 were agreed, and it was RESOLVED that the Chair sign them as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
5.1 Matters outstanding from these minutes (not listed as separate items). Cllr O'Callaghan confirmed he is looking into the path issue raised at the last meeting and said he will report back when he knows more.
5.2 Matters outstanding from previous minutes. None.

- 6. Open session for questions from the public**
Ms Foster asked for an update on her request for a cage to be fitted on the wall to stop debris falling across the footpath in Lower Green Road. Cllr Funnell is taking the issue up with the Borough Council and will report back when he has an answer.

- 7. Session for County and Borough Councillor on matters concerning the Parish**
There was no report from County Councillor McInroy on this occasion.

Borough Councillor Britcher-Allan reported the main issues at Borough are;

- i. The Boundary Review – This was covered in more detail later on in the meeting.
- ii. The Ukraine Situation – Guests are now reaching the end of the six months stay with their hosts although they have a right to remain in this country for up to three years. This seems to be causing no real issues.
- iii. The local doctor's surgeries are not taking on any new patients.

Borough Councillor Funnell reported that;

- i. The allotments at Peacock Farm have now been registered as Assets of Community Value.
- ii. The bench at Nellington Road has now been repaired. It was noted that a bench in the High Street now needs repairing.

8. Finance update –

8.1: Accounts for Payment – Councillors RESOLVED to delay paying The Living Forest until the work has been finished and then approved the list of payments for 1st October 2022 (see below).

			£	
04/10/2022	The Living Forest	BACS	654.00	Hedge Cutting
04/10/2022	Capel Groundcare	BACS	436.03	Sept Groundcare
04/10/2022	The Cleaning Lady	BACS	72.00	Rackcliff Cleaning
04/10/2022	Linda Neusten	BACS	14.00	Reimbursement
04/10/2022	Alison Stevens	BACS	2230.50	Locum Clerk
04/10/2022	C May	BACS	130.00	Locum RFO
04/10/2022	Langton Life	BACS	750.00	Rusthall Life
04/10/2022	KCC	BACS	32.00	Licence
04/10/2022	KCS	BACS	30.22	Photocopier
04/10/2022	GTW Services	BACS	160.00	Installation Defib
04/10/2022	GTW Services	BACS	741.00	Hanging Baskets inst
04/10/2022	GTW Services	BACS	75.00	PAT Testing
04/10/2022	Microshade	BACS	239.98	Monthly hosting
07/10/2022	HMRC	BACS	20.54	NI and Tax
14/10/2022	Business Stream	BACS	16.37	Drainage
20/10/2022	Kevin Watson	BACS	735.55	Salary
20/10/2022	Linda Neusten	BACS	858.87	Salary

It was also RESOLVED to reimburse Mr Goldsmith the sum of £3.50 for a ball valve he replaced at the allotments.

8.2 Christmas Lights – The paperwork for the Highways licence has been submitted to the County Council who have now issued an invoice for it. Once the Parish Council has received the licence the Clerk will instruct Festive Decorations to fit the Christmas lights in December.

9. Rackliff Centre –

9.1 It was RESOLVED to accept the quote from Sticky Monkey to manufacture and install a sign reading ‘The Rackliff Centre’ measuring 4800mm x 670mm to the front of The Rackliff Centre (Option 2) at a cost of £725.00 plus VAT. The price includes an additional flat panel sign with the Parish Council’s opening times and a brief history about it. This will also be fitted on the front wall.

9.2 Six Councillors also agreed they would like to have a flagpole at the Centre. Costs start at £44.50 plus VAT. The decision on which flagpole to install was deferred until after the new sign (9.1) has been fitted.

10. Defibrillator Update – The Parish Council has received two updates from The Circuit which suggest the defibrillator has been used when it hasn’t. The Clerk asked the installer to check there are no faults. None were found.

11. St Paul’s School – At the last meeting Councillors agreed to send a representative to a Governor’s Meeting and find out their aims. The Clerk has since contacted the school and is now waiting to hear back.

12. **Assets of Community Value** – Cllr Edwards circulated a list of suggestions which all the others agreed to look at and bring a shortlist of to the next meeting.
13. **Boundary Commission Review** – After much discussion it was resolved by six votes to two to support the Boundary Commission’s proposal to combine Rusthall Parish with Speldhurst to form one three member ward. Cllr Ellicott will draft a formal response from the Parish Council based on this decision.

Councillors Britcher-Allan and Funnell asked for their objections to be recorded.

14. **Chair’s Report** – Cllr Ellicott asked the members of the Finance Committee to consider paying for the trough at the memorial to be secured, at their next Meeting. Cllr Funnell said drainage work may also be required.

She was also pleased to hear recently that, in future, planning applications will include a net gain for biodiversity and landscaping. She offered to circulate a Power Point presentation which gives more detail.

15. **Officers’ Report** – Officer Stevens said she has resolved the signage issue reported by Ms Carney at the last meeting to the satisfaction of both parties (TWBC and Ms Carney).

16. **Diary Dates**

7 th Nov 2022	7.30pm	Full Council Meeting.
17 th Oct 2022	7.30pm	Finance Committee Meeting
20 th Oct 2022	7.30pm	Highways Committee Meeting
24 th Oct 2022	7.30pm	Environment Committee Meeting
26 th Sep 2022	7.30pm	Allotments Committee Meeting

17. **Items for Information** – Cllr Ellicott attended a book launch and recommended the book to those present.

Cllr Funnell appealed for volunteers for the Annual Bonfire Event which this year will be on the 29th October. Residents can add their own garden waste to the bonfire between 7am and 1pm on the day.

Cllr Gripper attended a recent Conservators Meeting. The £15000 saved from grass cutting this year is to be spent on the work needed to the trees. He will find out when the Conservator’s meeting is so the Locum Clerk can include it on a future agenda.

18. **Next meeting of Full Council -**

7th Nov 2022 7.30pm The Rackliff Centre

IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM ON THIS AGENDA, COUNCILLORS RESOLVED TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960.

19. To consider confidential staffing matters and agree any further action.
Councillors RESOLVED to accept the recommendations made at the Staffing Committee Meeting held on the 15th September 2022.

There was no further business, and the meeting closed at 9.04pm.

..... Chairman

Dated