

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 9th October 2017 at 7.30pm
IN THE RACKLIFF CENTRE LOWER GREEN ROAD**

Members Present: Cllrs, B Edwards (Chairman), M Fraser (left meeting at 20.15), J Blackburn, H Duncombe, J Clark and D Smith.

Officer Present: S Denne

In Attendance: Borough Councillor Huggett

Members of the Public: There were two members of the public present

1. **Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting** - No-one present intended to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Punyer ,Cllr Benoy, Cllr Britcher, County Cllr McInroy and Borough Cllr Podbury
3. **Declaration of Interests** –There were none.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying** – There were none.
5. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 11th September 2017 were agreed, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman signed them as a true record
 - 5.2 **Matters outstanding from these minutes** (not listed as separate agenda items) **Item 12** – Cllr Edwards reported that he was unable to ask the question due to the nature of the meeting. The meeting was to discuss the proposed new civic centre. **Item 15-** Cllr Edwards had obtained quotes for the honours board from £450 up to £700. He will be investigating the company that supplies the TWBC. To be added to November's agenda.
 - 5.3**Matters outstanding from previous minutes:** None
6. **Session for County and Borough Councillors on matters concerning the Parish** – Cllr Huggett informed the members that she had put the PC's point of view across, regards increased traffic and the state of the existing pitches, at a meeting to discuss the proposed development on the land behind the Southwood Road allotments. She also informed the members that Stage 3 for the proposed civic centre is scheduled for the end of November.
7. **Committee Reports:** Planning Meeting and Allotment Meeting 18th September, Finance Meeting 25th September and Highways Meeting 2nd October draft minutes have been circulated.
8. **Tree Survey** – Cllr Blackburn informed the members that T1 and T2 at Fremlin pond would be dealt with by the Kent High Weald Partnership on the 18th October. It was agreed that all other works to be started within the next financial year, thus giving time to build up a fund for for tree maintenance.

- 9. Speed Watch** – Cllr Blackburn informed the members that she wished to step down from being the coordinator. The system had been altered and everything was to be on line. All licensed sites to be revalued and further volunteers to be trained. Training would be carried out by Alan Watkins, Head of Speedwatch. After much discussion it was agreed to ask the three absent Cllrs if any of them would be able to become the co-ordinator and if not to advertise the position in Rusthall Life, as it is not required to be a PC led operation. Cllr Blackburn to write a small article for the magazine.
- 10. Remembrance 2018-** Cllr Duncombe informed the members that she had drawn up a list of organisations within the village and that a meeting should be held on a Tuesday in November. Cllr Blackburn agreed to chair the meeting. Cllr Smith felt that Cllr Edwards should chair the meeting and the Clerk send out all the invites to the meeting, on behalf of the PC. Other members disagreed, believing that a PC led event would not be as popular as a village led event. It was agreed that Cllrs Duncombe and Blackburn would send out an invite to village organisations asking them to disseminate the information within their own circles. Cllr Duncombe to choose a date for the meeting.
- 11. Tunbridge Wells in Bloom** – The Clerk informed the meeting that Rusthall Residents had won the following:
- Best Street/Flats Communal area** Simmonds Court **Silver**
Best Basket Harriette Pike Hill View Road **Gold**
Best Planter/Tub/Container Harriette Pike **Gold**
 Mr & Mrs Maltby, Simmonds Court **Silver Gilt**
 Alan Farmer, Southwood Road **Silver Gilt**
Best Patio/Balcony Harriette Pike, **Silver Gilt**
Best Back Garden Harriette Pike **Gold**
 Mr & Mrs Maltby, **Silver**
Best Front Garden Harriette Pike **Gold** & Mark Johns, Edward Street **Gold**
Best Wildlife Garden Mark Johns, **Silver**
Best Allotment Alan Farmer, Southwood Road Extension **Gold**
 John Tapp Southwood Road Extension **Gold**
 Valerie Wilson, Southwood Road **Gold**
 Suzanne French, Southwood Road **Silver Gilt**

Photos were taken of some of the winners for Rusthall Life.

- 12. Planning – i.** Proposed development of Southwood Road- After much discussion it was agreed that Cllr Edwards would reply to Kember Loudon with the following observations:
- Concern with increased traffic coming into the village from both directions. The football pitches would potentially only be used at weekends and therefore stand idle for the majority of the week. No mention of all-weather pitches, which would allow games throughout the year and also other sports such as netball/ tennis. There appears to be no consideration for the older members of the borough, such as an outdoor gym. Any development should also include an improved pavilion, with indoor sports facilities, café, changing rooms and public toilets. Clarification was also required as to whether people and teams using all the facilities would have to pay, such as Rusthall Football Club.

- ii. Green Space Designations - Cllr Smith felt that the PC should have an official policy in place on what was considered GSD. This then to be sent to TWBC, requesting to be put into their local plan. The four parcels of land to be included in the policy are the three allotment sites and the Tunbridge Wells golf course. Cllr Smith to draft a policy and send to Clerk and members.
 - iii. Green Belt – The Clerk showed the members a map of the surrounding green belt that could be considered for further development in the future by TWBC.
13. **Chair’s Report** – Cllr Edwards reported that the new double lines were in place on the High Street. He informed the members that the Bonfire and Fete Committee would be completing a grant application form, requesting new lights for the village Christmas tree. The Clerk said that she thought that the RPC had already given a grant for these in the past. Cllr Blackburn requested that she checked the records.
14. **Clerk’s Report** - Clerk to arrange Pat testing for Southwood Road allotments and the Rackliff Centre. The Clerk informed the members that she had received an email from County Councillor McInroy about Amey’s volunteer programme for Community Involvement, where staff can volunteer to help with community projects. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact them and ask if they would be able to help paint the inside of the boxing club hut.
15. **Diary Dates** – Finance Conference 12th October, Finance meeting 19th October, Highways seminar 20th October , Bonfire and Fireworks night 28th October and Dynamic Cllrs course 8th November.
16. **Finance : i. Grants** – CAB Donation – it was agreed to grant £1000 to help the charity with their continued work with Rusthall Residents, last year being 215.
- ii. **Further Bank Account** – It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Chelsea Building Society in order to set up a bank account.
 - iii. **Cash Card** – to was agreed to raise amount from £200 to £500
 - iv. **Finance Standing Orders** – The approval of the use of BACS for a further two years. – This was agreed.
 - v. **Banking Signatories** – It was agreed to remove a previous Cllr and to authorise Cllr Duncombe to become a signatory.
 - vi. **Photocopier** – It was agreed to rent a Sharp A4 printer over a 3 year contract. Clerk to organise.
 - vii. **Accounts** April to end September were shown to Members, no questions were asked.
17. **Accounts for Payment** – to authorise the payment of invoices as listed (to follow)
18. **Open session for questions from the public:** A member of the public expressed her thanks to Cllr Fraser for her support over the planning application for 41 Edward Street. The residents of the surrounding area were relieved that TWBC planning department had turned down the application. A further member of the public enquired when the Rusthall Road would be closed for the bonfire and fireworks celebrations. He was informed that this would happen around 7pm.

19. Items for Information:

- a) Cllr Smith enquired whether Rusthall had been officially designated as a village. Cllr Edwards replied that he would contact David Jukes.
- b) Cllr Blackburn informed the members that the KCC Youth Service were back in the village, in Southwood Road carpark, Thursdays between 4pm to 5.30 pm.
- c) Cllr Duncombe informed the members that she and Cllr Smith had had an interesting evening at the Assembly Hall's Meet and Greet event.
- d) Cllr Duncombe reminded members that there would be a litter pick on Saturday the 14th October at Southwood Road, refreshments at the Red Lion afterwards.

Meeting Closed at 21:20