

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 11th December 2017 at 7.30pm
IN THE RACKLIFF CENTRE LOWER GREEN ROAD**

Members Present: Cllrs, B Edwards (Chairman), M Fraser, J Blackburn, H Duncombe, J Clark, Cllr Benoy and D Smith.

Officer Present: S Denne

In Attendance: County Councillor J McInroy and Borough Councillor J Podbury

Members of the Public: There were three 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 (Work) , Cllr Britcher (prior engagement) and Borough Cllr Huggett
3. **Declaration of Interests** –Cllr Edwards is a Trustee of the Alms Houses, item 21.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying** – There were none.
5. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 13th November 2017 were agreed, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman signed them as a true record
5.2 Matters outstanding from these minutes: None
5.3Matters outstanding from previous minutes: None
6. **Session for County and Borough Councillors on matters concerning the Parish** – Borough Cllr Podbury informed the members that the TWBC new civic centre had been approved through planning. The planning application for change of use of land belonging to Jockey Farm to be discussed on the 13th December by TWBC. County Cllr McInroy informed the meeting that a bus consultation will be running from 18th January to March. There could be around 8 bus services affected by planned cuts. All encouraged to respond to consultation. Cllr Fraser enquired if Cllr McInroy had any news about the MUGA at the top of Edward Street. The Clerk informed him that she had spoken to a member of KCC, who wished to keep it as a MUGA. Cllr McInroy informed Cllr Fraser that he would make further enquiries.
7. **Committee Reports:** Finance Meeting 30th November 2017 draft minutes have been circulated. Planning Meeting 7th December 2017 minutes to be circulated.
8. **Local Green Space Designation Draft Policy** – It was resolved to send the policy to TWBC and request that it be added to their local plan. Clerk to action.
9. **Accounts** – The up to date accounts were discussed and questions answered by the Clerk. It was resolved to accept the accounts as read.

- 10. Budget 2018/ 2019** – The Clerk presented the 2018/2019 draft budget and precept figure to the members. The Clerk explained that the precept required to be increased by £6000 to cover the increased day to day costs, extra paid hours for the Clerk, the possible ownership of Mary Caley playground and to manage the Ash Die back on Parish Council land. The increase would result in an extra £3.45 per annum on a Band D property. It was resolved to accept the budget and the precept. Clerk to inform TWBC.
- 11. Cambridge Building Society** – It was agreed to open an account, to be used as a deposit account for any monies over the £85,000 threshold. It was also agreed that Cllrs Edwards and Blackburn would be authorised signatories, along with the Clerk.
- 12. Maintenance Man** – It was agreed that Cllr Edwards would approach the maintenance man from the Alms houses, to enquire whether he would be interested in working the occasional half day for the PC on a six month trial.
- 13. Strategic Housing Market Assessment: Stakeholder Consultation 2017** – Cllr Edwards already completed.
- 14. Boundary Changes** – The Boundary Commission proposed changes were discussed by the members and it was agreed that members should respond to the consultation as individuals.
- 15. Parish Assembly-** the Clerk informed the members that the Police Commissioner would not be available, due to a prior engagement. Members to contact Clerk with ideas on who to invite to speak.
- 16. Projector** – Cllr Edwards informed the members that the Trustees of the Alms Houses would like to donate their projector to the PC, on the understanding that they could borrow it. Clerk informed members that ‘all-risks’ insurance would be required if it was to leave the building. She required a value before she could obtain a quote. Cllr Benoy thought it might be cheaper not to take out the insurance and purchase another second-hand one, should it get damaged or broken.
- 17. Chair’s Report** – Cllr Edwards informed the members that the meeting would be Cllr Fraser’s last meeting as a parish councillor. He wished her well and thanked her for her commitment and dedication to the Parish Council and to the residents of Rusthall. He welcomed members of the public to stay behind for a festive drink and to say good bye to Cllr Fraser. He went on to inform the members that he was now part of a working group for planning within the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. He went on to say that Karen Fossett (head of Planning for TWBC) would be attending the planning training on the 23rd January. Cllr Podbury informed the meeting that when she had visited Speldhurst PC, Cllr Podbury had driven her around the area in order that she could visualize the area when she received planning applications affecting Speldhurst. Lastly Cllr Edwards informed the members that James Scholes had been elected to be mayor in 2019/2020. This would be his second term.

- 18. Clerk's Report -** The Clerk reported that the village meeting to discuss the WW1 commemoration, to be held on and around the 11.11. 2018, had been very successful. If anyone else would like to take part in the next meeting, it is to be held in February. She also informed the members that Greg Clark (MP) will be holding a surgery at the Rackliff Centre in January, by appointment only.
- 19. Diary Dates** – December 18th Allotment Committee meeting, January 23rd planning training, January 24th data protection training for Clerk and Cllr Duncombe.
- 20. Accounts for Payment** – to authorise the payment of invoices as listed (to follow)
- 21. Grants-** The Alms Houses. This was differed as no application had been received by the Clerk.
- 22. Open session for questions from the public:** A member of the public raised concerns on a planning application. He informed the members that the notice had not been displayed earlier enough and that he and other neighbours were concerned that the application, if passed, would allow the property to become a HMO. He was also concerned with the size of the proposed extension, causing loss of privacy and light to neighbours. The members agreed that they needed to obtain further information before they could make an informed recommendation. Clerk to request that extension of time be granted.
- 23. Items for Information**
- a) Cllr Blackburn informed members that the tip had reopened.
 - b) Cllr Blackburn reminded the meeting that bus passes were due for renewal March 2018.
 - c) Cllr Duncombe informed the members that she had attended the Access meeting and found it very informative. She also attended the NMB meeting and was given lots of information. She had hoped to ask someone to speak at an RVA meeting about Gatwick airport and the increase in flight traffic over Rusthall and the surrounding area. Cllr Podbury said that she would contact the acting Chair of HWCAAG, to see if he would be available.
 - d) Cllr Benoy thanked RPC for the donation for the Bonfire and Fireworks display and for the lights to go on the Christmas tree.
 - e) Cllr Clark apologised that he had missed the HWCAAG meeting.

Meeting Closed at 21.00