

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 13th March 2017 at 7.30pm
IN THE RACKLIFF CENTRE LOWER GREEN ROAD**

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs, B Edwards (Chairman), J. Blackburn, A. Britcher , K. Punyer, J. Moore, M Fraser, R. Benoy and J. Clark.

Parish Clerk: S. Denne.

Also present: Cllr Davies, Cllr Podbury and Cllr Huggett. Cllr Davies left at 20.20 due to a further meeting.

1. **Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting** - None
2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs M. Simmons.
3. **Declaration of Interests** – None
4. **Declarations of Lobbying** – None
5. **Minutes** of the meetings held on 13th February 2017 were agreed, and the Chairman signed them as a true record
- 5.2 **Matters outstanding from these minutes** (not listed as separate agenda items) None
- 5.3 **Matters outstanding from previous minutes:** None
6. **Speaker:** Lisa Semple from Home-Start South West Kent. Lisa introduced herself and thanked the Parish Council for their kind donation to help families in Rusthall. She went on to explain about Home Start, it is the leading family support charity and supports families worldwide. It was set up in Tunbridge Wells in 1993 as Home –Start South West Kent <http://www.home-startswk.org.uk/> and relies totally on donations since KCC removed funding. They have supported 284 families within the Tunbridge Wells area and it costs about £1200 per family. Local volunteers visit young families, who have asked for help or been referred to them, for a minimum of two hours a week for up to a year to help give them support. Although they have been lucky in receiving a grant from Children In Need, they still require more help to keep the charity going. The members agreed that they would help with raising their profile and the RVA would link to their website.
7. **Session for County and Borough Councillors on matters concerning the Parish** - Cllr Davis welcomed Sarah as the new Community Warden. He updated the members on the MUGA after a discussion with KCC. Notices to be erected, stating that the site is private and the gates to be made secure. KCC cannot commit to anything but hope to have a long term solution later in the year, for the site. Cllr Fraser informed him that she had been told that needles had been found on the site. It was recommended that the police be informed. Cllr Davies then went on to inform the meeting that the request for a crossing over the A264 from the Common down toward St Paul’s Church had come across practical problems. Cllr Podbury informed the members that the local plan would soon be out for consultation and it was important for RPC to respond to this. Cllr Huggett had nothing to add that was of interest to Rusthall.
8. **Committee Reports:** Planning Committee meeting was held on 1st March 2017 draft minutes have been circulated.

9. **To agree appointment of internal auditor** – It was agreed to appointment Mr David Buckett as internal auditor.
10. **WW1 Commemoration** –It was agreed by the members that Martin Barraud’s installation of Remembrance was something for the two Rusthall churches to consider. Despite a report in the Rusthall Life asking local organisations to contact the Clerk with ideas about how to mark the commemoration, no one had come forward. It was suggested that all organisations be invited to a meeting to discuss further. Cllr Blackburn did not feel that it should be a RPC led event.
11. **Commons Conservators Update** – Cllr Blackburn reported that a new management plan had been produced with the help of Kent High weald Project. The plan had yet to be adopted but she was concerned with the mention of the Marle pond. It had been recommended that the pond, dating back to the 1850’s, be filled in due to invasive pond weed and a new pond excavated for the newts.
12. **Delivering Effective Partnership Working in Kent's Communities** – Cllr Blackburn attended this event, which discussed devolution. She submitted a report to the Members and Clerk
13. **HWCAAG-** Cllr Clark reported on the latest meeting where night flights, flight routes and the flight swathe were discussed. Minutes would be available later. He asked if any of the Cllrs would be able to give up their time to help with the running of the group, none were. Cllr Clark informed the members that he would attend all meetings if work commitments allowed.
14. **Highways** – To consider setting up of a Committee. The members agreed that a Highways Committee was required. Cllrs Blackburn, Britcher, Fraser, Benoy, Moore and Edwards volunteered to join the Committee.
15. **First Aid Course** – The majority of Cllrs agreed to receive first aid training. *Cllr Benoy to enquire to St John’s Ambulance*, with the hopes of holding a course at the Rackliff Centre for Members and the Clerk.
16. **Parish Policies** – These were adopted.
17. **Tesco Bags of Help** – It was agreed that the Clerk should look into applying for fencing for the allotments.
18. **Chair’s Report** – Cllr Edwards informed the members that the landlord of The White Hart had expressed an interest in purchasing the land at the end of Salomons Road that backs on to the fire station. All monies would go to TWBC as there is 100% clawback. Other members did not think that it would be a good idea as the land is used for residents as a carpark and was in the ownership of the PC for the benefit of the village. To be put on April’s agenda.
19. **Clerk’s Report** - CCTV to be fitted at the Rackliff Centre on the 22nd March, by TeleVid. Clerk spoke to builder and surveyor about snagging issues, not yet signed off.
20. **Diary Dates:** 16TH March Finance meeting, 17th March Clerk Training, 20th March Planning Meeting, 20th March Allotment Meeting.

21. Accounts for Payment – to authorise the payment of invoices as listed

	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	Mar 2017 ACCOUNTS	
<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
C PATTERSON	BACS	308.33	Grass Cutting February 2017
EJP	BACS	129.6	Maintenance of Fire Alarm
EE	DD	30.71	Mobile February
CLERK	SO	1070.48	Salary February
HMRC	300317	185.84	Tax/NI February
BT	DD	50.71	Phone and Broadband
INITIAL	BACS	37.44	Hire of sanitary bins
FINISHING TOUCHES	BACS	200.00	Noticeboards and refurb
RIALTAS	BACS	135.60	Allotment software
SOUTHERN WATER	DD	39.59	Waste water
SSE ELECTRIC	DD	63.98	Electric
S DENNE	BACS	27.50	Stamps
COLLIBROOK HEATING	BACS	84.00	Service of boiler
A D CLEANING	BACS	54.00	Cleaning
CAB	BACS	1000.00	Donation
SAMARITANS	BACS	200.00	Donation
Total Payments		2417.78	

Corporate Card			
Statement Date	2032017	Purchase	Cost
		Landscape covering	41.28
		Returned	-41.28
		Monthly Fee	3

22. Open session for questions from the public: None

23. Items for Information

- a) Cllr Benoy said that a small salt bin under the RPC noticeboard would be a convenient position.
- b) Cllr Britcher informed the meeting that the RVA AGM was on the 22nd March 2017 and the Rusthall Community Arts on the 21st March. She thanked everyone who attended the Quirky tree celebration. Nigel Stapple gave an informative archaeological talk about the stone circle by the Toad Rock.
- c) Cllr Moore informed the members that she had received a letter from a neighbour about the lack of EE signal in the Westwood Road area. It was believed that the mast broke in July and the engineers were denied access by the land owner.

Meeting Closed at 21.15