

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 10th March 2014 at 7.30pm
IN THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH MANOR ROAD**

Present

Councillors: Mrs J. Blackburn (Chair), C.Elwood (Vice Chairman), M.Lawrence, Mrs M. Simmons and B Edwards.

Parish Clerk: Mrs S. Denne

Also present: TWBC Cllr Davies, Cllr Wauchope and members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** –Cllrs Codd and Webb
2. **Declaration of Interests** – None
3. **Declarations of Lobbying** -None
4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th February 2014 were agreed and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
5. **Session for Borough Councillors** – Cllr Davies stated that he would be happy to speak on item 9 of the agenda. The Children’s Centre will now be open for 25 hours a week, but a decision had yet to be made on how the hours would be broken up over the week. Cllr Edwards asked if the speeding sign on Lower Green Road could be replaced with a smaller one. Cllr Davies did not think so, but would be happy to look into it. However, he did warn Cllr Edwards that it may cost the Parish Council to have it replaced. Cllr Wauchope had nothing to report.
6. **Planning Committee** – The report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor Edwards) set out the Parish Council’s statutory responses to two applications that had been received since the last meeting.

The Planning Committee then recommended **approval** by Officer delegated powers for
 - i. **13/02589/FUL/SH6** New access to create new first floor flat, including conversion of roof space into habitable accommodation and dormer window to rear elevation, above Rusthall Club, **Rusthall Club 5 St Paul’s Street Rusthall**
 - ii. **14/00183/HOUSE/CO1** Single–storey rear extension, 30 Colbran Way TN4 8DB
7. **MUGA** – i. The draft lease for the MUGA was discussed.

ii. Cllr Edwards proposed that the Rusthall Parish Council take on the running and maintenance of the Muga. All members voted yes to the proposal.
Clerk to notify KCC.
8. **Sustainable Communities Act** – The members discussed whether they wished to support Sevenoaks Town Council with regards for a return of a system to provide a percentage of the Business (Non-Domestic) Rates to Town and Parish Councils to be used for the benefit of economic growth in the locality. Cllr Geer proposed that the Rusthall Parish Council should write in support of Sevenoaks Parish Council. All members voted yes to the proposal. *Clerk to write to Sevenoaks Town Council.*

9. Pedestrian Crossing – John Barber (Friends of the Commons) spoke to the Parish Council about possible pedestrian crossings. He asked the Parish Council if they would back a campaign, to install pedestrian crossings on the A264, to link both sides of Rusthall Common and also a crossing on Major York’s Road. He explained that the Commons are a series of ‘islands’ separated by hard to cross major roads. Due to the increase in traffic, the children from St Paul’s Primary School, Rusthall were no longer able to visit St Paul’s Church on foot. The Friends of the Commons wished to set up trails around the Common, but have to stop them at the road. There will be a meeting on the 27th March with Target Follow and Commons Conservators to discuss any technical difficulties that might prevent such crossings being put in place. *The Parish Council agreed to add their name to the list of supporters and wished Mr Barber every success.*

10. Terms of Reference –Agree to accept: i. Planning Committee terms of reference – **This was agreed** with one minor amendment.

ii. Allotment Committee terms of reference – **This was agreed.**

11. Open session for questions from the public: There were none.

12. Clerk’s Report - The Clerk informed the members that there had been a quick and positive response to the invite to the meeting on the 30th April 2014.

13. Cheques/Payments

	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	MARCH 2014	
<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Comfoot & Keys	300055	66.50	Name Badges
S DENNE	S/O	820.91	Salary
S DENNE	300056	69.92	Salary Back pay
HMRC	300057	117.99	Tax and NI
URC	300058	40.00	Hire of Hall 10.3 & 18.3
S DENNE	300059	25.69	Stamps
KALC	300060	144.00	Course x2
Solicitor	300061	31.00	Final bill for Allotment Transfer
Contractor	300062	490.00	Allotment Fence
Anglia Bulbs	300063	9.00	Snowdrops for bin area (Chair Allowance)
Total Payments		1815.01	

14. Items for Information –

- a) The speed detector has been laid across the road at Lower Green Road.
- b) The Chairman and the Clerk are to meet the Highways Steward on Thursday 13th March.
- c) A complaint had been received with regards lack of street lights in Greenfield Close, Chair to pass on complaint.
- d) The RVA has their monthly meeting on the 19th March 2014.
- e) Cllr Edwards asked the members if any of them would be interested in becoming a trustee for the Alms Houses.
- f) Cllr Edwards asked if Rusthall Parish Council could co-opt a new councillor when Cllr Lawrence stands down. The Chair informed him that rules and regulations had to be followed.
- g) Cllr Edwards informed the members that he was looking into contacting home owners, who live on the border of Rusthall and Speldhurst Parishes. To enquire if they would like the boundary to be moved, in order that they would come under Rusthall Parish. *Clerk to help with this project.*
- h) Cllr Clark felt that the speed wires should have been put somewhere more appropriate on Lower Green Road.
- i) Cllr Simmons informed the meeting that information about the Kent freedom Pass was on the website.
- j) Cllr Lawrence informed the members that he and his family would be moving from Rusthall on the 14th March 2014. He, however, will stay on the Council for the next year. It was agreed that RPC machinery looked after by him would be stored at Cllr Clark's house.
- k) Cllr Benoy complained about the mess at the top of Harmony Street, caused by the felling of the trees.
- l) Cllr Benoy informed the members that the fences at the Southwood Allotments had been fixed and that the contractor might be able to replace the fence at Wickham Gardens with chain link fencing.
- m) Cllr Benoy informed the members that he had been given a cheque for the Table Tennis Table. *Clerk to write to Chair of Royal Tunbridge Wells Round Table and thank him.*

The Meeting ended at 0830 pm