

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 13th January 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, Mrs C Codd, Mrs J Geer, B Edwards, J Clark and R Benoy.

Parish Clerk: Mrs S.Denne

Also present: TWBC Cllr Webb, Stephen Whitehead - Community Safety Manager and members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** –Cllrs Davies and Wauchope
2. **Declaration of Interests** – None
3. **Declarations of Lobbying** -None
4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th December 2013 were agreed, with a minor amendment and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
5. **Speaker:** Stephen Whitehead - Community Safety Manager Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. He started by saying that he used to be in the Police Force. He is currently writing a document on anti-social behaviour. He wanted to visit all the Parishes in order to hear about any issues of concern. The C S U currently deals with; anti-social behaviour; domestic violence; acquisitive crime including burglary and shoplifting; youth offending; youth inclusion; safer town partnership; pub watch; CCTV and he would also like it to include road safety for children. There is a meeting every morning with other agencies to enable them all to inform each other of any problems. He then went to say that he is short of 4 wardens; however, 3 new recruits will be starting next week. He would very much like it if local communities could become involved by setting up community safety units; he sees it as a worthwhile voluntary job for younger people. He said that he would like to see more Neighbourhood Watch schemes set up. He then went on to show some security products that can either be purchased at cost from TWBC or obtained free of charge. Smartwater security property marking kits are given free of charge to victims of theft. Cllr Mrs Blackburn thanked Mr Whitehead for attending the meeting.
6. **Session for Borough Councillors** –Cllr Webb reported on a number of issues including a residents complaint with regards to disturbances in Cranwell Road. He also informed the meeting that TWBC would be spending £3500 on renovations to the sports hall at Southwood Playing fields. Lastly he informed the parish council that he had spoken to the heritage officer at TWBC with regards protecting Rusthall Alms houses from future development.
7. **Planning Committee** – The report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor Edwards) set out the Parish Council's statutory responses to three applications that had been received since the last meeting.

The Planning Committee then recommended **approval** by Officer delegated powers for
 - 1) **13/03650/OUT** Outline (All matters reserved) – Two semi-detached dwellings and associated parking and fencing at Land and Parking Area adjacent 32 Wickham Gardens Rusthall
 - 2) **13/03500/HOUSE/CO1** Conversion of garage to habitable room and proposed rear first floor extension 170 Southwood Road Rusthall
 - 3) **13/03672/TPO/DMD** Trees – 2 no. OAK – reduce and shape crowns by 25% - 30% The Oaks Bretland Road Rusthall
8. **Allotment Committee** – The Chairman of the Allotment Committee (Councillor Benoy) informed the Members that there had been an Allotment Committee meeting in December. Cllr Codd had kindly supplied refreshments for all who attended. The vandalism at the Southwood Road site was discussed. The Clerk had the broken padlock mended. Cllr Benoy and the Clerk to carry out a site check of all three sites. Cllr Benoy said he would arrange for the fences at Southwood Road to be mended.

9. **Road Closure Signs** – It was agreed not to go any further with this project, due to the withdrawal of Speldhurst Parish Councils support.
10. **Grant Applications** – to consider the following grant requests
 i. Christmas Tree Lights– It was **agreed** that a payment of £77.98 be paid to the Rusthall Bonfire and Fete Committee
11. **Open session for questions from the public:** There were none.
12. **Clerk’s Report** –
- a) The Clerk informed the members that the change of use application would be sent to TWBC shortly.
 b) The change in the process of planning applications would be discussed at the next planning meeting
 c) The Clerk read out an email from the Clerk of Speldhurst with regards the traffic calming on Lower Green road. It was agreed to put it on the agenda for February 2014.
 d) There is a temporary timetable for trains running to and from London, due to a landslide in Wadhurst.
 e) The Clerk is to meet with TWBC, to agree the sighting of the outdoor table tennis table.
 f) The Clerk asked if any of the Councillors would like to attend a Resilience & Reassurance course. Cllr Codd agreed to, along with the Clerk.

13. **Cheques/Payments**

1.	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	JANUARY 2014	
<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
RC&YP	300037	2000	Grant
URC	300038	10.00	Hire of Hall allotment
TWBC	300039	193.00	Change of Use application
URC	300040	30	Hire of Hall
HMRC	300041	71.11	NI & TAX
KALC	300042	12.50	Booklets
Festive Decs	300043	1440.00	Lights
Donaldson West	300044	9.00	LR Search
Premier Alarms	300045	47.40	Padlock, Allotments
S. Denne	300046	16.79	OS map for Change of Use
S. Denne	S/O	820.91	December Salary
Orange	DD (Co-Op)	27.04	Mobile
Total Payments		4677.75	

It was **agreed** to pay the invoices listed above

14. Items for Information

- a) Cllr Blackburn informed the meeting that Broomhill Bank School were considering altering their intake of pupils, from 11 to 19 year olds to 5 to 19 year olds. There is to be a public meeting on the 21st January 1930 hrs at the school. The main concern is the increase in traffic on a small country lane.
- b) Cllr Blackburn also went on to inform the meeting that they could report any potholes to KCC online.
- c) The RVA is holding their meeting at the Rusthall Club, on Wednesday at 1930 hrs.
- d) The Red lion is holding a war themed quiz on Tuesday 14th.
- e) Cllr Edwards informed the Members that the RC&YP had had a meeting with TWBC over the possible leasing and development of the sports hall at the Southwood playing fields. *This may be put on the agenda for February.*
- f) Cllr Benoy wanted to say how well kept the, majority of, shops at the top end of Lower Green Road looked.

The meeting closed at 2055