

**MINUTES OF THE FULL ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 12th May 2014 at 7.30pm
IN THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH MANOR ROAD**

Present

Councillors: Mrs Blackburn (Chairman), C.Elwood (Vice Chairman), Mrs C.Codd, Mrs M. Simmons, Mrs J Geer, B Edwards, J Clark and R Benoy.

Parish Clerk: Mrs S. Denne.

Also present: Cllr Webb and Public.

Election of Chairman and of Vice Chairman – Election for Chairman Cllr Jenny Blackburn. Election for Vice Chairman Cllr Chris Elwood.

Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

1. **Apologies for absence** –Cllr Lawrence and Cllr Davies
2. **Declaration of Interests** – None
3. **Declarations of Lobbying** -None
4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th April 2014 were **agreed**, with minor amendment and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
5. **Session for Borough Councillors** – Cllr Webb reported that Sunnyside Road residents had paid for the road to be repaired. The reported nuisance behaviour was being dealt with.
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.
 - i. **14/00815/FULL/RE4** Single story side extension comprising of 1 No bedroom and 1 No study/bedroom. Alterations to existing vehicle access (building works commenced) **1 Bretland Court Bretland Road Rusthall - Decision:** Recommend Refusal – Delegated. *Extension is not in keeping with the street scene in appearance, size and materials (too much glass). Cannot see the need for parking at the front of the building as there is sufficient parking facilities at the rear.*
 - ii. **14/01010/HOUSE/MM1** Single–storey rear extension. Addition of two sky lanterns to two flat roofs at rear and fenestration alterations on southern elevation **23 Upper Street Rusthall** Recommend Approval – Delegated

The Planning Committee also looked at a third application **13/03531/FULL** Erection of hotel building in the walled garden, including demolition of two existing buildings and creation of new car park. **Salomons Centre Broomhill Road Southborough**

However, they were only allowed to make the following comment on this application, as it is not within their Parish.

Rusthall Parish Council objects to the proposed development, due to the increase in construction and social traffic. Broomhill Road is not wide enough for the proposed volume of construction vehicles and the entrances are not suitable.

7. **Finance Committee** – Report by Cllr Elwood: The Finance Committee discussed at length the PWL and it was resolved to apply for an annuity loan of £100,000 over a period of 20 years. ***It was resolved to pay the fee of £120 to update the parish website.*** Cllr Blackburn and the Clerk to arrange a meeting with the webmaster. Clerk informed the Cllrs that all the money required for the renovation of the war memorial had been raised. However, she requested that **the Parish Council supply the refreshments after the rededication service. *This was agreed.*** The Clerk informed the Committee that she required a computer chair. ***This was resolved, with a maximum expenditure of £400.*** Cllr Codd informed the committee that she had been investigating another bank account, for the Parish Council's reserve fund. She felt that Santander would be suitable and would investigate further. Cllr Elwood explained to the members the difference between an Annuity and an EIP loan. He then went on to explain that the restoration of the war memorial required to be paid for before TWBC would give Mr Roberts the grant money. He proposed that Rusthall Parish Council paid the bill for the restoration and then claimed the money back. ***This was resolved.***
8. **MUGA** –To discuss
- i. hiring fees
 - ii. Holder of keys
 - iii. Caretaker
- All three items to be considered and voted on at the June Parish Meeting. Shed to be erected for storage of tennis nets. Fences that have been broken, waiting to be mended by KCC. Weed killing to be carried out and wood clearing to be undertaken. ***Cllr Edwards and Benoy to approach people they know with regards considering to caretaker the site.***
9. **Website** – Cllr Blackburn informed the members that the website required updating. It was resolved that the fee of £120 was reasonable.
10. **Aviation Action Group Meeting** – Report by Cllr Clark – Cllrs Clark, Simmons and Benoy along with the Clerk, attended an action group meeting organised by Chiddingstone Parish Council. The action group had been set up to protest about the proposed second runway at Gatwick airport. The group were considering running a website and obtaining the services of a publicity manager. Four Parish Councils already belong to the group. If Rusthall Parish Council decided to join, they would be required to pay a joining fee of £150 and possible monies thereafter. ***It was resolved that a consultation would be taken at the village fete, of the Rusthall residents before a final decision be made.***
11. **Salomons Estate** – The proposed development of the Salomons Estate and its proposed events were discussed. There was great concern with regards the amount of traffic the development would create, along a very narrow country lane and the potential increase of traffic through an already congested Rusthall. The Parish Council would keep the village up to date with all planning applications and any further information received.
12. **Community Right to Bid** – i. Fremlin Pond – After much discussion it was agreed, ***by a vote of 5/3,*** to take on the ownership and upkeep of the pond from TWBC; after TWBC had carried out the necessary tree work. Cllr Blackburn informed the members that The Kent High Weald Project had agreed to carry out a survey of the pond and help with the initial clearing of the pond and area for a fee of £2000. She went to say that there would be a meeting arranged with the residents of the area and the pond would become a nature reserve.
13. **Consider-** One Spine Point Increase in Clerk's Pay, this was agreed.
14. **World War 1** - Cllr Blackburn informed the meeting that a rededication of the war memorial would be taking place on the 23rd July 2014, with the Deputy Lieutenant of Kent and other dignitaries attending. Refreshments to be supplied by the Parish Council. The village Fete, 19th July 2014 would be having a WW1 theme with the RCYP, the History Group and Clive Roberts all involved. The RCYP would also have a display in the Parish Church throughout the summer. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would not do anything further in remembrance of the First World War for the time being.

15. Public Open Session – A member of the public raised concerns with to the size of lorries going along Lower Green Road. Could a sign be erected stating that it was ‘Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles’? She was informed to contact KCC. Another member of the public raised his concerns on how the Parish Council involved the residents present at the meetings. He felt that the Parish Council should make decisions on behalf of the residents, without asking those present for their views.

16. Cheques/Payments

	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	MAY 2014	
<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
S. Denne	S/O	820.91	Salary for April
URC	300074	10.00	Hire of Hall 30.04.14
Contractor	300075	575.00	Concrete Base TTT
Contractor	300076	200.00	Mend Water Butts
HMRC	300084	66.03	TAX/ NI April
URC	300077	30.00	Hire of Hall
J Blackburn	300078	16.99	Weed Killer for MUGA
ORANGE	DD	34.73	Mobile phone
PREMIERE DIGITAL	300079	30.00	Notice board for meeting
PREMIER ALARMS	300080	236.28	Padlocks and keys for muga
SLCC	300081	147.00	Membership
RC &YP	300082	5400.00	Grant
FRIENDS OF TW &R COMMON	300083	300.00	Grant
Total Payments		7866.94	

17. Items for information-

- a) Cllr Blackburn informed the meeting that a resident had requested a bus stop at the Parsonage Road terminus. It was agreed that a consultation with people who use the stop would be carried out. ***Cllr Blackburn to arrange.*** The Parish Council may be able to obtain a grant for half the cost of a bus stop, but would then have to pay to maintain and clean it.
- b) Cllr Benoy informed the meeting that the outdoor tennis table was already being well used.
- c) Cllr Benoy informed the members that all water butts, on the allotments had been mended and one had been turned around. The leak at Wickham Gardens had been repaired.
- d) Cllr Benoy raised concerns of the lack of double yellow lines by the bottle bank. People parking irresponsibly created problems for the lorries delivering to the shops opposite and caused hold ups. Cllr Blackburn informed him that a request for double yellow lines had been submitted, but not actioned on at this time. ***Highways Steward to be informed.***

The Meeting ended at 9.05 pm