

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 8th October 2012 at 7.30pm
IN THE UNITED REFORM CHURCH MANOR ROAD**

Present

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

Parish Clerk: Mrs S. Denne.

Also present: Kent County Councillor J Davies Press and Public.

1. Apologies for absence –Cllr V. Webb on holiday and Cllr P. Wauchope work commitments

2. Declaration of Interests – None

3 .Declarations of Lobbying -None

4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th September 2012 were agreed.

5. Session for Borough Councillors – *Councillor Davies* – Informed the Parish Council that Council tax would be frozen for the next financial year.

6. Public Open session – Two members of the public enquired how the purchase of the fire station would affect the precept and where the money to buy it would come from. Cllr Blackburn informed the meeting that it was too early in the proceedings of purchasing the fire station to have an answer with regards the precept. Another member of the public informed the meeting that the 281 bus had been seen to deviate from its route occasionally. Cllr Davies informed the resident that there had been no change to the bus route. Cllr Edwards informed the meeting that the bus he had been on, deviated on to another road because the usual road was blocked.

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 which had been received since the last meeting. The Planning Committee had recommended approval by Officer delegated powers for two of the applications. The third application was for a minor amendment and therefore no further recommendation was required.

Cllr Edwards informed the meeting that the Western Area Planning Committee sat on 3rd October 2012 to discuss the Cranwell Road development, where he spoke in favour of the application on behalf of the Parish Council. The Committee voted unanimously in favour of the development and it is hoped that all tenants will have vacated the flats by the end of December 2012.

8. Speed watch campaign – Cllr Blackburn informed the Parish Council that Road Safety Week is the 19th to 25th November 2012. She explained Speed Watch which enables councillors to be trained by the police to operate the equipment which records a car’s speed. Speldhurst Parish Council already does this and may be willing to loan us the equipment when we are trained. In the meantime Cllr Blackburn has asked Kent Police to carry out a speed watch exercise in Rusthall.

Cllr Davies said that he had provided Speldhurst with their equipment and that he would be happy to supply the Rusthall Parish Council, if he had sufficient funds. Cllr Blackburn said that she was quite happy for the Parish Council to borrow one. Cllr Codd thought it best that the police carried out the speed watch as soon as possible and if not then the Parish Council should borrow the equipment.

Cllr Edwards would like to know what training would be involved.

9. Winter Planning – Cllr Blackburn had contacted Pembury Parish Council with regards their winter plan for the area. She was informed that 4 x 4 owners volunteer to provide help to residents in need. It was thought that Rusthall Parish Council should carry out something along the same lines. It was agreed to purchase two snow shovels and arrange a general meeting for residents, to discuss the issue. It was suggested that maybe a leaflet could be drawn up advertising what help would be available in bad weather. Adverts to be put in village newsletters, website and the Courier. Further salt bins would also be considered. Cllr Codd to look into costings.

10. Arrangement of Finance meeting to discuss budget – This was agreed to be set soon.

11. Fire Station donation and solicitor's costs - Cllr Blackburn announced that the Parish Council had been given a donation of £100,000 for the purchase of the fire station. She informed the Parish Council that legal advice had been sought from KALC before accepting the donation. It was agreed that a Deed of Gift should be drawn up by a solicitor. Cllr Clark proposed that the Parish Council accept the donation and this was seconded by Cllr Codd. The Parish Council unanimously agreed. It was also agreed that up to £500 could be spent for the drawing up of the document.

12. Cheques/Payments – Second instalment of precept

The final instalment of the precept, £17,811.00, had been received.

	ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT		
<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Audit Commission	100075	252.00	Audit 2011/2012
S Denne	100076	739.53	Salary
HMRC	100077	38.24	NI
URC	100078	20	Hire of Hall 17th/20th Sep 2012
URC	100079	30	Hire of Hall 8 Oct 2012
Orange	DD	25.84	Mobile
TOTAL PAYMENTS		1105.61	

13. Consideration of any urgent business –

- a) The Parish Council had received an enquiry about the increase in aircraft noise. CAA had informed the complainant that there had been no increase in traffic or change of flight path. Cllr Edwards spoke to someone within the industry, who informed him that the noise maybe to do with the airplanes slowing down or speeding up. Cllr Lawrence said that he believed London City Airport had become busier. The Courier informed the Parish Council that they were writing an article on the subject. Helicopter noise was also an issue.
- b) Parish mapping of assets was discussed and decided to be put on the agenda for next month.
- c) Cllr Blackburn informed the Parish Council that a resident had agreed to get the Parish website up to date. It was discussed that maybe a small payment could be given to her if she continues with it.
- d) Cllr Blackburn reminded the meeting that Remembrance Sunday was coming up and that it will be on the 11th November. She also mentioned Clive Roberts, who is hoping to obtain planning permission to refurbish the war memorial which is not actually in the Parish. Cllr Benoy informed the meeting that Mr Roberts would be at the library on the 23rd October, talking about his book. All proceeds from the book will be going towards the war memorial restoration.
- e) Cllr Blackburn informed the Parish Council that Christine Ashdown was raising money for a defibrillator. There would be a raffle and refreshments in St Paul's Church Hall on Saturday, to raise money. The Parish Council may consider match funding.
- f) The meeting was reminded that Bonfire night, within the village, would be on the 27th October and that some roads will be closed from 7:15 pm to 9:15pm. There is also a raffle for this event.
- g) Cllr Elwood mentioned that he had once again complained about a tree in Parsonage Road, the roots were damaging property. Cllr Blackburn said that it is in a private garden and therefore the responsibility of the home owner.
- h) Cllr Lawrence reported an incident of antisocial behaviour on the Common by Common View Road. Recently there had been a fire where the fire engine was called.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Date of Next Meeting – 12th November 2012