

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 12th March 2018 at 7.30pm
IN THE RACKLIFF CENTRE LOWER GREEN ROAD**

Members Present: Cllrs, B Edwards (Chairman), Cllr Britcher, J Blackburn, H Duncombe and D Smith.

Officer Present: S Denne

In Attendance: County Councillor J McInroy and Borough Councillor J Podbury

Members of the Public: There were members of the public present

1. **Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting -**
No-one present intended to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Clark (work commitments) and Borough Cllr Huggett
3. **Declaration of Interests** — Cllr Duncombe Item 19, knows one of the contractors.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying** – There were none.
5. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 8th January 2018 were agreed, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman signed them as a true record
- 5.2 **Matters outstanding from these minutes:** Cllr Edwards still researching item 13.
- 5.3 **Matters outstanding from previous minutes:** None
8. **Speaker – Caroline Powell** Head Teacher of St Paul’s Church of England Primary School gave an informative talk about the progress of the school in the last four years. The school not only received a ‘good’ Ofsted report but also their Christian Distinctiveness received a ‘good’ marking. The school manages to retain its entire long-term teaching staff, despite budget cuts. The admissions policy has changed, only admitting 30 children a year. The children being accepted from one of the following categories – Siblings, Children in care or educational needs and living within the village.
The school is always looking for new governors and volunteers to help within the school.
6. **Session for County and Borough Councillors on matters concerns the Parish** – Cllr Podbury informed the members that Speldhurst PC agreed to the proposed boundary changes. She also informed the meeting that a ‘new theatre’ meeting to be held at the Royal Wells on the 14th March. Cllr McInroy informed members that a pedestrian survey, along with a speed survey would be required on the A264 by the footpath to the Parish Church, at a cost of about £1500. Cllr Blackburn asked Cllr McInroy if he could follow up the complaint made by RPC about the change of primary gritting route and lack of communication from KCC and Arriva.
7. **Committee Reports:** Planning Meeting 5th March 2018 and Finance Meeting 5th March 2018 draft minutes have been circulated.
9. **Shipping Container** – Cllr Edwards informed the members that a 40ft shipping container would cost £1300 plus £300 for delivery. He would carry out further measurements but it was agreed that a 30ft container would be adequate. It was suggested he contacted the cricket club, as they had already purchased one.

10. **Proposed Boundary Changes** – It was resolved that RPC would accept the proposed changes to the boundary between Rusthall and Speldhurst. Clerk to inform TWBC.
11. **Honours Board** – After much discussion it was agreed that a photograph of previous Chairmen would be displayed on the RC hall walls. A book would be commissioned to display all Cllrs names.
12. **Finance** –
 - i. Presentation of Accounts – These were agreed
 - ii. Finance Investment Policy to agree to adopt – Clerk to update and present at a future meeting
 - iii. to consider upgrade of BT Hub – it was agreed that the Clerk should obtain a quote.
 - iv. Insurance for projector – This was agreed.
13. **Chair's Report** – Cllr Edwards informed the meeting that the proposed pitches on farmland, off Southwood Road, had been put on hold for the time being.
14. **Clerk's Report** - Clerk informed members that the GDP meeting at the town hall had been postponed due to the weather. Clerk also informed members that there was no call for an election and therefore co-option would be necessary.
15. **Diary Dates** – Planning Conference on the 16th March.
16. **Accounts for Payment** – to authorise the payment of invoices as listed (to follow) Agreed
17. **Open session for questions from the public:** Complaints were received about potholes and blocked drains, Clerk to report. A member of the public informed members of an app called 'My Council' which can be used for logging faults. Further complaints about the parking and traffic in the high-street. A member of the public informed the members that superfast BT fibre should be in Rusthall by August. An enquiry about the possibility of public toilets was made; the members said that this would be cost prohibitive. A member of the public informed the members that he had tried to contact the village Doctors surgery about installing a blood pressure testing machine, he was still awaiting a response.
18. **Items for Information:** -
 - a) 21st March 2018 RVA meeting
 - b) 21st April 2018 RVA litter pick
 - c) 5th May Back garden digThe Rusthall Arts Committee is to continue but with a different committee.
19. **Grass Cutting Contract** - *the public to leave the meeting due to the confidential matter being discussed.* Cllr Duncombe also left the meeting. After much discussion it was agreed to award the contract to Capel Groundcare.

The Meeting Closed at 21.35