

# Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in Rushden Village Hall at 8.00pm

Present: Councillors Kate Heath, Linda Hill, Steve Pettyfer,

In attendance: District and County Councillor, Steve Jarvis, Clerk, Marian Messenger & two residents

17/043 To receive and accept apologies for absence *Apologies received and accepted from*

*Chris Garrett and Frank Randall*

17/044 Declarations of interest and dispensations

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda | None |
| b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests      | None |
| c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate                       | None |

17/045 To confirm the Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on 11 May 2017 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Chair to sign.

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on 11 May 2017 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 6 July 2017 be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chair. **Unanimously agreed.**

17/046 To receive a report from the District Councillor and County Councillor.

*Steve Jarvis gave an update on Council actions.*

*The next stage of the Local Plan will be a public examination in November.*

*The Council have been considering making a charge for collection of garden waste. No firm decision has yet been made.*

*The minibus trial in the villages had mixed responses. The Weston bus route was well used and will continue at least until the end of the year. The Sandon/Wallington/Rushden route was not well used and will not continue in its current form. It was suggested that it may be better used if the pick-up time was made later and the time allowed in Baldock was shortened. It was also suggested that once a month may be enough, rather than weekly. If a revised plan is pursued for this route, it was suggested that it should be clearly advertised in the three villages.*

*20mph speed limit in Wallington - this requires a two-stage consultation process. Stage 1 – consult residents (This may be funded from this year's budget). Stage 2 – formal advertising of the Traffic Regulation Order (This would not be funded until the next financial year).*

*Broadband – there is a timetable of what will be happening in our area which S J will pass on to the Parish Council.*

*There have been cuts to the District Councillor's budget, however, the County Councillor's budget is less restrictive and does not preclude giving grants to Parish Councils.*

17/047 To consider the Budget Requirements for 2018/19 and decide on the Precept Demand.

*There was a lot of discussion around the proposed budget and some concern that the budget was very tight.*

**Resolved** that a small increase of £100 should be made to the Precept demand. Therefore the Precept demand for 2018/19 will be £4300.

**Unanimously agreed.**

17/048 To decide whether to continue membership of HAPTC for 2018/19

**Unanimously agreed** to continue membership of HAPTC for 2018/19

- 17/049 To receive an update from the Clerk on the position re the Transparency Fund Grant  
**Resolved** that the Clerk will receive the grant for Transparency Fund work of £120  
**Unanimously agreed.**
- 17/050 To consider whether to make a donation to Sandon Sports Club  
*Sandon Sports Club have requested a donation of £350 towards essential maintenance works.*  
**Resolved** that a donation of £200 be sent.  
**Unanimously agreed.**
- 17/051 To receive feedback re The Moon and Stars  
*Steve Pettyfer had informed the owner of The Moon and Stars that the Parish Council were considering applying for Community Asset Status and had discussed it with him.*  
**Resolved** that the PC should go ahead and apply for Community Asset Status for The Moon and Stars.  
**Unanimously agreed.**  
*S P to action this and to inform the owner that this decision has been taken.*
- 17/052 To consider the Parish Paths Partnership  
**Resolved** that the PC should join the Parish Paths Partnership  
**Unanimously agreed.** *K H to action.*
- 17/053 To discuss the issue of drainage in *Bennets Lane Drainage*  
*Steve Jarvis was asked to put this item on the list of works to be carried out during the next financial year. He agreed to do so.*
- 17/054 To consider whether to respond to NHDC Review of Byelaws Consultation  
*It was agreed that S P will respond to this on behalf of the PC*
- 17/055 To discuss the changes in law being introduced by General Data Protection Regulation which are relevant to Councils  
*It was agreed that the Clerk should apply to go on a course being offered by HAPTC and then the issue will be discussed again at the next PC meeting*
- 17/056 Rushden Telephone Kiosk  
*It was reported that Jenny and Jim Barlow had arranged, and paid for, the painting of Rushden's phone box. In view of their generosity it was agreed that they should be given a card and a bottle of wine as a thank you. In addition a piece should be put in the Gazette magazine acknowledging their generosity. S P and L H to action this.*  
*It was reported that both defibrillator cabinet alarms are now faulty. Paul Davis, the electrician, is pursuing this with the company. The P C cannot pursue it because the electrician made the original purchase. However, the alarms are not essential and make no difference to the use of the defibrillators.*
- 17/057 Verge cutting at River Beane Fence and hedge cutting opposite  
*Steve Jarvis was informed that the area under the new River Beane fence needs to be trimmed when the rest of the road is trimmed, otherwise the fence is not visible. In addition, the hedge on the opposite side of the road needs to be cut back. S J agreed to pass this information on.*
- 17/058 To discuss the possibility of installing a Speed Indicator Device at Mill End, Rushden.  
*Steve Jarvis explained that there are not many feasible locations due to amount of foliage which blocks the light to the solar panel. One site has been located. It was suggested that a*

*second site could be to the south of The Moon and Stars, for traffic in the opposite direction. S J said that this would be put in his budget for the next financial year.*

17/059 To decide whether/how to respond to the Broadband Universal Service Obligation Consultation Document  
*Kate Heath reported the feedback she had received on this. It was agreed that she will respond on behalf of the P C .*

17/060 To suggest items for the next meeting of the Parish Council  
*Items suggested*

- *BDO Audit feedback*
- *Data Protection*

**N.B. There is a change to the date for next Parish Council meeting in Wallington.  
The revised date is:**

**Wednesday 17/01/18**