

Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting

held on Thursday 6th September 2018 In Wallington Village Hall at 8.00pm

Present: Councillors Kate Heath, Linda Hill, Chris Garrett, Graham Lamb

In attendance: Clerk, Marian Messenger and one resident

18/039 To receive and accept apologies for absence *Steve Pettyfer and Steve Jarvis had sent apologies*

18/040 Declarations of interest and dispensations

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| 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 |

18/041 To confirm the Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on May 3rd 2018. Chair to sign.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on 3 May 2018 be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chair.

Carried unanimously.

18/042 To receive a report from the District and County Councillor

A report from SJ was read to the meeting.

- *He referred to the problems with the new bin service and said that he would be raising the issue at the District Council meeting.*
- *He reported that the Local Plan is behind schedule and the inspector's response is now expected in September.*
- *The Mill End Speed Indicator Device will be installed by December*
- *SJ believes that no objections to the installation of 20mph signs in Wallington have been received and therefore the next stage will be for installation to be arranged with Ringway. A road closure may be necessary.*
- *SJ has been assured that the Bennetts Lane Drainage work will be undertaken by Ringway at the same time as other works in the area, but there is no date set as yet.*
- *The Wallington road has been jet patched to deal with holes on the edge of the road as well as some of the deeper holes from the fire damage. This method is not suitable for the rest of the fire damage. SJ is waiting to hear what the plan for this is.*

18/043 Bennetts Lane Drainage *See report above*

18/044 Hedge Cutting along the River Beane fence and opposite
This issue needs to be looked at again after the winter.

18/045 To discuss the fire-damaged road surface on Wallington Road *See report above*

18/046 To discuss the problems with the new waste collection company *See report above*

There was discussion about the many problems with bin collections experienced by residents since the new contract started. KH suggested that the more people who complain the better and suggested that residents keep phoning whenever there is a problem.

18/047 To receive an update on AED's

KH reported that she had been in contact with the Ambulance Service about the gel pads which were close to their expiry date. She has been told that the ambulance service is responsible for replacing these. One of the 'Defibrillator' signs has disappeared from the Rushden phone box.

Resolved that the Rushden councillors contact the original supplier of these signs to ask him if he can supply a replacement, assuming the original one cannot be found.

Carried unanimously

18/048 Feedback from Neighbourhood Planning Course

KH gave comprehensive feedback on the course she had attended and proposed that the Wallington councillors go forward with the next steps towards producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Wallington and apply for funding if there is sufficient interest to go ahead.

Unanimously agreed

18/049 Data Protection and Privacy Policy

All councillors signed to show their acceptance of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Policy.

The Clerk went through some aspects of data protection for consideration

- It was agreed that it is adequate security for old paperwork be stored in the Clerk's home*
- The Clerk had been given a suggestion about use of different email addresses by a Wallington resident. Councillors asked the Clerk to get some more information on this and to also ask him about memory sticks with an encryption facility.*
- Insurance – Clerk to check the Parish Council's Insurance policy to ensure that it has Officers' Cyber Liability to cover compensation for any individual who proves that their data has been compromised by the Parish Council.*
- ICO. There is a mandatory requirement for all Parish Councils to be registered with ICO.*

Resolved that the Clerk register R & W P C and pay the necessary fee out of funds.

Carried unanimously

18/050 To consider Budget Requirements for 2019/20 and to decide on the Precept demand for 2019/20

KH had produced a budget for the next financial year for consideration. After consideration it was

Resolved that the Precept request for 2019/20 should remain unchanged at £4300.

Carried unanimously

18/051 To discuss a proposal to increase the reserve held by each village from £1000 to £1500.

This proposal was discussed and reasons given why this might be necessary.

Resolved that the reserve held by each village be increased from £1000 to £1500 and the interest earned be allowed to accrue in the reserve account.

Carried unanimously

18/052 To discuss whether any policy documents should be on the websites, if so which ones.

Resolved that no actual policies are put onto the websites, but rather that a statement be added to the website stating that Parish Council Documents can be viewed by applying to the Clerk.

Carried unanimously

18/053 Broadband Provision

A survey was recently carried out re broadband provision in Wallington. It is likely that a fibre connection will be made to properties in the village in the next 6 – 12 months.

18/054 Manhole Cover on the grass by Wallington Pond

There is no further information on this. Clerk to check with SJ to see if he has any news.

18/055 Telegraph Pole leaning on Wallington Phone Box

This has been reported and there is no further action open to the Parish Council

18/056 To decide whether to continue membership of HAPTC for 2019/20

Resolved that R & W P C join HAPTC for the next financial year.

Carried unanimously

18/057 To approve the change of signatory for Wallington

Graham Lamb has agreed to be the new signatory for Wallington. Bank paperwork was signed and will now be processed.

18/058 To discuss a suggestion that the Parish Council give a grant to Wallington Village Hall to replace old play equipment

ROSPA have advised that some of the play equipment in Wallington needs replacing.

Resolved that a grant of £1000 (or £1200 if the purchase can be invoiced to the Parish Council, who could then reclaim the VAT) be given to Wallington Village Hall out of Wallington surplus funds.

Carried unanimously

18/059 To discuss the possibility of giving financial support to a 'Land Registration project' in Wallington

There are three ponds in Wallington, all unregistered, so don't belong to anyone. An unknown person is trying to register some of the land adjacent to the duck pond, which would put it under their ownership. Some people in Wallington propose to rekindle a village ponds committee (set up many years ago) to register the land so it is kept under village ownership. There will be a cost to this and the committee has no funds.

Resolved that financial support, up to £1000 be granted to the Village Ponds committee out of Wallington's surplus funds.

Carried unanimously

18/060 Minor queries from Clerk

- *A letter had been received inviting R & W P C to become a member of CDAHerts. Councillors did not wish to join at this stage.*
- *A letter had been received from Essex & Herts Air Ambulance requesting financial support. No action to be taken on this.*
- *An email had been received regarding a tree, on Wallington's leased land, with a branch likely to fall. KH has contacted Julia Clarke at the Footpaths Team at Herts County Council to ask whether the tree falls under their jurisdiction. If not, KH will make alternative arrangements.*

18/061 To suggest agenda items for the next meeting of the Parish Council

- Updates on all items with action required from today's Agenda

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.