

# Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 14th January 2020

Present: Councillors Steve Pettyfer, Kate Heath, Graham Lamb, Roger Greenwood

In attendance: M. Messenger, Clerk, Steve Jarvis, District and County Councillor and one member of the public.

20/001 To receive and accept apologies for absence *Apologies received from Councillor Linda Hill*

20/002 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 |

20/003 To confirm the Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. Chair to sign.

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Meeting held on 1 October 2019 be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chair. **Carried unanimously.**

20/004 To receive a report from the District Councillor and the County Councillor

- *Fibre Broadband was due to be delivered to Wallington by the end of December. This has not happened. SJ will chase them up to find out what is going to happen.*
- *Waste Collection – this had been going well until this week when some of the bins were not collected. People tried to report this but were not able to. The system for reporting needs to be improved.*
- *Redhill – A speed indicator sign will be installed in Redhill, probably in the autumn.*
- *Bennetts Hill Drainage work was completed and seems to have been successful.*
- *The Local Plan – The Inspector has come back to the council with questions and will be re-opening examination to the public in March / April. So there will be at least another 6 months before it is finalised.*
- *A505 – a study was undertaken. As a result it has been decided to start with work on the Littlington junction, which has the highest rate of accidents. The Council are still working on future plans for the other junctions.*

20/005 Hedge cutting grant update

*SJ was asked how the PC should proceed. Someone from the PC needs to apply online for a grant to cover this. SJ was asked to email the information on how to do this to both SP and LH.*

20/006 River Beane blockage at Mill End

*SJ was asked whose responsibility it is to deal with blockages of the river. He said it would be the responsibility of the Environment Agency. RG had noticed an oil drum in the river which he will report to the local authority as fly tipping.*

20/007 Wallington Neighbourhood Plan – update

*The designated area that the plan will cover has been decided. It is the whole ward of Wallington excluding Redhill and Shaw Green. All residents will be informed of what is happening and why. The next step will be to show the plan to North Herts to obtain their approval. It is hoped that the plan will be completed within 18 months. There is some funding available that the committee may be able to access to help with this.*

20/008 Wallington Green Spaces

*There have been some issues recently around Wallington Village Pond. An adjacent landowner is trying to register the pond. An initial email has been sent to object to this as residents want to ensure that the pond is maintained in its current state.*

**Resolved** that Wallington councillors go ahead with whatever action they deem to be needed in order to address this issue.

20/009 Wallington Land / trees

*Boundary posts are going to be put in place to delineate the boundary with the adjacent garden. In addition quotes are being sought for the work that has been identified in the tree survey.*

20/010 Verge damage in Rushden by delivery vehicles

*SJ was asked whether he knew of any proven ways to prevent delivery drivers from damaging the grass verges by driving over / parking on them. SJ could not recommend any one solution. SP suggested that white stakes could be put around the edge of Southern Green to see if this would help. It was suggested that the Trustees of the green could try this.*

20/011 Traffic mirror at top of Rushden Hill (bend)

*This mirror has disappeared. It was stated that the Council do not allow mirrors on council land, so any replacement would have to be on private land. SJ was asked to request that the SLOW sign (on the road by the bend) be repainted. SP will also report it to the Council again.*

20/012 Fingerposts

*SJ was asked what was the best way to get some of these old signs renovated and old, damaged ones removed.*

**Agreed that** RG and SP will conduct a survey of the signs that they consider to be in need of renovation, then they will pass this information onto Julia Clarke at NHDC. She will decide what action can be taken.

20/013 Shed break-ins in the locality

*Residents are concerned as there have been 3 shed break-ins in Wallington and 1 in Rushden, all in recent weeks. The local Inspector of Police has been contacted and he is keen to arrange a meeting about security for residents to attend. Rushden have a village hall open day on the 25<sup>th</sup> and it was suggested that Chris Brabrook be contacted to ask whether Crime Prevention Officers could be asked to attend on that day.*

20/014 Possible Redhill residents meeting

*Redhill is unusual because it does not all fall within the same Parish Council. One resident is planning to arrange a meeting for residents of Rushden/ Redhill/Sandon to talk about shared interests.*

20/015 To suggest Agenda items for the next meeting of the Parish Council

- *Neighbourhood Plan*

*The meeting closed at 9.25pm*