

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes and Action Points

Date / Time:	Thursday 18 th May 2023, 8.30pm
Location:	Rushden Village Hall
Councillors Present:	Kate Heath (KH) - CHAIR, Steve Pettyfer (SP), Graham Lamb (GL), Ian Roper (IR), Jenny Barlow (JB)
In attendance:	Mark SG Hopley (MSGH) - Clerk, Steve Jarvis (District and County Councillor) - part

Item	Description	Status / Action
23/021	To receive and accept apologies for absence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None received. 	-
23/022	Declarations of interest and dispensations <p>a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. <p>b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. <p>c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA. 	-
23/023	To confirm the Minutes of Rushden and Wallington Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were <i>carried unanimously</i> as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. No matters arising, other than those on the agenda. Minutes were signed by the Chair. 	-
23/024	Report from the District Councillor and the County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More drainage works planned between Redhill and Wallington – road closure notice received on 17th May and will be posted on the website and circulated to residents via social media. The drainage issues on Treacle Lane appear to have been resolved which is excellent news. Drainage issues in Wallington at the top end of The Street and the junction of Kitts Lane remain. It would appear that the drains leading down from the Village Pond to the junction remain blocked and overflow with any amount of heavy rainfall. Steve Jarvis to follow up getting these investigated. The bank at the bottom of The Street has been repaired by local residents. The fence by Church Green in Rushden has been damaged. Ringway have been notified and they put up barriers quite quickly. They have put forward a date of 12th June to repair the fence. 	MSGH / SP SJ

Item	Description	Status / Action
23/025	<p>Air Traffic Changes to Luton and Stanstead airspace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debora and Paul Stapleton presented their findings to Rushden Village Assembly on Wednesday 12th April 2022. Excerpts of which are below : • It relates to the recent changes to the flightpaths proposed by Luton Airport. This could cause considerable noise pollution in the skies above Rushden and Wallington and many other local Parishes, especially at night. • There is already a noticeable increase in flight activity and noise levels, particularly at night and if Luton’s proposals are accepted this will get considerably worse in years to come especially as Luton are proposing to increase passenger numbers from the 18 million currently allowed to 32 million by 2043. • There is a voluntary organization called RELAS (Reject Luton Airport Stacking) that Debora and Paul Stapleton have joined that is challenging Luton Airport’s proposed changes. • RELAS have carried out lots of work and investigations into the impact on local communities. RELAS are challenging Luton Rising (the owners of Luton airport) on their findings and the way they have handled the change process. • Awareness needs to be raised within all local Parishes and the Parish Council will do as much as it can to publicise the issue and raise awareness via the Parish Council website, local community social media and at future Parish Council meetings. • RELAS have a presentation setting out their findings to date which can be found on their website at https://relas.uk/ • The Parish Council will contact other local parish council clerks to put Debra in touch with them so that she can raise general awareness of the issue and hopefully galvanise local support wider than just Rushden and Wallington PC. • Place Debra Stapleton’s contact details on the website with a link to the RELAS website. 	<p>MSGH</p> <p>MSGH</p>
23/026	<p>Shaw Green Woodland Creation Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement that this is a great idea and is fully supported by the Parish Council. 	
23/027	<p>Footpath FP022 – Wallington</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most recent communication is from Kevin Moore (Rights of Way Enforcement, HCC) on 23rd March 2023 saying he is contacting appropriate colleagues and will communicate with all parties regarding an informal consultation in due course. 	

Item	Description	Status / Action
23/028	<p>Community Speed Watch in Rushden, Mill End.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed at the recent Rushden Parish Assembly. There is a requirement for a group of at least 3-4 people. A local Mill End resident, Chris Wilkey raised the issue at the Parish Assembly so SP will ask Chris Wilkey if he can get together volunteers to carry out the trial. • SJ has asked for a speed and volume survey to be carried out at Mill End. We have been added to the list to get this done. • KH enquired as to whether we could band together to get this done community wide as there would likely be a greater chance of getting the required number of volunteers together. SJ will enquire as to whether this is feasible. 	<p>SP</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
23/029	<p>HCC Green Space Audit and environmental improvement grant scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC and CMS offered free 'green spaces opportunity audit' which could cover common land, village ponds, village greens and unregistered land surveys. MSGH applied for this audit back in November 2022. • This audit has not happened yet but grants are now available for which MSGH applied speculatively on behalf of the Wallington Well Pond Nature Reserve and Village Pond. • The grant is for a maximum of £3,000 but requires some matched funding, although this matched funding can be offset by volunteer labour from local residents (at the value of £50 per day per volunteer). • Sarah Roberts from HCC / CMS is prepared to come and do a site visit to help understand and explain the best way for us to access this grant funding. MSGH to arrange a suitable date and circulate this to the Parish Council so that any interested parties can attend this site visit. 	<p>MSGH</p>
23.030	<p>Coronation Celebration costs – Telephone Box Paint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for reimbursement for paint that was purchased to paint the telephone box over the coronation weekend. The amount of £45.99 was approved by the Parish Council to be repaid to Steve Pettyfer. • A request was made to Steve Jarvis to get the road swept in Rushden as it hasn't been done in a number of years. It would need one of the mini-sweepers in order to get round the Rushden roads. 	<p>MSGH</p> <p>SJ</p>
23/031	<p>Planning including an update on planning applications being added to the PC Website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moon and Stars update – planning has been approved with slight modifications to the original plans to appease some local residents and some additional conditions applied. • Amended planning for 15 The Street, Wallington – no comments from the PC. • Daisy Barn turning circle issue – no feedback from the planning department 	

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	<p>or the enforcement agency on the Fairly's complaint about the new fence that has been erected. Apparently some damage has been caused to a wall at Daisy Barn by a bin lorry or oil delivery tanker.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wallington Neighbourhood Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Detailed feedback has been received from residents and statutory consultees on Regulation 14 consultation. ○ This needs to be fed back to respondents in some form – public meetings and social media / email. ○ This will inform the next stage which is Regulation 16 consultation. 	
23/032	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSGH presented the accounts to 18th May 2023. We are currently on budget but are starting to have issues with inflationary increases on certain invoices. • Parish Council Insurance invoice from BHIB has come in at £46 (17%) increase on last years cost (£321 vs £275) . MSGH has challenged this with them but they will not budge. They have included a £25 admin fee for the first time which forms part of the £46 increase. • MSGH has found an alternative insurer, Zurich Insurance, who will charge £214 for similar 'Parish Council' insurance; their policy is called 'Select for Local Councils'. A comparison of the two policies shows that Zurich will cover all the essential items that we need as a Parish Council. MSGH proposed that the Zurich quote be accepted which was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council. 	MSGH
23/033	<p>Confirm date of next meeting and any items to be included on that agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential meeting for planning matters due on Tuesday 11th July 2023 • Next PC Meeting due on Thursday 14th September. 	
	The Chair closed the meeting at 9.20pm	