

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes and Action Points

Date / Time: Thursday 14th September 2023, 8.00pm

Location: Wallington Village Hall

Councillors Present: Kate Heath (KH) - Chair, Steve Pettyfer (SP), Graham Lamb (GL), Ian Roper (IR)

In attendance: Mark Hopley (MSGH) - Clerk, Michelle Hopley (MH) - Clerk, Steve Jarvis, (District and County Councillor), 10 members of the public

Item	Description	Status/ Action
23/036	To receive and accept apologies for absence Jenny Barlow (Parish Councillor)	-
23/037	Declarations of interest and dispensations a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None. b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None. c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NA.	-
23/041	Cat Ditch & River Ivel Conservation – Presentation by RevIvel Community Group (Ian Hall and Nick Balmer) RevIvel is a community group, set up in 2019 when the upper 3kms of the Ivel, which starts in Baldock, dried up. The aim of the group is to fight the cause of the river, with the long term aim of getting brown trout swimming up the river. The reasons for the current situation and what actions the group are undertaking, including their engagement with Affinity Water, the Environment Agency and local landowners, were explained. Further information on the group and how the local community can support them can be found on their website https://www.revivel.org/ . R&WPC will add the weblink above to the Parish Council website and facilitate putting interested residents in touch with the group.	MSGH
23/038	To confirm a) the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Annual meeting held on 18th May 2023 b) the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2023 c) the Minutes of the Rushden and Wallington Parish Council Extraordinary Planning meeting held on 19th June 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes were <i>carried unanimously</i> as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Minutes were signed by the Chair.	-

Chair's Signature:

Date:

Item	Description	Status/ Action
23/039	<p>Report from the District and County Councillor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A505 Speed Restriction - The online petition (https://SignMe.org.uk/2024) went to the County Councils Highways panel on 13th September. More data is to be gathered for the specific stretch of road by Slip End, not the whole stretch between Baldock and Royston. • Drainage Work to The Street, Wallington - Recent correspondence has been received from Herts County Council (Richard Knight) regarding proposed works. The proposed works are potential replacement, rather than repairs, of 195m of pipework from the top of The Street by the Village Pond to the junction with Kits Lane by the Village Hall. There are no dates for when this work is to be carried out at present. • A507 Weight Restrictions - There were some objections to the formal consultation, including the District Council and Sandon residents. The objections will need to be addressed. • Solar Panel Scheme - District Council are running the bulk purchase solar panel scheme again, which is available for the parish's residents. There is a link on the Parish Council website for details of the scheme. 	
23/040	<p>Footpath FP022 – Wallington Update from Graham Lamb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parish Council submitted their formal response on 3rd August 2023 to HCC's consultation letter dated 29th June 2023. The Parish Council's submission confirmed that a resolution to this issue would be desirable for all parties concerned. • The Parish Council submitted their preference for the route coloured in Green on the plan dated 29th June 2023. The exact submission in the letter was as follows: <i>'In summary if FP22 is to be changed the Parish Council supports the proposal that FP22 continues along its existing official route (shown in purple) on the map associated with the HCC letter and hence down the section of the track/driveway to the west of 7 Kits Lane (shown in green) to the car parking area on Kits Lane'</i> • GL expressed his frustration at how the matter of the potential re-routing of the footpath and maintenance of the current footpath is being managed by Herts County Council and North Herts District Council. • GL re-iterated the Parish Council's preference for rerouting the historic footpath (to avoid crossing the front gardens of numbers 1-7 Kits Lane and avoid damage to the habitat of the Spinney) by rerouting the footpath along the existing official route and then down the section of the track/driveway to the west of 7 Kits Lane to the car parking area on Kits Lane. 	-

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These have been fitted in the Wallington defibrillator and new pads were passed to IR at the meeting for replacing in the Rushden defibrillator. The Defibrillators are registered with the national network managed by the British Heart Foundation (BHF). On a monthly basis the Clerks will confirm that the defibrillators are operational on the BHF website (called 'The Circuit' https://www.thecircuit.uk/) Rushden residents have requested another training session. Clerks will follow up on this request. 	MSGH
23/046	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Moon & Stars - Protected Community Asset update</p> <p>b) Planning update including current applications and recent decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An application was made 5 years ago to protect the Moon & Stars as a community asset. Should the owner decide to sell, this allows the local community a period of 6 months to buy the asset in advance of it going on general sale. <p>The period of protection is due to come to an end. SP agreed to follow up on the application and reapply, if able to submit suitable responses to support the application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new applications for discussions at the meeting. Since the late council meetings decisions have been received on the following applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23/00723/FP: 15 The Street, Wallington, Part first floor, part two storey side extension - Granted. 23/00913/FP: Daisy Barn, Treacle Lane, Retention of a timber shed and replacing existing wooden gazebo roof with slate - Granted. 23/01648/FP: Barn Cottage, Bennetts Lane, Replace existing rooflights with dormer windows to rear roof slope - Granted. 23/02054/LDCP: Colt House Southern Green, clarification of permitted development rights. Decision awaited on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23/01163/FP: Moonshine, Southern Green - Change of use of land to equestrian and erection of stable building with solar panels on south-west roof slope, manege and parking. 	SP
23/047	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Accounts to September 2023 (sent out in advance of the meeting)</p> <p>b) Draft Budget 2024-25 for discussion (sent out in advance of the meeting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSGH presented the accounts to date for this financial year. Forecasting a slight 	

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	<p>underspend against budget but warned there may still be inflationary pressures lurking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The healthy bank balance of £15.9K includes the Wallington Neighbourhood Plan grant and precept monies received. • Wallington Tree Survey required. Clerk to investigate if the PC need to seek alternative quotes for the services. • A draft of the 2024-25 budget was circulated the councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed to try and keep the precept demand for next year at the same level as this year, i.e., £4,850 but this can be approved at the January Parish Council meeting. 	MSGH
23/048	<p>Confirm dates of upcoming meetings and any items to be included on the agendas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tuesday 14th November 2023 - Parish Council Planning Meeting (if required) 2. Thursday 25th January 2024 – Parish Council Meeting 3. Tuesday 16th April 2024 – Wallington Parish Assembly 4. Wednesday 17th April 2024 – Rushden Parish Assembly 5. Thursday 16th May 2024 – Parish Council AGM and PC Meeting 6. Tuesday 9th July 2024 – Parish Council Planning Meeting (if required) 7. Thursday 19th September 2024 - Parish Council Meeting <p>Suggested future meeting dates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Thursday 23rd January 2025 – Parish Council Meeting 9. Tuesday 15th April 2025 - Wallington Parish Assembly 10. Wednesday 16th April 2025 - Rushden Parish Assembly 11. Thursday 15th May 2025 - Parish Council AGM and PC Meeting 12. Thursday 18th September 2025 - Parish Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed items for next agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affordable Housing Needs Presentation, Giles Meredith - River Bean Fence repair – update from Steve Jarvis requested. 	MSGH SJ
	Meeting adjourned at 10pm.	

Chair's Signature:

Date: