

## **RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.  
AT THE CHURCH HALL, CRAYS HILL.

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*Present:* Cllr. McPherson-Davis, Cllr. Peake and Cllr. Borer  
*Apologies:* Cllr. J. Lucas  
*In the Chair:* Cllr. McPherson-Davis  
*Minute Secretary:* Georgina Bassett  
*Also present:* One member of the press, 17 members of the public,  
Cllr. T. Sargent, Cllr. J. Dornan

### **26/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence. Cllr. Lucas and Cllr. S. Allen.

### **27/01 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

To receive any "personal" or "personal or prejudicial" interests relating to items on the agenda. No declarations of interest received.

### **28/01 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There will be 15 minutes question time at the meeting should this be requested by the public.

- (i) Request for restrictions to the number of Barleyland signs. Resident informed this was out of the jurisdiction of this Parish.
- (ii) Update in relation to log cabin in Oak Lane requested and concerns as to why some councillors are not permitted to speak at B.D.C. Meeting regarding this matter.

### **19.35 CLOSED**

### **19:45 OPEN**

- (iii) A resident requested an apology from a councillor purporting that he raised his voice to the resident at the last meeting. The councillor informed all residents that Parish Council Meetings were not for general debates and it had been necessary to bring the meeting under control. The resident was also advised that the councillor could have asked the resident to have left the meeting, however, did not on that occasion and would not give an apology for bringing the meeting into order.
- (iv) Residents expressed their views to the possibility of opening up the Right of Way in Oak Avenue.

The items relating to Right of Way and log cabin in Oak Lane will be considered on the agenda at the next Parish Council Meeting on 15th October 2008.

### **29/01 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July to be approved and signed. Prior to the Minutes being approved and signed, Cllr. McPherson-Davis advised that under 21/01 the Clerk had arrived at the course, however, it was cancelled on her arrival.

### **30/01 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING**

Update on actions from last meeting. Nothing to report at this time.

### **31/01 REVIEW OF LISTING ON AGENDA OF PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

To decide whether it is the best interests of the Councillors and the general public to reorder Public Question Time to after the meeting has concluded.

It was agreed that Public Question Time must remain early in the proceedings of the agenda, the Clerk was asked if this time may be split to early and later in the meeting. The Clerk will contact the Monitoring Officer and report back to the Council.

### **32/01 GARDINERS LANE - PINCH POINT**

Councillor Peake to give an update and discuss the development of the pinch point in Gardiners Lane further to correspondence received.

Clerk to confirm with Highways for a positive decision by 25<sup>th</sup> September, otherwise, Clerk will write to them explaining that it has been delayed over one year.

### **33/01 SAFETY BARRIER - HARDINGS ELMS ROAD**

Update on the situation regarding the safety barrier from Councillor Peake. E.C.C. met with Cllr. Peake and will send a written response on the risk assessment to the Parish Council.

### **34/01 OAK ROAD**

A report of sewerage has been reported to the Environmental Office approximately 400 yards at the Belvedere end. Additionally there has been a report of a deterioration in the road. Further consideration for planting in Oak Road by Hardings Elms Road.

Cllr. McPherson-Davis spoke to Environmental Office regarding sewerage. Letter will be sent from that office to the relevant residents requesting them to resolve the matter.

It has been agreed that low key plants may be planted with a small sign by Elms Nursery in Oak Road, on the corner by the Belvedere. The Clerk is to write to the nursery and Cllr. Peake is to liaise with them.

Clerk to write to E.C.C. for a response to request a width restriction sign in an effort to reduce the size and weight of vehicles using the road which is causing the deterioration of the road.

### **35/01 BUS SHELTER**

Installation in place of the third bus shelter and a councillor to volunteer to "adopt" this bus shelter. As previously agreed by the Parish Council the Clerk issued cheques of £50.99 to cover insurance and payment of £6,227.50 for the bus shelter. Councillor Lucas to provide update re allocation for fourth bus shelter.

Clerk confirmed that a grant for £4,900.00 towards another bus shelter should shortly be received by the Parish Council.

### **36/01 BUDGET/PRECEPT**

Proposals for projects for budget and preparations for precept review to be considered.

It was agreed to submit proposals for projects for next year to the Clerk within two weeks to assist with October's consideration for the precept.

Cllr. McPherson-Davis pointed out that there was a cash flow to be considered with regard to the possibility of one election and a reserve needed should another arise. In addition to consideration to be made for VAS sign, costings of new notice boards and the difference in purchase and the grant of another bus shelter.

It was decided to wait until October for further discussion for projects and expenditure.

### **37/01 EDF - SCREENING BOXES**

Update on correspondence received for planting around the EDF screening boxes.

A positive response was received by EDF. The Clerk is to contact them to confirm height growth of plants and report to Council for arrangements to be put in place for planting.

### **38/01 BENCHES - RAMSDEN CRAYS**

Correspondence received in request for benches to be updated within the Parish and consideration for future decision on this matter.

Response received was that benches in other Parishes in worse condition. The Chairman suggested that the Council may decide to consider a project for 2009/2010.

### **39/01 NOTICE BOARDS**

Decision for the way forward as the estimate for the costing to repair the boards and then to use postings is more than the grant of £250.00.

It was decided not to make a decision on expenditure for the notice board until proposals received for projects for 2009/2010. The Clerk to write to request an extension for this grant to be spent.

### **40/01 OAK ROAD - HARDING ELMS ROAD**

Update on the situation with regard to the land owned opposite at the corner of the nursery and the banked pile adjacent to the nursery. Reported as confirmed in 34/01.

#### **41/01 FOOTPATHS**

Update on the development of the clearing of footpath numbers 69 off Crays Hill, 70 by Gardiners Lane and 40 in Oak Road. The Clerk is to contact again to confirm clearing date.

#### **42/01 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

Subsequent to the resignation of Councillor Dornan to the Parish Council there is a vacancy. B.D.C. will advise the Council whether residents request an election.

#### **43/01 BASILDON ASSOCIATION TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL**

Update by Cllr. McPherson-Davis on the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2008.

Consideration will be given to members attending possible training sessions at BDC.

Confirmation was received that Councils will be represented on local Strategies.

A copy of the Sustainable Communities Act will be sent to all councillors to review.

#### **44/01 RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF ESSEX**

Consideration for membership for the Parish Council of £55.00. Parish Council decided not to pay for membership.

#### **45/01 CORRESPONDENCE**

Basildon District Council regarding enquiry for updates of numbers of mobile homes at Oak Lane.

Bio-mass Power Plant two letters received from BDC - 27<sup>th</sup> June and 27<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Correspondence from Ramsden Crays Residents Association regarding a walkway.

RCCE Calor Essex Village of the Year and Best Kept Village Competition 2008.

Postwatch correspondence on consultation and closures.

E.C.C. correspondence on The Youth Offending Team and projects for Young Offenders.

E.C.C. correspondence on Rail Seminar on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008.

E.C.C. letter received relating to review during September 2008 of the Local Bus Tender Round.

Audit Commission letter on contact and update information.

EALC - Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at Coggeshall, Chelmsford.

Correspondence received from the Co-operative relating to insurance cover.

Community Initiatives Fund (Highways) - information Essex Links July 2008.

Essex County Council - Tree Pledge - Essex Links July 2008.

Landscape & Countryside Conservations Grant Scheme - Essex Links July 2008.

Essex County Council - Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3) - 27 August 2008.

Basildon District Council Decision Notices - 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Chelmsford Borough Council - Local Development Framework - 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Campaign to Protect Rural England - AGM and Circular.

#### **46/01 PLANNING**

**08/00793/FULL.** Retention of residential building on gypsy caravan site.

**Location:** 4A Oak Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

Ramsden Crays Parish Council has not been asked to consult on this, Clerk asked to write to ask why there has not been a request for consultation.

**08/01053/FULL.** Raised ridge to existing bungalow and gable end extension inclusive of front porch to front elevation.

**Location:** Oakwood, Oak Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

Parish Council objected.

**08/01060/FULL.** Demolition of existing stable/garage and the construction of a barn style garage/workshop/washroom.

**Location:** Great Barns, Oak Avenue, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

Parish Council objected.

#### **Decisions:**

**08/00584/FULL.** First floor rear extension.

**Location:** Beech Hall, Oak Avenue, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

**08/00546/OUT.** Construction a 4 bed house on land adjacent to existing property.

**Location:** Pippis Hill Farm, Pippis Hill Road North, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Refused.**

**08/00724/FULL.** Timber framed rear extension to existing mobile home.

**Location:** Four Gables, Oak Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Refused.**

**08/00716/OUT.** Outline application for erection of one detached bungalow and demolition of existing bungalow subject of Lawful Development Certificate.

**Location:** Oakwood Cattery, Oak Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Refused.**

**47/01 FINANCES**

**Cheques for Payment:**

Clerk's salary/expenditure - September	£348.43
Cllr. Peake - Prontaprint for Newsletters	£45.00
HM Revenue and Customs - Clerk - July, August, September	£149.85
Basildon District Council - Election Costs	£727.15

The above cheques were agreed for payment.

**Cheques Paid:**

ANZ Insurance - third bus shelter A129	£50.88
Bus shelter	
£6,227.50	

**Receipts:**

Online payment annual return 2007 - 2008	£100.00
Precept B.D.C. 2008 - 2009 second installment	
£3591.00	

**48/01 INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Next agenda items only.

Items to be included are:

Right of Way at Oak Avenue  
Precept - various projects  
Courtauld Road - Waste Facility  
Planning item - 08/01084

**49/01 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 at 7.30 p.m. at the Church Hall, Crays Hill.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 21:00**

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):** ..... **DATE:** .....