

RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT THE CHURCH HALL, CRAYS HILL.

Present: Cllr. McPherson-Davis, Cllr. Peake, Cllr. Borer and Cllr. J. Lucas
Apologies: None
In the Chair: Cllr. McPherson-Davis
Minute Secretary: Georgina Bassett
Also present: One member of the press, 14 members of the public,
Cllr. J. Dornan (B.D.C.)

50/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence. None received.

51/01 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

52/01 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

Cllr. Dornan asked whether correspondence had been received from residents concerning the Right of Way in Oak Road.

53/01 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 17th September to be approved and signed. These minutes were **agreed** and signed.

54/01 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING

Update on actions from last meeting.

Cllr. Lucas confirmed that footpath 69 had been cleared except for a few trees. However, there are still a number of issues with footpath 70 that are to be resolved.

55/01 REPRESENTATIVE FROM CRAYS HILL SCHOOL

A presentation to be given to the Parish Council from a representative of Crays Hill School on an update of Crays Hill Primary School.

The Chair of Governors represented the Crays Hill Primary school to speak on a few issues, including a Harvest Breakfast and Christmas Fair and gave an update on improvements to the school, I.T. equipment and improvement in the recent Ofstead Report. The Council was advised that there is a drop in centre for parents, mother and toddler group and yoga sessions.

56/01 PROPOSALS FOR LISTINGS ON AGENDA ITEMS RELATING TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

After enquiries, the Clerk's suggestions are as follows:

- (i) Public Participation
- (ii) Ex-agenda
- (iii) Public Question Time, General Questions only

Depending upon decisions made, then this to be reflected in the standing orders and amended copies to be provided to Councillors.

The Parish Council **agreed** to these changes in the agenda, however, (i) and (iii) to be allocated ten minutes time each and (ii) five minutes for District and County Councillors.

The Clerk is to reflect these changes and to provide a copy to the Council for the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the subject matter would only be recorded in (ii).

57/01 RIGHT OF WAY

Parish Council received correspondence to review clearance of this Right of Way at Oak Avenue – Great Barns, decide whether to proceed further.

The Parish Council **agreed** that no action was to be taken.

58/01 OAK ROAD

The Council to be updated regarding E.C.C. response for width restriction. E.C.C. has confirmed it is looking into this situation. The Parish Council to await response.

59/01 BUS SHELTER

Installation in place of the third bus shelter and a councillor to volunteer to “adopt” this bus shelter.

Councillor Lucas has agreed to “adopt” this bus shelter.

60/01 PROVISION OF BOLLARDS OUTSIDE HEMMINGS STORES

Decision on whether to request bollards outside Hemmings Stores.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write to E.C.C. for assessment/clarity on the situation for bollards outside the shop.

61/01 BUDGET/PRECEPT

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

- (i) Notice Board – confirmation received from EALC to carry forward grant of £250.00 to 2009/2010.
- (ii) Playground equipment
- (iii) Tree Grant
- (iv) Bus shelter
- (v) Planting
- (vi) VAS signs

- (vii) Pedestrian Crossing
- (viii) Hanging Baskets

The notice board is to be put onto the next agenda for review for this financial year.

The Clerk to write to request a representative from the Tree Grant to give advice for planting in the Parish.

The bus shelter to be put onto the agenda for next month to discuss installing in this financial year.

Councillor McPherson-Davis proposed and it was agreed that the precept for 2009/2010 would include projects for playground equipment, VAS signs and hanging baskets.

The ultimate figures are to be made available to all councillors for consideration to agree the precept at the November 2008 meeting.

The Clerk advised the Parish Council to consider a larger reserve of an increase of £1,000.00 however, the Council has decided not to take this advice.

62/01 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL TREE PLANTING SCHEME

Councillor Peake update on consideration for applying to involvement in the scheme. As per minuted item 61.

63/01 OAK LANE

Consideration of the Log Cabin in Oak Lane. Correspondence has been received by the Parish Council, however, there is an injunction and the Parish Council cannot comment on this.

64/01 COURTAULD ROAD – WASTE FACILITY

Consideration and update on the waste facility at Courtauld Road.

The Clerk to write for clarification on the situation of Courtauld Road.

65/01 EDF – SCREENING BOXES

Update that EDF has given approval for plants to be inserted, requesting door width restriction and confirmation to the Clerk to advise EDF when the work will take place.

It was **agreed** by the Parish Council that the plants would be inserted, allowing for the width restriction of the doors and Councillor Peake will provide the Clerk with adequate notice of the dates this will occur so that the Clerk may advise EDF.

66/01 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Consideration for the Parish Councillor vacancy, further to the update from B.D.C.

The Clerk presented the Parish Council with a notice for the board and dates for candidates to respond. Applications to be received by 19th November and a decision on applications received on 17th December.

67/01 PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP SCHEME (P3) – ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr. Lucas to update the Parish Council to decide whether to join the P3 Scheme and what this entails for the Parish.

On initial enquiries it appears there is no cost to the Parish Council. It was **agreed** that the Clerk write to the scheme to request a representative attend a meeting to give a short presentation and answer questions.

Proposed: Cllr. Lucas

Seconded: Cllr. A. Peake

68/01 NHS CONSTITUTION

The Council to decide if it will provide a submission for the NHS Constitution. Any decision for a response is requested by 17th October, 2008.

The Parish Council **agreed** not to give a submission.

69/01 LIGHTS AND CHRISTMAS TREE

The Parish Council to consider whether or not to purchase a Christmas tree with a maximum spending and the cost agreed for specific low charge insulated outside tree lights. Dependent on the decision a volunteer required to check them weekly.

It was **agreed** to purchase a tree up to £50.00 and that the current lights are low voltage and new lights are not to be purchased.

70/01 BASILDON ASSOCIATION OF TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

Cllr. McPherson-Davis update of the SGM on 1st October and the meeting on 25th September 2008.

It was **agreed** as this was a lengthy meeting that Councillors would be able to read these minutes in due course.

71/01 TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING

Update by Cllr. McPherson-Davis on meeting of 10th September, 2008.

The Parish Councillors were updated on the meeting of 17th September, 2008.

72/01 PAVEMENTS

Cllr. Lucas update on the state of the pavements.

The Clerk to write for recommendations to improve conditions of the pavements, particularly with regard to the weeds.

73/01 CORRESPONDENCE

E.C.C. (Gardiners Lane North, Basildon) Temporary Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2008 – 18th September, 2008.

Communities and Local Government – Consultation on Byelaws – comments by 20th November, 2008.

Residents' Association correspondence relating to Right of Way by Great Barns.

Update on over-60's and other groups concessionary travel from 9.00 a.m. effective 6th October, 2008.

Area Forums – South Essex – Basildon, Tuesday 18th November at 2.00 p.m. – Adult Community College, Roche Way, Rochford.

Grassroots Grants – Essex Community Foundation, 2nd October, 2008.

John Baron M.P. – Essex County Council's "Tree Pledge", 3rd October, 2008

74/01 PLANNING

Application No: 08/01084/FULL. First floor rear extension, Magnolia House, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

The Parish Council has no objection.

Application No: 08/01148/FULL. Rear Conservatory, Beam End Cottage, London Road, Billericay, Essex.

The Parish Council has no objection.

Application No: 08/01191/FULL. Rear Conservatory, Westering, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

The Parish Council has no objection.

Decisions:

Application No: 08/00850/FULL. Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of detached 4 bedroom house. The Nest, Pipp's Hill Road North, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

75/01 FINANCES

Cheque Paid:

Clerk's salary/expenditure – October	£291.01
External Auditor – Limited Assurance Audits (request for payment not yet received)	

Receipts:

HM Revenue & Customs	£1,939.62
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76/01 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Next agenda items only.

Sub-Committees – Risk, Personnel and Financial – information to Councillors.
Update of B.D.C. Minutes.

Footpaths.

Notice Boards.

Bus Shelter.

Clerk to write to E.C.C. for clarification of no entry sign to the junction of Barleylands Road A129.

77/01 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 19th November, 2008 at 7.30 p.m. at the Church Hall, Crays Hill.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:00

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): **DATE:**