

RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT THE CHURCH HALL, CRAYS HILL.

Present: Cllr. McPherson-Davis, Cllr. Peake and Cllr. J. Lucas
Apologies: Cllr. Borer and Cllr. Don Morris – E.C.C.
In the Chair: Cllr. McPherson-Davis
Minute Secretary: Georgina Bassett
Also present: 6 members of the public

20/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology from absence received from Cllr. Borer and Cllr. Morris – E.C.C.

21/02 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No “personal” or “personal or prejudicial” interests relating to items on the agenda were received.

22/02 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To be of a duration of ten minutes to allow members of the public to speak on items on the agenda.

No items.

Essex County Council by District/Basildon District Council Ward

Councillors Reports. Five minutes allocation to allow them the opportunity to update the Parish on various issues within the Parish, District and County. No reports received.

23/02 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 19th November and the Extra-ordinary Meeting on Monday 1st December were approved and signed.

24/02 PRESENTATION – ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Shavdia of E.C.C. updated the Parish Council on two traffic calming signs, three field gates and white painted “dragons teeth” on entry to the village prior to the 30 mile signs.

Mr. Bhavdia advised the Parish Council that traffic calming speed signs will be installed by E.C.C. at no cost to the Parish. There will be two 30 mile signs one at both the Eastern and Western End of the A129.

Field gates will be installed at the Eastern and Western End of the A129, two approaching the school and one on the left hand side approaching the village from Billericay. Prior to these 30 miles signs where the gates will be located will be white “dragons teeth” painted onto the road.

There will be a VAS sign in Gardiners Lane North outside “Aquarium” property. E.C.C. will inform residents of houses directly outside the sign.

There will be a second VAS sign as traffic starts to go down the hill at the top of Crays Hill. These will be flashing “slow down 30” signs.

The signs, field gates and dragons teeth should be installed by the end of March 2009.

There will not be any cost to the Parish Council for any of these items, however if the Parish Council is successful with its request for Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) then any grant funding is to be sent to E.C.C. towards the VAS signs.

25/02 APPROVE NEW STANDING ORDERS

The Parish Council **agreed** the change to the standing orders to reflect the agreement at the Meeting on 19th November, 2008 and **agreed** amendments to paragraphs preceding 1(a) regarding public participation sessions members of Ramsden Crays Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

26/02 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

It was agreed to approve the Complaints Procedure to be adopted by the Parish Council in line with Freedom of Information Act. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

27/02 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING

Update on actions from last meeting.

Cllr. Lucas mentioned the letter to Dawn French and the Clerk is requested to follow this up for a response.

Cllr. Lucas confirmed that the situation with footpath 69 was in hand with E.C.C.

It was noted that correspondence received from E.C.C. regarding Courtauld Road requested proof of flooding by taking photographs.

28/02 BUS SHELTER

Cllr. Lucas advised that the bus shelter had been ordered and should be installed mid January 2009. The Clerk requested approval for the bus shelter to be insured at installation and to be kept fully informed of the installation date for this purpose – **agreed**.

29/02 NOTICE BOARDS

Cllr. Lucas advised the Council that the notice board was ready for the two parts to be joined together and it was **agreed** for Cllr. Lucas and Cllr. Peake to arrange for the correct size posts to be joined to this. The Clerk advised that out of three quotations for insertion of the notice board, only one had been received. The Clerk will follow up.

30/02 TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING

Cllr. McPherson-Davis updated the Parish Council on the meeting on 3rd December, 2008.

Sustainable Communities

The Council was informed that Parish Councils are now requested to arrange for all Communities to work together.

Tree Planting

B.D.C. informed councils of the enormous cost for maintenance of trees within the District and advised Councils that when planting trees it is Parish Council's responsibility to maintain and insure under public liability.

Chewing Gum

Parish Councils raised the issue of chewing gum in particular outside local shops. B.D.C. informed Councils if they require this to be moved, they must pay for the service.

Weeds

B.D.C. advised that the current weed killer is not efficient. It has agreed in 2009 to commence a minimum of two weed spraying a year and to notify the Parish Council by letter prior to spraying.

Street Lighting

Trials will be carried out in two further parts of Essex in the New Year. A report on the findings will be issued.

B.D.C. Invoices

All Councils are requested to pay invoices to B.D.C. promptly.

31/02 ESSEX CLERKS BURSARY SCHEME

It was **agreed** to apply for the Clerks Bursary Scheme and if the application is successful to then split the final cost between two Parish Councils - Ramsden Crays and Shotgate, costing each council only £10.75 for the two courses. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Peake.

32/02 P3 SCHEME

It was **agreed** to apply for the scheme and to request Mr. Jenkins to provide the council with more information. Proposed by Cllr. Lucas and seconded by Cllr. Peake.

33/02 OAK ROAD – WIDTH RESTRICTION SIGN

The Clerk to write to E.C.C. explaining that it is not the Parish Council's intention to restrict emergency services or service vehicles etc., but it requests that width restrictions are necessary to prevent the movement of wide low loaders that are a danger to residential properties in Oak Road.

34/02 NO ENTRY SIGN – JUNCTION OF BARLEYLANDS ROAD WITH A129

Mr. Shavdia offered to look at the position of the "no entry sign".

35/02 HIGHWAYS ACT 1908 – SECTIONS 65 AND 66 – PROPOSED CYCLE TRACK – PITSEA HALL LANE, PITSEA, BASILDON

This is not within the Parish Council's area and the Clerk is to write to explain it does not affect Ramsden Crays Parish Council.

36/02 OAK ROAD

It was **agreed** for the Clerk to write to:

E.C. C. regarding the situation of the rubbish and to request for the weekly litter pick to be continued.

Electricity supplier to enquire of the frequency of lengthy power cuts in Oak Road and Gardiners Lane.

Water supplier to improve the pressure in certain areas of the Parish, including Oak Road. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and all agreed.

37/02 CORRESPONDENCE

For information only

BDC

Housing and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 22.10.08

Leisure, Arts & Customer Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes – 19.11.08.

Miscellaneous Licensing Sub-Committee Minutes – 4.11.08.

Overview and Scrutiny Commission Minutes – 18.11.08.

CPD Lecture – Paints for Historic Buildings – 3rd December 2008

Co-operative business account – terms and conditions

Doorstep Calendar 2009

Essex County Council

Stakeholders re Cabinet decisions 15.10.08

The Essex Jiangsu Festival 2008 – 2009

Essex Community Foundation – 27.11.08

Department for Transport Drink Drive – 01.12.08.

Essex Works Transformation of the Health Service – 05.12.08.

Fieldwork – CPRE – December 2008

Making the Links - November 2008.

Mobile Library – High View Rise commencing Friday 9th January (fortnightly visits) will arrive at 11.50 and depart at 12.05 and arrive at Crays Hill Primary at 13.15 and depart at 14.20 – E.C.C. November 2008.

North Chelmsford Area Action Plan – Preferred Options – 11.12.08

RCCE – Community Led Planning – 15th December 2008

South Essex Area Forum 24.11.08

The Playing Field - Autumn 2008

38/02 PLANNING

Application No: 08/01309/FULL. Change of use to mixed use for the keeping of horses and as a residential caravan site for one gypsy family with 3 caravans.

Location: Green Acres, Oak Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

The Council objected to the proposal as it does not comply with BAS S7 in the Basildon District Local Plan (Adopted March 1998).

Application No: 08/01333/FULL. Roof alterations removing existing dormers and lowering roof.

Location: Fairmeadow, Crays Hill Road, Billericay, Essex.

The Council objected on the grounds that the roof is too high and refers to BAS GB2 and BAS GB3 in the Basildon District Local Plan (Adopted March 1998).

Decisions:

Application No: 08/01191/FULL. Rear conservatory.

Location: Westering, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

Withdrawn:

Application No: 07/01122/FULL. Erection of 1 No. 4 bed detached bungalow.
Location: Beverley Farm Kennels, Hardings Elms Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

39/02 FINANCES

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

Clerk's salary/expenditure – December	£349.45
HMS Inland Revenue – October – December 2008	£160.89
Winter Newsletter	£60.00
BATPC – Annual Subscription	£10.00
ACL Locksmiths	£290.00

The Clerk transferred £1,000.00 from the Working Account to the Current Account.

40/02 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Next agenda items only. None received.

41/02 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To be for a duration of ten minutes to allow members of the public to ask questions not on the agenda.

20:55 – Open Session

- (i) Resident requested a letter to be sent to Mr. Shavdia regarding the continuation of a footpath from Lensell in Gardiners Lane North.
- (ii) Resident commented that one of the electricity suppliers is unable to inform customers in Ramsden Crays why there is reduced power.
- (iii) A resident asked why the notice boards were not placed inside the bus shelters. The Council commented that this had been raised previously at another meeting and the Parish Council had decided against this.

21:00 – Closed Session

42/02 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st January, 2009 at 7.30 p.m. at the Church Hall, Crays Hill.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:02

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): **DATE:**