

RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE CHURCH HALL, RAMSDEN CRAYS ON WEDNESDAY 20TH JANUARY, 2010 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillors: A. Peake (Chairman), D. McPherson-Davis, J. Lucas, R. Reeve and T. Borer (Vice-Chairman)

ALSO PRESENT:

Georgina Bassett – Clerk to the Council
2 members of the public
1 member of the press

01/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. S. Allen, Cllr. T. Sargent and Cllr. D. Morris.

02/01 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 16th December, 2009 were approved and **agreed** – proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

03/01 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

04/01 PUBLIC SESSION

- (a) None from members.
- (b) None from members of the public.
- (c) **Essex County Council by District/Basildon District Council Ward Councillors Reports.**
None.

05/01 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING

No updates received.

06/01 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Peake informed members that he had met with E.C.C. with regard to public footpaths.

07/01 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Cllr. Lucas advised members that he would not be available as the representative at the BDC Liaison Meeting on 30th March and for consideration for the Chairman to attend.

08/01 THREE YEAR PLAN

- (i) Quality Parish Council Status:
The Clerk to provide detailed information, include costings to attain Quality Parish Council Status and benefits for obtainment of this status.

- (ii) The newsletter to be considered at the February meeting to include request for residents to consider future ideas for projects/improvements within the Parish i.e. dog litter bins and litter bins.
- (iii) Flower baskets – troughs – to be reviewed by Councillor Borer.
Clerk to make enquiries with B.D.C. for benches in the recreational area and dog and litter bins.
- (iv) Refurbishment of the village sign to be considered during March/April.

09/01 SPEED RESTRICTIONS IN OAK ROAD

Cllr. Reeve proposed that the Clerk write to E.C.C. requesting a speed restriction of 20 miles per hour in Oak Road – **agreed**.

It was also **agreed** for the Clerk to invite a representative of E.C.C. to attend the next Parish Council Meeting in February to consider speed restrictions on the roads in the Parish.

10/01 TRAINING

- (i) No decision was made for a schedule for councillors to attend future training.
- (ii) Cllr. Peake confirmed he would be available to attend tailored training during February with Noak Bridge Parish Council. It was **agreed** for the Clerk to contact Noak Bridge and offer to pay £21.00 for his attendance if Noak Bridge Council agree.

11/01 CLERK'S BURSARY – TRAINING SCHEME

The Parish Council considered the Clerk's request to apply for the 75% bursary to be split between Shotgate Parish Council for attendance at: Employment Issues – 10th November (whole day) - £54.00. It was **agreed** – proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Reeve.

12/01 STATUTORY PROPOSALS RELATING TO JANET DUKE INFANT SCHOOL

This was considered and there was no comment from the Council on the proposal to discontinue Janet Duke Infant School.

13/01 AUDIT COMMISSION

The letter of 1st December was acknowledged by the Council and the Clerk was instructed to contact the Audit Commission to confirm the receipt of the letter and there was no comment from the Council.

14/01 OAK ROAD

- (i) Consider letter from E.C.C. of 14th December, regarding condition of road. It was **agreed** that the Clerk write to E.C.C., with a copy to Cllr. D. Morris, quoting J. Baron M.P. that is the worse road in existence and asking when the bottom end of the road will be resurfaced.
- (ii) Litter situation in the road. Clerk to contact B.D.C. Street Care for litter clearance and request a cleaning schedule of the roads in Ramsden Crays.

15/01 BDC – RESPONSE REGARDING NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Parish Council considered the response received from Chief Executive at B.D.C. and further to a meeting at B.D.C. offices is satisfied with the answers in the meeting.

16/01 BATPC

The draft letter from Cllr. Lucas to the Chairman of BATPC regarding concerns that BATPC was not fully supportive of Ramsden Crays Parish Council was considered.

~~The Clerk advised the Council that the drafted letter would bring the Council into disrepute and Cllr. McPherson-Davis also advised the Council to that effect. Cllr. Lucas will redraft the letter for circulation prior to the February Council meeting for consideration.~~

17/01 CHURCH HALL

- (a) The Clerk is to write to the owner of the Church Hall to clarify if it is to be closed and if so when. If necessary contingency measures for the use of a Church Hall will then be considered.
- (b) Billericay Sports Table Tennis Club
The Council is to write to this club when it receives clarification on whether or not the Church Hall will be closed.

18/01 OAK AVENUE RIGHT OF WAY

Cllr. Peake informed members that he had met with a representative from E.C.C. Highways. The Right of Way will be opened up for future access and a gateway will be installed.

19/01 PAYMENTS FORM

The Parish Council completed and the Chairman signed a form P11DX for dispensation for expenses payments for HM Revenue & Customs.

20/01 LOCALISM SCHEMES – BASILDON

The Parish Council instructed the Clerk to complete a Request for Consideration Highway Scheme. Projects to be listed are:

- (i) To extend the path for pedestrians in Gardiners Lane North as agreed by E.C.C. prior to installation of the pinch point.
- (ii) Pedestrian Crossing in Crays Hill after the Shepherd and Dog, prior to going down the hill.

Clerk to also enquire whether this affects the application for the footpath requested in the CIF Highways application in this financial year.

21/01 ESSEX RECORDS OFFICE

It was recorded that Essex Records Office is now in possession of two minutes books 1997 – 2009. Accession no: A12793.

22/01 FOOTPATHS

- (i) No further improvements to the clearance of footpath 67.
- (ii) Cllr. McPherson-Davis confirmed that the Church Lane side footpath 157 is shortly to receive a kissing gate as notified by E.C.C.

23/01 HARDINGS ELMS ROAD

To date no response to letter sent from the Council on the one way system in Hardings Elms Road. Clerk will continue to pursue.

24/01 WOODLANDS, NORTH ROAD, CRAYS HILL

To date still waiting correspondence from B.D.C. in relation to a log cabin in North Road. Clerk pursuing.

25/01 NATURE RESERVE

- (a) The Parish Council unable to consider the response from Basildon District Council – not yet received.
- (b) The response to the P3 Scheme was noted and disagreed with the contents of the letter.

26/01 PLANNING:

Applications:

09/010508/FULL. Extension to front dormer.

Location: 17 High View Rise, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

No objection.

09/01127/FULL. Demolish existing bungalow and construction of detached 4 bed house.

Location: Weir Cottage, Hardings Elms Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

No objection. Condition requested that on completion of building, old one to be demolished within six months.

Decided:

09/00940/FULL. Single storey rear extension.

Location: Orchard View, Hardings Elms Road. **Refused.**

09/00776/FULL. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 2 no. detached dwellings.

Location: Pump Cottage, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

27/01 FINANCES:

Cheques agreed for payment:

Mrs. G. Bassett – January Salary/expenses £295.13

Received:

Essex County Council £600.00 grant maintenance for bus shelters within the Parish.

Cllr. R. Reeve £50.00 for payment of gold leaf on minute book

Cllr. D. McPherson-Davis £124.74 cheque from residents in the Parish to purchase a new minute book.

28/01 CORRESPONDENCE:

For information only:

Basildon District Council

Cabinet Minutes 10.12.09

Community Safety and Housing Scrutiny Committee 25.11.09

Development Control and Traffic Management Committee 15.12.09

Leisure and Health Scrutiny Committee Mins. 18.11.09

Licensing Committee 24.11.09 Minutes

Members Bulletin, 10.12.09 – issue no. 2009/49

Overview and Scrutiny Commission 25.11.09

Christmas Card received from Leader of the Council

EALC

Quality Town Council booklet

Essex County Council

Changes to Bus Services – 4th January, 2010

County Update, November/December 2009

Minutes 17.09.09 EALC Executive Meeting

Minutes 16.10.09 EALC Larger Local Council Forum

The 64th Annual General Meeting Minutes, 23.09.09

Confirmation BACS of £600.00 payment into account

Records Office 10.12.09 – minutes on record from Parish Council – two minute books
Consent to Erect Temporary Seasonal Decorations Over the Highway – 13.01.10
P3 – Representative – 13.01.10
Essex Works
06.01.10 – road issues
Winter Gritting – 07.01.2010
South Essex Area Forum – 19.01.2010
General
Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill

29/01 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

- (i) One item raised with regard to footpaths slippery - not salted during inclement weather, particularly Crays Hill – resident slipped over. Clerk will liaise with E.C.C.

30/01 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Ramsden Crays Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 24th February, 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Church Hall, Crays Hill.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.16

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): **DATE:**