

## **RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE CHURCH HALL, RAMSDEN CRAYS ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 2010 AT 8.00 P.M.

### **PRESENT:**

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

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Georgina Bassett – Clerk to the Council

### **95/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. S. Allen.

### **96/01 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010 were considered it was requested for there to be a change to item 87/01 to include "Cllr. Sargent advised she would go to governors meeting at the School to put our case regarding hall cost". This was then approved and signed by the Chairman – proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

### **97/01 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

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

### **98/01 PUBLIC SESSION**

- (a) Councillors – none.
- (b) Public to be heard – none.
- (c) Essex County Council by District/Basildon District Council Ward Councillors Reports – none.

### **99/01 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING**

No further information on updates on actions meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010.

### **100/01 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr. Peake informed members that he met with an officer from E.C.C. and two horticulturists in relation to the planting of flowers, bulbs within the Parish. Cllr. Peake will provide a report with costings.

Cllr. McPherson-Davis met with an officer from B.D.C. for a site visit of the recreation area. The Officer will make enquiries to improve the area with picnic benches, signs to recreation area and improved play equipment.

The Clerk to contact B.D.C. to request the litter bin to be replaced at the pathway prior to the entrance to the park.

### **01/02 INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

Cllr. Lucas informed members that the issues in the letter to BATPC will be considered at the May meeting for proposal to the Annual General Meeting in June.

### **02/02 ANNUAL RETURN - BUDGET**

- (i) The budget for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 was reviewed and **agreed.**

- (ii) The annual return for the financial year ended 31.03.10. was **agreed** it was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Borer.

#### **03/02 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING VENUES – 2011**

The verbal response from Crays Hill Primary School in relation to use of School for venue in 2011 was considered and further correspondence awaited.

#### **04/02 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FUND**

The E.C.C. Funding and the budget to replace the slide in Crays Hill Recreation Ground were considered:

Subject to the confirmation from B.D.C. being granted to install the slide, the Council **agrees** for the Clerk to order the equipment and arrange for installation at a total cost of £3,525.00. This to include the funding from ECC for £2,600.00 and the remainder from the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Reeve.

#### **05/02 MAINTENANCE – REPAIR - RISK**

- (i) It was **agreed** for:
  - The bus shelters to be reviewed later.
  - Cllr. McPherson-Davis to review the Village Sign when the daffodils are no longer in bloom and then report back to the Council for consideration.
  - The Clerk to contact B.D.C. to request a list of approved contractors.
  - The risk assessment for repair to the Notice Board was adopted.
  - The Park Bench will be reviewed.

Proposed by Cllr. Peake and **agreed** by all.

- (ii) The play area fence was considered after site visit for risk assessment and it was **agreed** that no repairs are necessary.
- (iii) The Council considered and **agreed** the increase to insurance for £4.00 additional cost to the premium for fencing to increase to £8,800.00 in park area.

#### **06/02 THREE YEAR PLAN – STANDING ORDERS**

- (i) It was **agreed** to consider the recommendations when available from the Working Party regarding Quality Parish Council status.
- (ii) It was **agreed** for the Clerk to contact BDC to accept the offer for training on Lawful Development Certificates.
  - An explanation of LDC was requested by members of the Council. Cllr. McPherson-Davis declared a personal/prejudicial interest in an LDC that was given for an example in Crays Hill.
- (iii) It was agreed for the Clerk to purchase the Standing Orders booklet at a cost of £21.00. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

#### **07/02 DOG AND LITTER BINS**

It was **agreed** for the Clerk to write to B.D.C. to request a site visit and map of locations of dog and litter bins in the area.

#### **08/02 FLOWER TROUGHS**

As per agenda item 100/01.

#### **09/02 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

Update on issues:

- (a) Gardiners Lane North – issue resolved.
- (b) Hardings Elms Road – it was **agreed** for the Clerk to write to E.C.C. for an update on the plans for this road, particularly in relation to speed restrictions and signs to indicate sharp bend.

- (c) Oak Road – Clerk to request an update on the situation for the remainder of the road to be resurfaced.
- (d) London Road – it was **agreed** for the Clerk to write to the local Police for enforcement of speeding within the Parish, especially London Road and Gardiners Lane North.
- (e) Oak Avenue – concerns in relation to the walkthrough were noted.
- (f) Gardiners Lane North – approach from Southend Road – situation regarding parked cars is now resolved.

It was **agreed** for the Clerk to contact B.T. to request the removal of posters on the telephone box.

**10/02 CRAYS HILL NATURE RESERVE**

The offer to open discussions again with from B.D.C. regarding the future of Crays Hill Nature Reserve was **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr. Reeve and seconded by Cllr. Lucas. The Clerk will write to Cllr. Sargent and cc Cllr. Ball.

**11/02 OAK ROAD**

It was **agreed** for the Clerk to write to Cllr. Ball and cc Ward Councillors and MP Ann Baron to request:

Reference the last meeting with members of the Parish Council. Why hasn't the 28 days notice been served re the illegal travellers at Dale Farm? Is the outstanding homelessness issue having a detrimental effect in the proceedings?

**12/02 CLERK**

The annual salary and allowance on Clerk's anniversary as per contract of employment no. 6. It was proposed to increase the Clerk's NALC salary scale from SCP 17 to for SCP 18 in line with Clerk's contract no. 7 on attainment of achievement of CiLCA effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Reeve – **agreed**.

**13/02 ESSEX SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN 2009 – 2014**

The plan had only just been received by the Council and it was **agreed** to defer comment until the May meeting.

**14/02 PLANNING**

The current receipt of plans from B.D.C. for future applications was reviewed and at present **agreed** to continue to be sent to the Chairman for a review later.

**Decision:**

**Application No: 10/00080/FULL.** Retain single storey rear extension.

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

**Session opened 09.30**

**Session closed 09:33**

**15/02 FINANCES:**

**Cheques agreed for payment:**

Mrs. G. Bassett – April Salary/expenses	£ 308.14
EALC – annual subscription	£ 284.85
SLCC – half payment with Shotgate Parish Council	£ 59.00
AON Insurance – (incl. £4.00 increase for fencing in Play Area)	£ 654.71
Proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Reeve.	

**16/02 CORRESPONDENCE:**

For information only:

Basildon District Council

Audit and Risk Committee Minutes 25.03.10  
Council Minutes 18.02.10  
Overview and Scrutiny Commission  
Essex County Council  
Letter regarding Parish Transport Representative invitations - 06.04.10

**17/02 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

None.

**18/02 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 at 7.30 p.m. at the Church Hall, Crays Hill.

***MEETING CLOSED AT 09:36 P.M.***

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