

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 18TH JANUARY 2012 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Parish Clerk – Georgina Bassett

Six members of the public

Two members of the police

1/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apology for absence received from Cllr. Allen and later from Cllr. Sargent.

2/12 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

3/12 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December, 2011 and 14th December, 2011 were **agreed** as an accurate record of the meetings.

4/12 PUBLIC SESSION

(a) No members of the Parish Council to be heard.

(b) No members of the Public to be heard.

(c) Essex Police provided an update on incidents within Ramsden Crays and incidents within Crouch Ward.

Hardings Elms Road – speed cauldron in at Ramsden Crays – update to be received prior to next meeting.

(d) No reports received from Essex County Council by District/Basildon Borough Council Ward Councillors.

5/12 FINANCE

The payments of the following were **agreed**:

Clerk Salary/Expenses - January £331.31

Total £331.31

Proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Lucas – **agreed**.

6/12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications:

Application No: 11/01239/FULL. Taurgo, Church Road, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex. No comment not in Ramsden Crays.

Application No: 11/01254/LDC. To establish the lawfulness of two single storey side extensions.

Location: Westview, Oak Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

No comment.

Planning Appeal: Appeal Reference: APP/V1505/A/11/2163607.

Location: Plot 31, Land Adjacent Dale Farm, Oak Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay.

Respond to Basildon the same as previously. Write to Basildon that residents have not received notification of this.

Application No: 11/00891/LDC. To establish the lawfulness of the proposed siting of a mobile home in the residential cartilage of Hope Cottage of use incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house.

Location: Hope Cottage, Bury Farm Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

Application No: 11/01202/FULL. Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Location: 1 High View Rise, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

7/12 RE-SITING OF STONE MEMORIAL – WOODEN MEMORIAL

Update from the Working Party on:

- (i) Letter to be sent to solicitor acting for the resident donating the land and requesting costings if the Parish Council appoint them.

Funding – Memorial Association in Wickford – general funding to be considered in further detail.

Bradford's Memorial have assisted with picture design on larger scale. Consideration from Crays Hill Primary school to provide a design for this.

Location for display of the retained Wooden Memorial to be considered. Consideration displayed at the Annual Remembrance Sunday.

Enquiry from Working Party whether or not the Parish Council can incorporate the details from this onto the new memorial.

- (ii) Clerk to contact BBC Planning Department, finalizing permission for this memorial.

8/12 DALE FARM

The latest situation from Basildon Borough Council on the eviction situation within the Parish of Ramsden Crays was noted. Clerk to request minutes of the meeting held in January between Councillors and Basildon Council.

Parish Council confirmed despite the eviction, not pleased with all the actions following on from this, including: timescales, clarity on outstanding issues and on receipt of the minutes will review this.

Currently an issue with electricity that has been ordered to be installed for three of the sites by the judge in the High Court that complies with the action agreed at the ruling.

9/12 CHURCH HALL

- (i) Basildon Borough Council Legal Department have no additional advice in relation to the Church regarding land/premises to be sold and proceeds that might be legally available to the Parish.
- (ii) In response from Diocese to replacement Hall for use of the community was noted and the Clerk to write and request when the Diocese will be consulting the parishioners within the parish of Ramsden Crays, when these funds are available as to what they would like the net capital to be utilized for.
- (iii) The latest action from the Diocese to complete weed cutting along railings and general upkeep at Church Hall was considered. Weeds retained along the railings, rubbish, grass not cut at the Church Hall. Clerk to contact them about this and request a timescale for this restored to a suitable condition.

10/12 PLANTING WITHIN RAMSDEN CRAYS

- (i) Update on latest planting information within Ramsden Crays. Completed at sign from Wickford – shrubs and bulbs and bulbs installed at the banking near Crays Hill Primary School near the electricity source.
- (ii) Various trees available from Crays Hill Primary School were on display at the meeting. These will require watering and maintaining. The Parish Council to assist with details in the Newsletter enquiring if residents could make use of these. Subject to response, liaise with the School – Parish Council re delivery and inserting in the ground.

11/12 CONSERVATION AREA (NATURE RESERVE)

Pathway route cut through to near the toilets by Basildon Council and the metal bar has been cut. The pond is very overgrown and requires attention around the edges and within the pond. Clerk to contact Basildon to confirm when an inspection of maintenance is due and to thank them for their efforts to date.

12/12 TRAFFIC RESTRICTION - IMPROVEMENTS

- (i) Hardings Elms Road.
In excess of 300 signatures delivered to John Baron MP requesting reducing to 30 mph and is being reviewed by the MP, Cllr. Sargent and the Police.

Drainage of Hardings Elms Road now silted up. Cllr. Sargent is liaising with ECC/Highways to have them unblocked.

Elm Farm Nursery to receive a thank you letter for assisting in the receipt of signatures for the speed restriction request.
- (ii) Pipp's Hill Road – North Crays Hill
As per above.

13/12 FOOTPATH 69 - KISSING GATE

Latest information from Essex County Council Highways on the enforcement action against a resident to provide a gate that the enforcement is still ongoing.

Footpath 71 - Gardiners Lane to the Shepherd and Dog exit – blocked by a tree.
Footpath 70 – separate blockage. Clerk to inform relevant authority.

14/12 VILLAGE SIGN

Cllr. McPherson-Davis updated members that a local tradesman will shortly view and provide a quotation.

15/12 APPRAISAL FORM

To review an appraisal form for completion by the Parish Council on the Clerk prior to the March meeting – **agreed**.

16/12 FINANCIAL PROCEDURES – INTERNAL AUDIT

- (i) The amendment to the financial procedures was reviewed. It was **agreed** that the five amendments be put under 6.3 and when initial invoices are signed to date as well.
- (ii) The assets register including the four bus shelters, notice board were reviewed and will be looked at in more detail at the insurance renewal later in the year.

17/12 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING

No further update on actions from last meeting.

18/12 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Nothing to add for agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting, ABLC representative or items for members attending Basildon Borough Council Pre-Liaison Meeting.

19/12 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. McPherson-Davis provided an update on the Liaison Meeting on 3rd January at Basildon. Issues on agenda were Standards Board – seminar on Thursday 19th January. Play Rangers request for this to be continued. Queens Diamond Jubilee proposals for a beacon or bonfire on that day in the local parishes. Consideration for Ramsden Crays – next agenda item.

No additional reports from councillors on any meetings they have attended or updates, since the last meeting.

20/12 CORRESPONDENCE

For information only:

Essex County Council

Bus Passenger News December 2011/January 2012 – Essex Works

General

Campaign to Protect Rural England – Winter 2011.

EALC Briefing Paper – Excessive Rises in Council Tax and the Application of a Local Referendum

Communities and Local Government – Council Tax Referendums – 16.12.11

21/12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Members of the public raised issues:

Resident enquired whether Dale Farm will be a Compulsory Purchase or is it a rumour. Parish Council was not able to confirm or deny this.

Resident enquired when the minutes have been received from the January meeting with Basildon, would there be consideration for a meeting for all residents to review this and invite residents, Ward, District Councillors and MP – John Baron.

Enquiry on the update of the planning application at the Church Hall in Ramsden Crays. Parish Council unable to confirm whether or not any decision had been made by Basildon for this application.

Enquiry about the funding for parishioners from the Church Hall was made and this was reiterated with minutes in 9/12 (ii).

22/12 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd February, 2012 at 7.30 p.m. at Crays Hill Primary School.

Meeting Closed at 08:55 p.m.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): DATE: