

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL, CRAYS HILL ON WEDNESDAY 23RD FEBRUARY, 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Georgina Bassett – Clerk to the Council

2 members of the public

1 member of the press

2 Police Officers

23/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. Reeve, Cllr. Pummell, Cllr. Sargent and Cllr. Allen.

24/11 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

25/11 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January, 2011 were considered and it was **agreed** that they were a true and accurate account of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Lucas.

07:35 p.m.

26/11 PRESENTATION – BILLERICAY POLICE

A presentation was given by two Police Officers from the Billericay area on issues within the Parish.

Six crimes:

Burglary – other, burglary dwelling, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle and one assault.

Police support the Parish Council's request in relation to the 30mph speed limit to be moved near to junction with Hardings Elms Road to assist with the reduction of speed. The Parish Council is going to respond to a letter received in the negative format from E.C.C. The Police will support in a letter and in a possible meeting with E.C.C. and a member of the Parish Council.

Beat Surgeries are now held at the Shepherd and Dog Public House – 23rd March at 3.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. outside of licensing hours. Then the one after on 18th April. Ramsden Bellhouse Surgery will be in the local Hall – Saturday 26th March at 9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

Neighbourhood Action Panel next meeting on Thursday 24th March 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. in Steepleview Memorial Hall. Speeding and anti-social behaviour are the two main current issues for consideration.

Two Police Constables and a Sergeant are now available to assist at Ramsden Crays.

27/11 PUBLIC SESSION

- (a) Members with a prejudicial interest – none.
- (b) Public to be heard.
Resident commented on an article in the Echo of 23.02.11 on the European Welfare Team to visit Dale Farm to receive comments at the site.
- (c) Essex County Council by District/Basildon Borough Council Ward Councillors Reports – none.

28/11 FINANCE

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

Clerk's salary – expenses – February 2011	£312.23
Cllr. A. Peake – train fare	£ 19.30
Total	£331.53

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

29/11 CHURCH HALL

- (i) The latest correspondence received from the solicitors in relation to ownership of the Church Hall and surrounding land was that they await the instructions from their client as to the information to be provided to the Parish Council.
- (ii) The update on the siting for the memorials was received from Cllr. Peake. A site visit was arranged with the gentleman who has offered the land. He is prepared to put a wall up on his land near the bench overlooking the fields view. It was proposed and **agreed** to write to him and ask for the feasibility to purchase the land to secure it for the future.
- (iii) Further information was received on the storage/insurance information from Essex County Hall on the two memorials. Cllr. Peake confirmed there will be no charge for storage. To date E.C.C. to confirm suitable company to remove the memorial from the wall. The Parish Council to enquire of a local stone mason.

30/11 DALE FARM

- (i) The information received on legal sites at Dale Farm from the meeting at Basildon Borough Council offices on 20th January, 2011 was noted.

Letter to be sent to John Baron MP cc Tony Ball re Echo article of 23rd February with concerns regarding:

- (i) The European Welfare Team only visiting the travellers for their point of view and not the settled community.
- (ii) No alternative sites were considered at the meeting.
- (ii) Request his view/comments about the article in general.
- (ii) The information received on the meeting attended with Basildon Borough Council, Travellers and MP John Baron in Westminster regarding the eviction was noted.

31/11 OAK ROAD

- (i) The current situation to the deterioration of the road and date of proposed resurface of Oak Road was noted that it will now be resurfaced later in the year. Correspondence to be sent to E.C.C. on two major pot holes that are currently causing serious damage – 100 yards east of Oak Lane outside Esperanza.
- (ii) The update to the situation of the previously missing 30 mph signs in Oak Road was noted – E.C.C. is liaising with Cllr. Reeve on this.

32/11 NATURE RESERVE

Cllr. Peake confirmed he met with B.B.C. Officers. A request made for the Clerk to write to have a path cut through the area. Proposed by Cllr. Peake seconded by Cllr. Borer – it was **agreed**.

33/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications:

11/00149/FULL. Demolish existing bungalow and construction of detached two storey house.

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

The Parish Council was unable to consider without sight of the plans. It requests an extension as it is concerned that it is on Green Belt land. It would like reassurance that it is within the permitted development size and that certain conditions are attached.

A late application was notified to the Parish Council at Gardiners View to demolish existing building. The Parish Council has requested an extension to respond.

Decisions:

10/10306/FULL. Single storey front extension.

Location: Ashbourne, Southlands Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

34/11 HARDINGS ELMS ROAD – TRAFFIC RESTRICTION

A meeting is requested with E.C.C. and the Police to discuss this in more detail.

35/11 PLANTING WITHIN RAMSDEN CRAYS

An update was received on planting within the village following a site visit with officers from Basildon Borough Council and Cllr. Peake. Specific areas for planting to include:

- Two areas either side of Church lane junction – Western side around notice board; and eastern side around bench.
- Area on either side of bus shelter on London Road.
- Area west of Corner Road around bench.
- Bus shelter in front of Crays Hill Primary School.
- Entrance from Wickford by the gates to electricity sub-station.

Crays Hill School confirmed it would be pleased to be involved in this project outside of the school fence. Parish Council to consider for the future some trees planting by the school.

36/11 CRAYS HILL RECREATION CAR PARK

An update was received on request to improvements to the road surface. This is currently being considered by Basildon Borough Council budget for 2011 - 2012. The Clerk to contact Cllr. Allen and Cllr. Sargent to update them that the Parish Council is still awaiting a reply on this request.

37/11 FOOTPATH 69 - KISSING GATE

Correspondence received from Highways was noted that landowner requested to install a suitable date.

38/11 PLAY EQUIPMENT – CRAYS HILL PARK AREA

Two quotations for a roundabout in the park received from Cllr. McPherson-Davis:

- (i) Nearest the road way, currently a seat and a litter bin in this location which can be moved. Supplier - Hags for a smaller and younger age range with cost just over £8,000.00 including moving of the bin.
- (ii) Compan – larger roundabout cost £9,300.00 including installation. Recommendation by Cllr. McPherson-Davis apply to Viola for larger one with the Parish Council contributing £1,000.00. The proposal was **agreed** and the application will be sent.

39/11 RECYCLING BOTTLE BANKS IN CRAYS HILL RECREATION AREA CAR PARK

The condition of the clothes and bottle bank recycling containers in recreation area was reviewed. Concern about the smashed bottles, rubbish. Clerk to write to B.B.C. requesting this area to be tidied and the containers emptied more frequently.

40/11 REFUSE COLLECTION

The timetables for refuse collection within the Parish have been received. The litter bin at A129 has now been installed. Clerk to request additional bins to be provided by B.B.C. in the recycling area.

41/11 COURTAULD ROAD

No update has been received to date on the situation at Courtauld Road. Clerk to contact Cllr. Don Morris and enquire what is the update on the situation and the future for this area.

42/11 INSURANCE

The letter from a different insurance company was considered for comparison with current insurers. It was **agreed** for the Clerk to make enquiries with this company.

43/11 EMERGENCY PLANNING ARRANGEMENTS

The information received from Basildon Borough Council on Emergency Planning from the presentation given at B.B.C. offices on 22nd February for the way forward for parish and town councils was considered. The Parish Council will include information on this in the next newsletter, suggesting residents sign up to the Warn and Inform and asking residents to contact B.B.C. to volunteer to assist in emergency situations.

44/11 CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Correspondence received from Essex County Council in relation to non attendance at Crays Hill Primary School was noted.

45/11 VILLAGE SIGN

The condition of the sign for a general inspection/clean and to consider the fungi on the sign was discussed and it was **agreed** that the Parish Council will review for future repairs.

46/11 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING

An update on actions from last meeting was noted.

47/11 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting – to consider funding items.

Update was provided by Cllr. Lucas - ABLC representative.

48/11 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Reports from councillors on any meetings they have attended or updates, since the last meeting were noted from:

Cllr. Andrew Peake – Meeting at Westminster and additional one on 1st March 2011.
Cllr. David McPherson-Davis – funding.
Cllr. John Lucas – Basildon Borough Council Liaison Meeting – Emergency Planning and the Charter.

49/11 CORRESPONDENCE:

For information only:

BBC

Cabinet Minutes 13.01.11, 27.01.11

Council Minutes 09.12.11

Development Control and Traffic Management Committee Minutes 11.01.11, 25.01.11

Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Minutes 23.11.10

Overview and Scrutiny Commission 21.12.10

ECC

Bus Passenger News January 2011/February 2011

County Update January 2011

Transport Representative Changes to the Liaison Team

Essex Works

Making the Links – January 2011

Highways and Transportation Update

General

The Playing Field

CLLP Network Event – 5th March, 211

Groundwork South Essex

Essex Libraries

Warm and Healthy Homes Partnership

EALC bulletin

50/11 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Members of the public raised issues not relating to agenda items on:

- (i) Oak Road/Oak Lane – holes urgently required to be repaired for emergency services.
- (ii) Grant to Viola for roundabout – request for another item for the Parish from Basildon Borough Council from the new Community Initiatives Fund when it is available.
- (iii) Request whether or not the meeting on 1st March with John Baron MP is a private or public meeting. It was confirmed that it is a private meeting.

51/11 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th March, 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at Crays Hill Primary School.

MEETING CLOSED AT 09:13 P.M.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): DATE: