

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2013 AT 7.30 P.M. AT CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: A. Peake, T. Borer, D. McPherson-Davis, N. Flint and S. Aungier

Two members of the public

No representatives of the press

**99/13 PRESENTATION – POLICE:**

P.C. Wyn Sharp apologies unable to attend. The Clerk will request the statistics.

**100/13 APOLOGIES:**

Apologies of attendance received from Cllr. S. Allen – Basildon Borough Council and Cllr. Nigel Le Gresley – Essex County Council and Cllr. Sargent, Basildon Borough Council.

**01/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Aungier and seconded by Cllr. Peake – **agreed**.

**02/13 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:**

No "non-pecuniary" or other interests relating to items on the agenda were received.

**03/13 PUBLIC SESSION:**

- (a) No members of the public heard.
- (b) No Essex or Borough Councillors.

**04/13 FINANCE:**

Bank Statements - noted:

Current Account:	£7,043.98 – at 30.09.13
Project Account:	£1,877.28 – at 30.09.13
Sign Account:	£ 214.98 – at 30.09.13
Working Account:	£1,598.48 – at 30.09.13

Payments of the following were **agreed**:

October Clerk - RFO Salary/Expenses	£320.09
Internal Auditor fees – Heelis & Lodge	£115.00
External Auditor fees – PKF Littlejohn LLP	£120.00
EALC – 10 Good Councillor Guide 4 <sup>th</sup> Edition	£20.00

Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Flint – **agreed**.

- (i) Internal Audit. The report and effectiveness of the audit were considered amendment has been made as suggested. It was decided not to update any accounts issues.  
The Parish Council **agreed** to appoint Heelis & Lodge as the internal auditor for 2013 – 2014. Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Borer for the above issues.

- (ii) Fixed Assets Register was reviewed for replacement insurance value for 2014/15. It was requested for an up to date evaluation on replacement of the bus shelters and for it to be deferred. Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint – **agreed**.

**05/13 PRECEPT/BUDGET 2014/15:**

It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Borer to defer to November meeting to review figures for recommendation to the Parish Council and then submission to Basildon Borough Council for 2014/15 precept and budget forecast.

**06/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**Application: 13/00917/FULL.** Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of one 4-bedroom house.

**Location:** Lensell, Gardiners Lane North, Billericay, Essex.  
The Parish Council has no objection.

**Application: 13/00961/FULL.** Cessation of lawful commercial operations including waste storage.

**Location:** Land adjacent to Whites Bridge Cottage, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.  
The Parish Council has no objection for the building on green belt on the basis that a commercial operation is removed and subsequently less heavy vehicles within the Parish.

**07/13 STONE MEMORIAL – WOODEN MEMORIAL:**

- (i) It was **agreed** for the formal ceremony to be deferred until it is complete with the marble surround.
- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint that for the moment in time the wooden memorial remains in storage.
- (iii) Cllr. Peake confirmed the plan for the stone memorial surround has been sent to the contractor, awaiting price costing and new design.
- (iv) It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Borer to authorize the Parish Clerk to complete the funding application to Veolia Thames Trust when the costings and design have been returned up to the cost of £9,000.00  
The Parish Council will contribute £1,000.00 towards this application.

**08/13 CHURCH HALL:**

- (i) The solicitors – Winckworth Sherwood have spoken with the Clerk, but to date the documentation has not been received regarding St. Marys Church Hall, Crays Hill, Ramsden Crays an additional letter has now been sent.

Cllr. Peake provided information to state that the church hall is owned by Great Burstead diocese and he will try to have a meeting with them on this issue. A sold sign board has been placed in the church yard. The Clerk to write to the Diocese that a third party is interested in purchasing the church to remain as a hall instead of two houses, which would be preferable as this would enable the facility to be used for the local community as a hall.

- (ii) The condition of the grass/weeds within the Church boundaries has yet to be cleared. The Clerk to liaise further with the diocese.

**09/13 HIGHWAYS:**

- (i) Improvement to rubbish removal within Oak Lane – has yet to be resolved.
- (ii) Progress on the list provided for ECC Highways Panel has yet to be received.
- (iii) Basildon Borough Council has agreed for a representative of the Parish

- Councils to attend ECC Highways Panel.
- (iv) Cllr. Peake's update with John Baron MP on: (i) incomplete resurfacing of Oak Road by ECC Highways – there has been some infill; (ii) reduced speeding in Hardings Elms Road, confirmation received that this will be resolved within 4 months; and (iii) drains in Hardings Elms Road yet to be resolved. Clerk to liaise with Ward Councillors.
  - (v) Essex County Councillors have been requested for their support in the increase in potholes throughout the Parish, considering the major risk to motorists. The large pot hole at Gardiners Lane North has been repaired. The Pot hole opposite Oak Avenue hazardous, councillors to be requested to support for repair.
  - (vi) ECC - overgrown area with barbed wire at Oak Avenue from Oak Road end to Hemmings end. Not yet cleared. Clerk to chase.
  - (vii) Conditions of pathways in the village, especially from the Shepherd and Dog Public House to Gardiners Lane. Yet to be repaired. Clerk to request again.

**10/13 DALE FARM:**

Oral hearing scheduled for end of October at the High Court.

**11/13 SIGN PARK:**

Basildon requested ECC to install the sign to indicate Ramsden Crays park. Awaiting further confirmation from ECC.

**12/13 VEOLIA – HAVERING RIVERSIDE TRUST:**

Zip wire scheduled to be received by supplier early November, installation to be arranged shortly afterwards.

**13/13 HALL HIRE – 2014:**

- (i) No additional information received from Crays Hill Primary School. Cllr. Sargent will report back after a meeting with the School in relation to security to access building for meetings in the school hall effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014.
- (ii) It was **agreed** to defer the option to meet at Ramsden Bellhouse on Thursday evenings and commencement date.

**14/13 VILLAGE SIGN – RAMSDEN CRAYS:**

Update on costings etc. from Cllr. Peake/Flint for the sign – was agreed to defer.

**15/13 NOTICE BOARD:**

Cllr. Peake reported that Cllr. Flint has treated the board to a coat of paint. The plaque will be put on shortly.

**16/13 TRAINING DATE:**

It was confirmed that Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. at Shotgate is the training date.

**17/13 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING:**

Update on actions from last meeting were noted.

**18/13 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**

No additional agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting, ABLC representative or items for members attending B.B.C. Liaison Meeting.

**19/13 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

AGM EALC – 26<sup>th</sup> September Cllr. McPherson-Davis attended with an update of the AGM.

**20/13 CORRESPONDENCE:**

Information received noted.

**21/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

Members of the public raised issues not on the agenda:

- (i) Hedges to be cut in the Parish including Oak Road.
- (ii) Entrance to Crays Hill Road, trees over the lights.
- (iii) Trees at the junction of the main road. Foliage on the main road and the speed signs to be cut back.
- (iv) Rubbish in the park to be removed regularly by the recycling area in the car park by Ramsden Crays Park.
- (v) Nuisance behaviour in the park. Police to lock car park at night to be secure.
- (vi) Pathway park foliage to be cut back.

The Parish Clerk will request that all these issues are resolved.

**22/13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of Ramsden Crays Parish Council will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. at Crays Hill Primary School.

**Meeting ended at 8.26 p.m.**

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