

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 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

One member of the public

P.C. Wyn Sharp

No representatives of the press

54/13 PRESENTATION – POLICE:

Update on issues within Ramsden Crays received from P.C. Wyn Sharp. Statistics received on burglary increase within the area.

55/13 APOLOGIES:

No apologies received.

56/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th November, 2013 were approved after Cllr. Peake proposed to change the minutes that the Parish Council decided to reject the proposal to request a retraction from the local newspaper in 31/13 (iii). This was seconded by Cllr. Borer. It was put to the vote and **agreed** to be amended. Cllr. McPherson-Davis requested to note on record that he was against this amendment. **The Clerk confirmed she would note on record that she was not in agreement with the amendment. Four councillors agreed that proposed and seconded.**

57/13 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:

There were no "non-pecuniary" or other interests relating to items on the agenda.

58/13 PUBLIC SESSION:

A resident who had attended the November meeting, confirmed that there had not been a vote at the November meeting on agenda item 31/13(iii) as there had not been a decision for anything further on this in relation to the war memorial.

59/13 FINANCE:

Bank Statements:

Current Account at 30.11.13 – combined all 4 accounts: £14,771.90

Less payment of £12,738.44 = £2,033.46 and £7,000.00 = £9,033.46 were noted.

Payments of the following were considered:

December Clerk - RFO Salary/Expenses £ 352.69

Post Office – HMRC Tax £ 220.71

Zip Wire – Palmer and Sons – previous cheque agreed.

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

Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Borer to pay

Ramsden Crays Primary School January 2014 £ 60.00

Update on the recommended accredited bank transfer of £5,000.00 received that the bank despite numerous follow ups by the Clerk she had not been contacted to sort out the paperwork.

Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint for the Clerk to make enquiries of another bank and subject to practicalities of signatories etc. to open up account – **agreed.**

60/13 PRECEPT/BUDGET 2014/15:

The 2014/15 budget forecast deferred as Basildon Borough Council not yet confirmed the grant funding situation.

61/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Application: 13/01121/FULL. Ground, first and two storey extensions to dwelling house and demolition of existing detached garage and construction of a new detached garage.

Location: Rectory, Church Lane, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.

Decision requested by 11th December, 2013.

No objections.

Decided:

Application 13/00993/FULL. Replacement of existing dwelling house with new dwelling house.

Location: Cuillins, Gardiners Lane North, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

62/13 STONE MEMORIAL SURROUND:

Veolia Thames Trust confirmed it had received the application and will be considered in January 2014.

63/13 CHURCH HALL:

- (i) The solicitor had been contacted via the Clerk to request the information from the diocese solicitors on St. Marys Church Hall, Crays Hill, Ramsden Crays. To date nothing had been forthcoming.
- (ii) It was noted that the condition of the grass/weeds within the Church boundaries following another request to the diocese to improve this area had not been cleared.

64/13 HIGHWAYS:

The following updates from Highways and District Councillors were reviewed:

- (i) Improvement to rubbish removal within Oak Road – resolved.
- (ii) Progress on the list provided for ECC Highways Panel.
- (iii) Incomplete resurfacing of Oak Road.
- (iv) Clearance of drains in Hardings Elms Road.
- (v) Update from Essex County Councillors for support in the increase in potholes throughout the Parish, considering the major risk to motorists. Large pothole opposite Oak Avenue.
- (vi) Overgrown area with barbed wire at Oak Avenue from Oak Road end to Hemmings end.
- (vii) Conditions of pathways in the village, especially from the Shepherd and Dog Public House to Gardiners Lane.
- (viii) Update on the installation of a sign to indicate Crays Hill park.
- (ix) Hedges to be cut back within the Parish, including Oak Road.
- (x) Foliage/trees to be cut back at the entrance to Crays Hill Road and trees blocking lighting.
- (xi) Trees at the junction of the main road. Foliage on the main road and by the speed signs to be cut back.
- (xii) Rubbish by the recycling area in the car park by Ramsden Crays car park to

- be cut back.
(xiii) Pathway to the park foliage to be cut back.

Items (ii) onwards, to be deferred to the next Parish Council meeting with the exception of (viii) onwards which are to be considered for more detailed review.

The Clerk to write to John Baron and thank him for the update received on the situation of the 40 mph speed limit, A129 Southend Road, Crays Hill and to raise various questions in relation to the consultation process and the resolution of this.

65/13 DALE FARM:

It was noted that Basildon Borough Council had provided various dates for a meeting. The Clerk to advise that members request Wednesday 29th January, 2014.

66/13 VEOLIA – HAVERING RIVERSIDE TRUST:

The zip wire has been installed in the park area. Basildon is covering the insurance for this and arrangements to be made of an official opening date with Veolia, the Mayor of Basildon and Parish Councillors. The Clerk will liaise and ask them for suitable dates.

67/13 HALL HIRE – 2014:

- (i) Confirmation that Wednesday 15th January, 2014 was suitable to the school for use between 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. at a cost of £60.00 for security and thereafter during 2014, once a month with the exception of August had not been received by the Governors. The Clerk was instructed to write with a cheque for £60.00 requesting Wednesday 15th January, 2014 for the next meeting.
- (ii) The option of Ramsden Bellhouse hall for Thursday evenings and commencement date was deferred subject to confirmation above.

68/13 VILLAGE SIGN – RAMSDEN CRAYS:

Update on costings, measurements and ordering of the village sign:

Confirmation received that the sign had been removed from the post. Measurements for the sign have been provided to the company, costings to date received were in excess of £2,000.00.

Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint that we delay ordering the sign and take up the offer of local resident for a prototype – **agreed**.

The Clerk to contact the school to enquire if there is a record of the sign to assist with a prototype as the school designed the village sign.

69/13 NOTICE BOARD:

Cllr. Flint confirmed an additional coat of saddling was put on the notice board. The name plate will shortly be fitted.

70/13 PARK SIGN – CRAYS HILL RECREATION GROUND:

- (i) Basildon Borough Council is reviewing the request for a sign indicating the location of the park area for installation for the use of the general public.
- (ii) The local Police confirmed unable to lock this area at night time to assist with the reduction of the nuisance behaviour in the park during the evenings.

71/13 PROGRESS CHECK FROM LAST MEETING:

Update on actions from last meeting were noted.

72/13 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

Cllr. McPherson-Davis, ABLC representative confirmed that Cllr. Rodney Bass in charge of Highways. The speed limit review for Ramsden Crays has been completed and priorities will be confirmed throughout the Borough in the near future.

Guidelines distributed to District and the Parish Councils confirmed they will have a representative attend on behalf of Basildon on the Highways Panel, but without a vote.

7th January, 2014 is the next ABLC meeting date.

73/13 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:

External reports noted.

74/13 CORRESPONDENCE:

Information received noted.

75/13 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Members of the public to raise issues not on the agenda:

Residents enquired as to the response to earlier enquiry regarding the trees and the power cables at Oak Road joining Gardiners Lane North. Unfortunately this situation has not been resolved. The Clerk will continue to pursue.

76/13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of Ramsden Crays Parish Council is scheduled to be on Wednesday 15th January, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at Crays Hill Primary School.

Meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): DATE: