

MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER, 2014 AT 7.00 P.M. AT CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRESENT:

Councillors: A. Peake – Chairman, T. Borer, D. McPherson-Davis and S. Aungier

2 members of the public

No representatives of the press

Cllr. M. Buckley – ECC

Cllr. T. Sargent – Basildon Borough Council

05/14 APOLOGIES:

Apologies for non-attendance to the meeting received from Cllr. Le Gresley.

06/14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th September, 2014 were agreed as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. McPherson-Davis – **agreed**.

07/14 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:

No members with declarations of interest.

08/14 PUBLIC SESSION:

(a) Resident raised issue on Hardings Elms Road, opposite Wash road. Flooding due to drains required to be cleared. Cllr. Buckley will pursue this issue.

(b) Cllr. Buckley – Pot holes project deal with 100 worst roads in each District or Borough. Defined by the most complaints as the worst. The roads in these locations are being resurfaced. Targeted on PR1 and PR2, main roads and access roads. Additional 20 million injected into this project. The Care Bill comes into effect in April 2015. The cost to clients can be deferred, resulting in council tax pressures to Essex County Council.

09/14 FINANCE:

Payments of the following were **agreed**:

Parish Clerk – expenses and salary October 2014	£	395.28
PKF Littlejohn (external auditors)	£	120.00
EALC – AGM – Great Dunmow - £2.50 each attendee	£	2.50
Bradford Memorials Ltd (when completed)	£	10,320.00
Insurance – stone wall – war memorial Aon UK Ltd	£	30.36
Election Day – training session – 13 th November (1/2 Shotgate)	£	30.00
Annual Networking Event SLCC – 4 th November (1/2 Shotgate)	£	5.00
Local Councils Explained NALC booklet (1/2 Shotgate)	£	25.00

The bank balance up to 30th September, 2014 for the Co-operative at £2.95 and the Barclays Bank accounts = £9,500.48.

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

10/14 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Applications:

Dhamma Land – Planning Conditions

The Parish Council reviewed the planning conditions for Dhamma Land. Letter to be sent to Planning Basildon Borough Council request send to the Planning Committee.

Application No: 14/00087/FULL. Revised application to replace a residential/farm building on the site with a 3 bed bungalow.

Location: Aldersfelde, Oak Lane, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

Comments received from Cllr. C. Morris on this planning application were noted.

Government Consultations – Planning – Travellers Proposed Changes to Planning Policy and Guidance

This consultation was reviewed and it was **agreed** that this is deferred to an extraordinary meeting.

Crays Hill – Ramsden Crays

The name change of Crays Hill to Ramsden Crays and consultation with residents was considered. It was **agreed** to put this out for consultation on the next newsletter.

11/14 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

- (i) Additional update on the village sign on the plinth being repaired and Basildon Borough Councils report on time scale/plans. Clerk to ask Basildon.
- (ii) The stone wall should be completed by the 24th October. Funding of £7,400.00 has been received from Veolia and our thanks conveyed to them. It was agreed for the stone wall to be insured for the week commencing 20th October.

12/14 HIGHWAYS:

- (i) No additional information on a supplier and its costs to clean/maintain the bus shelters within Ramsden Crays has been provided by Basildon Borough Council. Clerk will pursue this further.
- (ii) It was noted that Cllr. Buckley and Cllr. Le Gresley have supported the Highways issues and are liaising with the Parish Council. Street lighting issues are being repaired.
- (iii) Overgrown hedges and footpaths from London Road to Ramsden Bellhouse along Church Lane. GPO concrete cover hidden beneath weeds by the bridge along Church Road. Concern regarding raised drain cover in the path near the bus stop along the London Road between Gardiners Lane North and the Elm Farm Shop.
- (iv) Pot holes in Gardiners Lane North – resulted in new car having a puncture. Request to discourage huge vehicles that plough down Ramsden Crays Roads.
- (v) Gardiners Lane North – increase in heavy goods vehicles and request to have this monitored. Investigation being considered for a weight limit of 7.5 tonnes throughout Essex.
- (vi) Gardiners Lane North – drains flooding as foliage blocking water exit.

Issues (ii) – (vi) to be taken up with Basildon Borough and Essex County Council via Ward and County Councillors.

- 13/14 DALE FARM:**
No additional information received from Basildon Borough Council.
- 14/14 WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981, SECTION 53 – RAMSDEN CRAYS FOOTPATH 78:**
A definitive map and consideration of a possible drafting error in the historic process was reviewed. The Parish Council is deferring its response until the next meeting.
- 15/14 CALOO EQUIPMENT – RAMSDEN CRAYS PARK:**
The Parish Council confirmed the costing of £9,995.00 excluding VAT for 8 pieces of equipment (with a grant of £5,000.00 approved by ECC to be spent prior to 31st March, 2015) for the caloo equipment in the Park.

It **agreed** to go ahead with the order provided ECC can pay the funding just prior to installation.

Parish to enquire of additional funding if possible from another source.
- 16/14 STORAGE – FINANCE AND OTHER ISSUES:**
The costings received for storage of collective finance and other relevant documentation retained over the years at the Clerk's residence and costing for boxes to store at the site were considered. It was **agreed** to defer to the next meeting.
- 17/14 PRECEPT/BUDGET 2015/2016:**
Review of a working party to review costings and draft precept/budget for the Parish Council to finalise. To defer this to the next meeting.
- 18/14 COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014:**
The certified Annual Return was reviewed and a comment noted. No action required.
- 19/14 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**
To note the suggestions to Full Council on the revised models from the Working Party and to consider for adoption in revised mode or changes. Defer to the next meeting.
- 20/14 DATA PROTECTION OBLIGATIONS – PUBLICATION AND OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY POLICIES:**
The Parish Council considered these two policies for adoption and the completion of the signed publication document giving explicit consent prior to EALC using photographs on its website. Defer to the next meeting.
- 21/14 REVIEW OF STANDARDS ARRANGEMENTS – BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL:**
Consideration to respond to Basildon Council in relation to comments on the new standards arrangements that have been in place for over two years. Defer to the next meeting.
- 22/14 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**
To receive information from ABLC and Liaison Meeting.
- 23/14 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**
No additional information.
- 24/14 CORRESPONDENCE:**
Information received noted.
- 25/14 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**
Members of the public did not raise issues on items not on the agenda.

26/14 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

It is planned for an Extraordinary Meeting in October and the next meeting of Ramsden Crays Parish Council scheduled for Wednesday 19th November, 2014 is to be confirmed.

Meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): DATE: