

**MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE SHEPHERD AND  
DOG PUBLIC HOUSE, CRAYS HILL, RAMSDEN CRAYS**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Chairman A. Peake, D. McPherson-Davis, S. Aungier and N. Flint  
One member of the public.  
No representatives of the press.

**84/15 APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for non attendance from Cllr. Borer and Cllr. T. Sargent – Basildon Borough Council and Cllr. M. Buckley – Essex County Council.

**85/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Flint and Seconded by Cllr. Aungier – **agreed**.

**86/15 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:**

No declarations of interest either pecuniary or non-pecuniary.

**87/15 PUBLIC SESSION:**

- (a) No members of the public to be heard on items on the agenda.
- (b) No reports from Essex County Council or Basildon Borough Ward Councillors.

**88/15 FINANCE:**

The payments of the following were considered. Proposed by Cllr. Aungier and seconded by Cllr. McPherson-Davis to pay – **agreed**.

Clerk's Salary November	£417.07
The Shepherd and Dog – S137 Remembrance Service	£ 20.00
A. Peake x 2 wreaths – Remembrance Service - S137	£ 34.00

Ramsden Crays considered half payment with Shotgate Parish Council for the Transparency Code Training for the Clerk during December - £15.00. Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Aungier – **agreed**.

It was noted that the Parish Council may be eligible following the Transparency Code training to request funding. It was **agreed** for the Clerk to make further enquiries.

It was **agreed** that the bank statements were accurate:

Co-operative Account 31.10.15 = £2.95 Barclays Bank Account 31.10.15 = £9,146.24.

**89/15 INTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT:**

It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. McPherson-Davis – to appoint the internal auditor of A.S.A.P. office services at Chelmsford - **agreed**.

**90/15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**Application:**

**Application No: 15/01254/FULL.** Erection of a brick wall, brick piers and steel railings to the front boundary and a timer fence to the side boundary. Installation of new gates to create access to Weir Cottage and additional gates to existing access to factory units at rear.

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

No objection. Comment that the existing bungalow has not been demolished.

**Application No: 15/01270/FULL.** Demolition of existing bungalow and detached garage and construction of a three bedroom dwelling.

**Location:** The Willows, Crays Hill Road, Crays Hill, Essex.

No objection.

No further update with regard to the illuminated large sign displayed at Dhamma Land received. Clerk to enquire further of Cllr. Allen.

#### **91/15 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:**

- (i) Remembrance Service for November 2016 was well received by the community and Great Burstead Church Clergy invited to preside again in 2016.

Consideration for crosses to be put in troughs by the children.

School has requested photographs of the event please – Cllr. S. Aungier will forward.

Continue to plan in advance and invite officials for 2016.

- (ii) No additional response to invite for volunteers to sit on an association/steering group towards proposed funding for a village hall. Defer to a future newsletter – **agreed**.
- (iii) No bulb planting will happen in 2015 at the Corner of London Road and the Churchyard, but it is anticipated that bulbs will be planted by the Parish Council around the war memorial and in the Spring of 2016 Basildon Borough Council intend to plant.
- (iv) Essex County Fire and Rescue Service and Police – consideration of volunteers for the community for fire alarms etc. to be installed. **Agreed** to be put in the next newsletter.

#### **92/15 HIGHWAYS:**

- (i) Cllr. Lesley was unable to clarify the installation date by Highways of the 5 signs of “7.5 tonne weight restriction” as agreed at Panel for location at: A127 into Gardiners Lane North, A127 into Pippys Hill Road, A129 into Gardiners Lane North, A129 into Hardings Elms Road and Wash Road into Pippys Hill and Hardings Elms Road.
- (ii) No progress via Essex County Council at Hardings Elms Road, regarding the flattening of one bollard. Request county councillors to support the repair of this.
- (iii) Response from County Council (iii) on the Hardings Elms Road issue of lorries mounting the verge as a result of a narrow road is they are unable to widen the road to encompass the wider vehicles. (inform resident)
- (iv) No update received on the request to repair on the road/pavement potholes for wheelchair access along the London Road near the Shepherd and Dog.

#### **93/15 REVIEW OF DOCUMENTATION:**

The following were reviewed with minor amendments. It is proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Aungier to agree with these changes – **agreed**.

- (i) Financial Regulations.
- (ii) Standing Orders.

- (iii) Complaints against the Parish Council.
- (iv) Freedom of Information Act – Publication Scheme.
- (v) Risk Assessment – Clerk.
- (vi) Risk Assessment – Ramsden Crays.
- (vii) Publication Policy.
- (viii) Openness and Transparency Policy.

**94/15 PRECEPT/BUDGET:**

The precept and budget for 2016/17 were considered with a possible 2% increase being considered by Basildon to return with these figures. To be reviewed further at the December meeting.

**95/15 CHRISTMAS CARDS:**

It was considered and proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Aungier to send Christmas cards in accordance with previous years.

**96/15 MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT:**

The Parish Council decided the Code does not require a review/amendment – **agreed.**

**97/15 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**

Information received noted.

**98/15 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

Report of a Basildon Liaison meeting attended by Cllr. McPherson-Davis – primarily on restricted parking available to be requested by the Parish Council.

Approved minutes requested of Crays Hill Primary School to the Secretary again from the December 2014 meeting and subsequent minutes.

**99/15 NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:**

Information received noted.

**100/15 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

- (i) A member of the public raised a question on crossover for no. 9 High view Rise with the road being lower than the driveway – issue for the underpart of the car catching on this. Resident looking to put a bridge short term to prevent this.

Parish Council request to County Councillors to have a site visit from Highways.

- (ii) Issue of cars parking on zig zags and pavement by the local shops. Clerk to write to the local Police Force.
- (iii) Raised issue regarding new housing in the area. The Council confirmed that no plans have been advised for a large development at Ramsden Crays.
- (iv) Concern raised about the 225 bus route reduced to and from Wickford. Transport Representative made a note.

**01/15 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND 2016 MEETINGS:**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m.

The dates for 2016 and the Annual Parish meeting for March and Annual Parish Council Meeting within 14 days of the May election were considered and agreed for meetings on Mondays at 7.00 p.m. generally third Monday in the month.

**02/15 TERMS OF REFERENCE:**

In consultation with the Clerk, the Chairman to sign the Annual Appraisal with the Clerk and then present to Full Council – defer to the December meeting.

**Meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.**

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