

**MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2016 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE SHEPHERD AND DOG  
PUBLIC HOUSE, CRAYS HILL, RAMSDEN CRAYS**

**PRESENT:**

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

Parish Clerk – Georgina Bassett

Six members of the public

Cllr. M. Buckley - ECC

No representatives of the press

Prior to the meeting commencing as a request has been made to record the meeting by a member of the public, the Chairman confirmed that any residents seated on the left side facing the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk were not to be visually recorded or photographed to safeguard their right to privacy.

**01/16 APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for non attendance received from Basildon Borough Councillor T. Sargent.

**02/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Aungier – **agreed**.

**03/16 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:**

No declarations of interest received either pecuniary or non-pecuniary.

**04/16 PUBLIC SESSION:**

- (a) Members of the public were heard on items on the agenda.  
A resident requested an additional name to be added to the war memorial.  
This will be reviewed at a further meeting.
- (b) Report by Cllr. M. Buckley Essex County Councillor confirmed the second cycle of the Budget will be set on 8<sup>th</sup> February. There is a current shortfall of £76 million. The rising cost of adult and children social care is an issue. There is an allowance permitted for social care authorities to raise up to 2%. The total increase will be set between 2 and 4% which is the first increase in 5 years.

Devolution is actively being encouraged by the Government to divulge services to levels such as the Parish and Village Councils.

**05/16 FINANCE:**

The payments for the following were considered and it was proposed by Cllr. Borer and seconded by Cllr. Flint to **agree** payment and approval of the bank statements.  
Clerk's Salary and expenses January 2016 £404.87

Bank statements:

Co-operative Account 31.12.15 = £2.95 Barclays Bank Account 31.12.15 = £7,940.59

It was considered for the Clerk to request a Bursary for 75% costs reclaimed and the remaining 25% split between Shotgate Parish Council to attend End of Year Accounting, First Aid, Law and Procedures.

It was proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Peake – **agreed**.

## 06/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

### Application:

**Application No: 15/01581/OUT.** Demolition of existing entertainment venue and its replacement with a Care Home and associated infrastructure and landscaping.

**Location:** The Belvedere, Hardings Elms Road, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.

A request by the Parish Council for a bus stop at this location within the grounds for the use of residents and the public and to inform Basildon that it had not received the plans and this application is not available online.

**Application No: 15/01536/FULL.** Single storey side extension/garden room.

**Location:** Andycottage, Crays Hill Road, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.

No objection by the Parish Council.

### Decided:

**Application No: 15/01270/FULL.** Demolition of existing bungalow and detached garage and construction of single storey side and rear extension.

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

**Granted.**

**Application No: 15/01254/FULL.** Erection of a brick wall, brick piers and steel railings to the front boundary and a timber 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, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.

**Granted.**

Request to Basildon Borough Council on the current situation on Aldersfelde, Oak Lane, Crays Hill. Application No: 15/01269/FULL.

An Extraordinary Meeting to be arranged to consider a planning application received after the agenda was issued.

### Local Council Briefing – Local Plan 2016:

Members of the Parish Council considered attending an update at Basildon Offices during January 2016 in advance of the consultation response and the way forward to update residents. It was **agreed** that the Chairman and Cllr. McPherson-Davis attend.

No further update has been received with regard to the request by Cllr. Allen to Basildon on the illuminated large sign displayed at Dhamma Land.

## 07/16 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

- (i) Projects in line with the budget were considered. Picnic benches in the park and another notice board by the school costings to be reviewed by the Clerk. Additional consideration for purchase of a flag holder, Cllr. Peake will enquire - **agreed.**  
The Newsletter to be drafted with details of proposed projects and the local plan when available.
- (ii) As in 04/16 above, it was **agreed** to defer the additional name to be recorded on the War Memorial to the next meeting with relevant details.

## 08/16 HIGHWAYS:

- (i) The installation date of the 5 signs of “7.5 tonne weight restriction” as agreed at Panel should be during the 2016 financial year.

Located at: A127 into Gardiners Lane North, A127 into PIPPS Hill Road, A129 into Gardiners Lane North, A129 into Hardings Elms Road and Wash Road into PIPPS Hill and Hardings Elms Road.

- (ii) No further update via Essex County Council at Hardings Elms Road, regarding the flattening of one bollard, subsequent to enquiry, the second bollard has also been flattened. Cllr. M. Buckley has requested Highways to assist with this issue.
- (iii) The latest response to the repair on the road/pavement potholes for wheelchair access along the London Road near the Shepherd and Dog is it should be finalised by the end of February 2016. Cllr. Buckley confirmed.

**09/16 CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL – GOVERNING BODY:**

Unfortunately despite requests for full minutes from November 2014 nothing received. It was proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis for the Parish Council to write to the Education Department of ECC with concern to lack of information that the school governors have not responded with an addendum if not received by 28 days will send a Freedom of Information request. Seconded by Cllr. Peake – **agreed**.

**10/16 DALE FARM – OAK LANE:**

No further updates received on this situation.

**11/16 MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT:**

The code of conduct was reviewed and it was proposed by Cllr. Peake not to amend – **agreed**.

**12/16 LITTER – WEEDS RAMSDEN CRAYS:**

The offer from Basildon to assist with volunteering in the community on the above was reviewed. Basildon to be requested to either remove or kill the weeds from the pavement. Proposed by Cllr. Peake – **agreed**.

A residential area at Gable End, Gardiners Lane North was highlighted with overhanging branches onto the pavement and a request initially from the Parish Council for residents to cut back.

**13/16 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**

Information received was noted.

**14/16 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

It was noted that the next EALC Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January and ABLC meeting in the evening will be on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2016.

**15/16 NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:**

Information received was noted.

**16/16 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

Members of the public raised issues on:

- (i) Advertising signs illegally posted in the parish. To be a discussion for next meeting and inclusion in the newsletter.
- (ii) Resident enquired will any building at the travellers site be in the same category as the general 46 proposed properties over 20 years? Response by ECC Cllr. Buckley that these will not be included in this development. Land already purchased in the parish owned by travellers could legitimately request planning permission on those sites.

- (iii) Request on a plan to widen the A127 to three lanes from Southend. Concern about the current and then future costs for maintenance. Cllr. Buckley confirmed that there is bidding for grant funding to improve traffic flows around the junction. Realistically not clear if there will be sufficient fundings to develop for third lane.

**17/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND 2016 MEETINGS:**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 22<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 p.m.

**Meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.**

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