

**MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 18TH APRIL, 2016 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE SHEPHERD AND DOG  
PUBLIC HOUSE**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Chairman - A. Peake, D. McPherson-Davis, and N. Flint  
Parish Clerk – Georgina Bassett  
Cllr. M. Buckley – Essex County Council  
1 member of the public  
No representatives of the press

**74/16 APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for non attendance received from Cllr. Borer, Cllr. S. Aungier and Basildon Borough Cllr. T. Sargent.

**75/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 were approved. Proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Flint – **agreed.**

**76/16 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:**

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

**77/16 PUBLIC SESSION:**

- (a) No members of the public heard on items on the agenda.
- (b) Cllr. M. Buckley reported that a schedule is to commence on the flooding issues to be resolve ie blocked drains by Crays Hill Primary School, by Gardiners Lane North will shortly start in four phases, there will be disruption at that time of traffic lights etc.  
He continued that the issue of the island at Hardings Elms Lane without lights in the middle of the road was reported a few months ago by him and he requested highways to seek an alternative solution.  
Devolution has been discussed in greater detail in terms of willing Town, Parish and Village Councils to undertake the cutting of grass verges, purchase of bus shelters etc. Cllr. Buckley will take forward any suggestions from the Parish Council.

**78/16 FINANCE:**

The payments of the following were considered:

Clerk's Salary April 2016	£397.67
Campaign to Protect Rural England	£ 36.00
Society of Local Council Clerks half with Shotgate	£ 83.50
EALC/NALC annual subscription – due 1 <sup>st</sup> June, 2016	£312.20

It was proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Peake to pay the above – **agreed.**

Bank statements for approval for year end 31.03.16:

Co-operative Account 31.03.16 = £2.95 Barclays Bank Account 31.03.16 = £6,108.39.

The Parish Council was advised that payment by CHAPS of £4,977.45 precept and £583.20 grant from Basildon was paid into the account on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016.

## **79/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**Application No: 16/00290/FULL.** Demolition of house and annex at “Whitesbridge Cottage” and construct a two storey detached dwelling on Plot 3.

**Location:** Whites Bridge Cottage, Crays Hill, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.  
No objection.

**Application No: 16/00291/FULL.** Demolition of house and annex at “Whitesbridge Cottage” and construct a two storey detached dwelling on Plot 4.

**Location:** Whites Bridge Cottage, Crays Hill, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.  
No objection.

**Application No: 16/00307/FULL.** Retention of existing games/leisure building and use as an annexe and the proposed demolition of existing store building.

**Location:** Halls Lodge, Crays Hill Road, Ramsden Crays, Billericay, Essex.  
Objection on green belt and is a retrospective application and the application has not been completed accurately as the date commenced has not been filled.

Comment that no objections, however these two new applications to be noted to be taken from the tally for Whites Bridge Plots 3 and 4.

To note the following was reported to the Planning Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> April meeting:

**Application No: 15/00755/FULL.** Variation of condition 6 of planning application by replacing the obscure glass to the main feature roof light in the western elevation required by this consideration with mirrored glass.

**Location:** All Saints Church and Community Centre, Crays Hill, Billericay Essex.  
Noted by the Parish Council that this had been refused by the Planning Committee.

### **Rural Planning Review:**

The planning system for responses by 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2016 to [RuralPlanningReview@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:RuralPlanningReview@communities.gsi.gov.uk) Response by the Parish Council that wherever possible to protect the green belt.

### **Parking Standards Design and Good Practice Consultation 2016:**

No comment by the Parish Council for the interim review 2016.

### **Superfast Essex Reinvestment Consultation 2016:**

The Parish Council considered a feedback on this broadband by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 on [www.superfastessex.org/where.whenandhow](http://www.superfastessex.org/where.whenandhow) the general view is that the reception within the Parish is less than one in many parts of the area.

No further update with regard to the illuminated large sign displayed at Dhamma Land received via Cllr. Allen despite his requests to the relevant department.

### **Belvedere Planning:**

Correspondence received from the agents on the above site was noted.

## **80/16 INTERNAL AUDIT 2015/16**

The comments from the newly appointed internal auditor were considered in relation to a response and any areas for review/amendment.

**81/16 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016:**

- (i) Section 1 of the Annual Return – Annual Governance Statement was proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Flint to approve and sign – **agreed**.
- (ii) Section 2 of the Annual Return – Accounts was completed and it was proposed by Cllr. McPherson-Davis and seconded by Cllr. Flint for the Chairman and Financial Officer to record the figures and sign - **agreed**.
- (iii) All other documentation was completed and returned with the Annual Return and an increase of 3% to the assets register proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint to accept – **agreed**.
- (iv) The date of notice for inspection of accounting records for the financial year was **agreed** for early June, 2016.

**82/16 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:**

- (i) Consideration of costings etc. received for the additional notice board, benches in the park and cleaning of the bus shelters within the Parish were reviewed in addition to another bin to be considered for purchase near the Shepherd and Dog and footpath fouling. Cllr. Peake will review the notice board and benches and the Clerk will request further information regarding the cleaning/maintenance of the bus shelters – **agreed**.
- (ii) Consideration for invitees, refreshments of coffee and tea in the public house and notices in relation to the War Memorial Service in November and communication with Great Burstead Church regarding the Order of Service – loud speakers etc. to be confirmed. Two circular wreaths to be ordered.
- (iii) An Action Plan for future projects to be reviewed by a Working Party for the Foundation Award Scheme and audit purposes. Review improvements to the Website.

**83/16 HIGHWAYS – BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

- (i) The progress via Essex County Council at Hardings Elms Road, regarding the flattening of one bollard has been noted as per 77/16(b) above.
- (ii) The request to repair on the road/pavement potholes for wheelchair access along the London Road near the Shepherd and Dog has been resolved.
- (iii) Essex County Council Highways confirmed that it is not the correct time to either remove or kill the weeds on the pavements.
- (iv) Resident has responded with regard to Gable End, Gardiners Lane North to remove the overhanging branches onto the pavement. Comments noted and thank the resident for removing the branches.
- (v) Drains along London Road A129 with junction of Oak Avenue blocked, Clerk to request ECC to improve.

**84/16 CRAYS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL – GOVERNING BODY:**

The additional response to the request for full minutes from November 2014 to date with regard to the hire of the school has been received. The Parish Council is reviewing.

**85/16 PENSION CONTRIBUTION – PARISH COUNCIL:**

In line with the government policy, to receive any updates from the Working Party regarding consideration of the ECC LGPS Pension or another to be deferred to the next meeting.

**86/16 DALE FARM – OAK LANE/OAK AVENUE:**

No additional updated received from Basildon with regard to Oak Lane.

**87/16 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**

Information received noted from Cllr. Peake met with an officer of Basildon in relation to summer flowers near Crays Hill Primary School costings to be reviewed at the May meeting.

**88/16 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

Additional meetings reported to the Parish Council or future meetings on EALC from Cllr. McPherson-Davis in March on the National charges increase and steps to resolve this. ECC reported that county rates will increase and the support of the EALC had been authorised. CIF fund has been agreed to continue for this year. ABLC collectively raised objections on the issues on the Local Basildon Plan, infrastructure etc. It was noted that there were Parish elections vacancies in various areas throughout Basildon.

**89/16 NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:**

Information received noted.

**90/16 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

- (i) Issue in relation to the Belvedere application.
- (ii) Basildon enforcement – regarding noise lady and advise her that forwarded to them.

**91/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND 2016 MEETINGS:**

There will be an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May, followed by the Annual Meeting after the election on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. at the Shepherd and Dog Public House.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

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Signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council

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Dated