

**MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 11TH JULY, 2016 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE SHEPHERD AND DOG
PUBLIC HOUSE**

PRESENT:

Councillors: A. Peake, S. Aungier, D. McPherson-Davis and later attendance of Cllr. N. Flint
Parish Clerk – Georgina Bassett

2 members of the public

Cllr. M. Buckley

No representatives of the press

36/16 APOLOGIES:

Apologies for non attendance received from Cllr. T. Sargent and Cllr. S. Allen.

37/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27th June, 2016 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Aungier – **agreed**.

38/16 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:

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

Cllr. N. Flint – arrived 7.05 p.m.

39/16 PUBLIC SESSION:

- (a) Member of the public requested an update on the speeding issues within the parish. Chairman advised there would be an update in agenda item 44/16 (vi).
- (b) Essex County Councillor M. Buckley provided a report regarding the specials was now with the Assistant Police Constable driving this information. There are physical requirements, minimum of 16 hours a week and police check will be undertaken.

He advised those present that a weed killer chemical will shortly be used in the area and after a duration the weeds should die.

Work is being reviewed on next year's budget and ECC is unable to promise there will not be an increase in council tax.

Cllr. Buckley noted that the weeds near the old church hall site also required to be removed.

He confirmed that recess is effective 12th July, 2016. The money issues are the main priority and the majority of questions have been requested to be raised on the website. Cllr. Buckley is involved in a rescue group on this. There are separate response times for Parish, Village and Town Councils of 28 days (including officers of the Parish Council) and County Councillors have a quicker response. Cllr. Buckley confirmed reported issues can be sent to him for priority response.

The majority of enquiries are on severe delays to potholes and the responses and the contractor involved will be at a meeting with Highways in the forthcoming days.

On the subject of the old church hall site, Cllr. McPherson-Davis confirmed that a bin has been damaged.

40/16 FINANCE:

- (i) The payments of the following were considered:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Clerk's Salary/Expenditure July 2016 | £337.27 |
| Clerks Salary/Expenditure August 2016 | £390.06 |
| Cllr. N. Flint – flowers | £ 12.00 |

Images – Summer newsletter £ 74.88

Proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Aungier – **agreed** to pay the above with the exception of £12.00 as no invoice received.

- (ii) Bank statements for approval for June 2016.
Co-operative Account 30.06.16 = £2.95 Barclays Bank Account 30.06.16 = £8,573.28.

41/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Decided:

Application 16/00583/FULL. Two no. four bedroom detached dwellings on land fronting Southlands road.

Location: Pickwick, Gardiners Lane North, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Refused.**

Application 16/00663/PDPA. Notification of a proposed larger home extension (orangery) projecting 5.5 metres from the rear wall of the original dwelling with a maximum height of 3.57 metres and an eaves height of 3.15 metres. **Permitted Development.**

Application 16/00629/NMABAS. To establish whether an alternation to the route of part of the shared access to the site can be considered a non material amendment to granted planning consent 15/01130/FULL.

Location: Woodmans Lodge, Oak Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

42/16 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

- (i) The CIF Expression of Interest Form 2016/17 for 2 picnic benches in the wooded area of the park at a cost of £1,000.00 each excluding VAT and the installation of a notice board opposite the school at a cost of £914.86 plus installation at £85.00 and £334.60 and installation of £120.00 for a dog waste bin on the grass verge along Southend Road past the public house near the parish sign and £3,000.00 (of a £9,000.00 purchase) towards an orchard meadow area in the park were considered.

Issues to be reviewed prior to the September meeting are security issues for vandalism, if there will be any cost to emptying the dog waste bin and financial maintenance of this area for the future if funding is granted.

The Clerk to contact Basildon Borough Council for further information on financing this in the future, any cost to the parish council for emptying the dog waste bin and issues with security.

Proposed by Cllr. Aungier and seconded by Cllr. Peake to go ahead with this with request for grant funding and the Parish Council to fund £500.00 towards this - **agreed.**

Cllr. McPherson-Davis requested that his objections be noted as subject to vandalism and lack of future maintenance funding established.

- (ii) The response from ECC for costings for the maintenance of the bus shelters within the Parish and decision from the Parish Council on the way forward were reviewed. It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Aungier to accept that the cost to the Parish Council in total will be £300.00 - **agreed**.
- (iii) The representative of Great Burstead church will be available during August. Cllr. Peake and the Clerk will arrange to meet with him prior to the September meeting.
- (iv) An Action Plan was considered to assist with applying for accreditation for the Foundation Award Scheme – deferred to September meeting.
- (v) Basildon Borough Council offered to fund half of the bulb planting within the parish. The Parish Council will fund £100.00. It was proposed by Cllr. Peake and seconded by Cllr. Flint to accept this offer – **agreed**. Location for planting to be at the entrance near the park, near Hardings Elms Road verge junction A129 and London Road junction with Gardiners Lane North and near the war memorial.
- (vi) Review of costings and feasibility of a small community hut/hall within the parish was considered via extension of the public toilets. The Clerk advised she had made initial enquiries with Basildon Borough Council. The request for an architect to assist voluntarily has been put into the newsletter and Cllr. Peake will make further enquiries for a volunteer.

43/16 COUNCILLOR VACANCY:

No interest received to date for the vacancy to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

44/16 ESSEX HIGHWAYS – BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL:

- (i) Cllr. Buckley advised he has requested the replacement at Hardings Elms Road, for the keep left bollards. No date yet confirmed and he has requested a more permanent solution.
- (ii) Essex County Council Highways have been requested to either remove or kill the weeds on the pavements – update on this situation in 39/16 (b). (Consideration by the Parish Council in the Newsletter to request residents to remove weeds on the pavement outside their property.)
- (iii) Gardiners Lane North road was not resurfaced the first week of June following on from Cllr. Buckley's communication with Highways. He will request an explanation why deferred.
- (iv) No update received on the 7.5 tonne weight restriction signs agreed to be installed by Highways at its meeting on 30th June, 2015 under LBAS 152017 – Gardiners Lane North. Cllr. Buckley will enquire.
- (v) No update received from Basildon regarding the sites in Oak Lane to reclaim monies from the land.
- (vi) The information received from Ramsden Bellhouse and members to consider the way forward for the speeding issue in the parish was considered. Cllr. Buckley requested to have a traffic census by the slow down sign from Crays Hill school prior to the S bend along the Southend Road. He will make enquiries.

101 Cllr. Buckley – made enquiries with the Police Commissioner who recognises this is not functioning how the public expects. Recently launched a website as acknowledged majority prefer to use the website than the telephone and this may assist alleviating. The "Report It website".

45/16 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. Defer to private session.

46/16 DALE FARM – OAK LANE/OAK AVENUE:

No updates received on this situation in Oak Lane and activity in Oak Avenue reported by a resident without planning permission granted.

47/16 POLICE LEVELS WITHIN THE AREA:

The police response to non emergency calls regarding the 101 number and the way forward was considered for 44/16(vi).

48/16 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

Information received was noted. ABLC Liaison Meeting and Basildon Association 21st July, 2016 AGM.

49/16 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:

No additional meetings to report to the Parish Council or future meetings.

50/16 NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:

Information received noted.

51/16 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

Enquiry from the Belvedere Planning open event recently held in the parish.

52/16 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Monday 19th September at 7.00 p.m. at the Shepherd and Dog Public House.

Pursuant to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the meeting is not open to the public and press for these items of business and will be instructed to withdraw.

53/16 STAFFING:

- (i) Appraisal Form.
Members to review this and then the Clerk to be re-involved prior to comments added and then signed off. Deferred to the September meeting.
- (ii) Clerk's SCP Scale – currently SCP 21 was considered and agreed with immediate effect to increase to SCP level 23.
- (iii) Clerk – consideration of amount of monthly reimbursement for office, telephone, broadband, update on equipment, storage, printer, heating, electricity etc. Deferred to September meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

.....
Signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council

.....
Dated

