

**MINUTES OF RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 16TH OCTOBER, 2017 AT 7.00 P.M.
AT THE SHEPHERD AND DOG PUBLIC HOUSE**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllr. N. Flint, Cllr. M. Kirby and Cllr. G. Jenkins
Parish Clerk – Georgina Bassett
Cllr. M. Buckley – ECC
Three members of the public

137/17 APPOINT A CHAIRMAN:

It was proposed by Cllr. Kirby and seconded by Cllr. Jenkins to appoint Cllr. Flint as Chairman – **agreed**.

138/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. McPherson-Davis due to an operation and Cllr. T. Ball – ECC.

139/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th September, 2017 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Jenkins – **agreed**.

140/17 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:

No pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest were received by members on any agenda items.

141/17 PUBLIC SESSION:

No issues raised by members of the public:

COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Cllr. Buckley raised the issue of the Mobile Library in the Parish and the importance for the Parish Council/residents to support this facility.

He confirmed that ECC is in the process of reviewing its budget and is looking to make savings of £30 million. It was noted that not all benefits are taken by those eligible to take them.

142/17 FINANCE:

(i)	The payments of the following were considered:	
	Clerk's Salary/Expenditure October 2017	£404.32
	Software package – Clerk	£ 99.00
	Shaw & Sons Ltd	£221.69
	The Royal British Legion x 2 wreaths	£ 34.00

It was proposed by Cllr. Kirby and seconded by Cllr. Flint to make the above payments – **agreed**.

The payment to ABLC 2016 – 2018 subscriptions totalling £40.00 were noted.

- (ii) The Barclays bank statement was reviewed and it was proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Kirby for the amount of £10,046.44 to be approved for reconciliation for the month ending September 2017 – **agreed**.

- (iii) The Parish Council received an update on the mandate in relation to removals and additions to signatories from Barclays Bank. It transpired that the Parish Council should receive written confirmation of these amendments within the next few days.
- (iv) The Officer confirmed that following conversations with HMRC in relation to quarterly N.I./tax payments that in the future cheques are permitted to be sent direct to HMRC instead of the Post Office.

143/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

APPLICATION:

Application No: 17/01298/FULL. Proposed replacement dwelling.

Location: Trienedra, Southlands Road, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex.

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

DECIDED:

Application No: 17/00760/FULL. Single storey front extension, part two-storey/part first floor side extension incorporating an extension to the existing front and rear box dormers and a front porch.

Location: Highview, Crays Hill, Billericay, Essex. **Granted.**

Essex County Council – Mobile Library Consultation Service:

The survey response was reviewed. It was suggested that the location be moved back to a more accessible and noticeable location i.e. the Public House as it is currently at High View Rise. The Council commented that if it is not used, then it is likely this facility will be withdrawn. It was agreed for completion for return prior to 6th November, 2017.

144/17 COMMUNITY – PROJECTS:

- (i) ECC CIF has confirmed that the Panel will be meeting in November and a decision will be made at that time on funding towards a double notice board at the junction of Gardiners Lane North and the A129. Pending this, permission awaited from Essex County Council re installation.
- (ii) Cleaning and maintenance work of the four bus shelters should commence on 17th October, 2017.
- (iii) Memorial Service – Sunday 12th November at 10.45 a.m.
 - (a) The Clerk has contacted and confirmed with the Shepherd and Dog Public House for light refreshments after the service for approximately £100.00.
 - (b) The Order of Service was reviewed and agreed it can now be printed prior to the 12th November, 2017 service.
 - (c) Cllr. Flint confirmed he will collect the Standard on loan from the Wickford Royal British Legion.
 - (d) Two wreaths have been ordered for the service. Cllr. Flint confirmed he will collect these and make payment of £34.00 and the poppies and collection box prior to the day.
 - (e) The Clerk confirmed the local school children and their families have been invited and arrangements are in hand for them to place poppies.
 - (f) Cllr. Kirby has liaised with the Church and confirmed arrangements for the sound system.

- (g) Councillors and the Clerk to bring a couple of chairs and Cllr. Kirby any required equipment for the service. This includes the purchase of a sound system if necessary to the cost of approximately £100.00 which if required will be available for future services.
- (h) The Clerk confirmed the Police have been invited and advised regarding arrangements for the day and an invitation extended to the armed forces.
- (i) Members reviewed the flyer and agreed this to be included as a newsletter for printing and distribution for the Memorial Service by the Council one week prior to the event.

The above items (a) – (i) were proposed by Cllr. Flint and seconded by Cllr. Kirby to finalise and proceed – **agreed**.

- (iv) Cllr. Flint provided an update on the Memorial and surrounding area and his offer to review and maintain in good condition for the service. He has put in new plants.
- (v) To date no repair/replacement to the gate at the front of the church yard.
- (vi) A thank you to be sent to FACEmed for the offer of a donation towards CPR/resuscitation equipment in the Parish. It was **agreed** to defer to the November meeting for consideration on location and costings.
- (vii) Cllr. Buckley confirmed that the Essex Crowd – Crowdfunding is a match funding project and would seek further information to assist the Parish Council for the next meeting.

145/17 HIGHWAYS – BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL:

- (i) No updates received on the damage to the kerb near the properties by the village sign. Cllr. Ball is assisting with this issue.
- (ii) Cllr. Buckley confirmed that another Panel Highways meeting is scheduled in January and would request an update then in relation to speeding deterrent VAS signs.
- (iii) It was noted that the footpath in Gardiners Lane North to the side/back gates of Crays Hill Primary School had been a hazard and reported to Essex Highways Survey. This has now been cleared by the school.
- (iv) Cllr. Buckley confirmed he had requested the removal of weeds in the Parish especially along the London Road through Crays Hill. ECC had confirmed its responsibility to kill the weeds and Basildon to pull them up.
- (v) No response to the enquiry about cameras on lamp posts on main highways was received direct via Highways and of their purpose.
Cllr. Buckley confirmed the probability that these cameras are AMPR, used by the Police to read licence plates to assist tracking criminals.

146/17 TRAVELLERS:

No further updates received direct to the Parish Council in relation to Dale Farm with regard to land in the parish.

Cllr. Buckley confirmed the ECC Traveller Unit is attempting to obtain an injunction to cover the Borough (not Dale Farm – but private land). He mentioned to the Parish Council it may want to enquire of John Baron MP re travellers and the adoption of the Irish Option, although not to give up on the work already on green belt in the vicinity.

147/17 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT/EXTERNAL AUDITOR:

- (i) To consider the risk assessment for review as per the audit report.
- (ii) To note the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2017 returned and any comments for consideration.

It was **agreed** to defer to the next Parish Council Meeting.

148/17 BUDGET/PRECEPT 2018/19:

The Parish Council considered the issue of the budget/precept for 2018/19.

It was **agreed** to have a Working Party prior to the 20th November meeting as a decision by Full Council is required by Basildon Borough Council prior to 15th December, 2017.

149/17 INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

Information received noted.

150/17 EXTERNAL MEETINGS – REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:

It was noted that Cllr. McPherson-Davis was due to attend a recent ABLC meeting with other Basildon Borough Councils, this meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

151/17 NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence received noted. Cllr. Flint confirmed a change to timetable bus route no. 12, this is now either 1 hour 5 minutes or 1 hour 10. It was **agreed** to put details of this in the next Parish Council newsletter.

152/17 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

A resident enquired if there have been any developments on the planning application on the proposed flats at “Chesnuds” – garage on the London Road. The Parish Council confirmed not to date.

153/17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 20th November, 2017 at 7.00 p.m. at the Shepherd and Dog Public House.

Meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

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Signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council

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Dated