

RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2001

Present: Councillors: Jiggins
Giles
Mrs. Kukiewicz
Lees
MacNee
Smith
Wootton

In the Chair: Councillor Mrs Kukiewicz

Members of the Public Present: There were three members of the public present.

00/212 PUBLIC FORUM.

This is an opportunity for members of the public to raise issues of mutual interest or to question councillors.

212.1 Street Cleaning in Rayne

Mr Blower – Willows Cottage, Fairy Hall Lane

Mr Blower asked the Council who was responsible for sweeping and cleaning the roads in the Village, as the Main road in particular seemed very dirty.

Cllr MacNee explained that it was the responsibility of the BDC to sweep the roads in the village twice per year. Cllr Jiggins added that the Main road should be swept four times a year with the estates being swept twice.

Cllr Mrs Kukiewicz also pointed out that the Groundsman employed by the Parish Council does clear litter from around the Village. She felt that the recent leaf fall had added to the problem, especially on the pavement from the traffic lights to Barnards Garage.

Cllr Jiggins agreed to speak to the Groundsman regarding Mr Blower's concerns.

212.2 Borrow Pit at Broadfields Farm

Mr Blower – Willows Cottage, Fairy Hall Lane

Mr Blower raised his concerns over the noise that will be generated by the gravel extraction at the proposed Borrow Pit at Broadfields Farm, and whether the Parish Council had commented on this when the planning details had been received. He also asked if the Pit would be filled in after construction of the road was complete.

Cllr Jiggins explained that the new road should take 24 months to construct, starting at the Takeley end later this year. He added there were a number of sites under consideration for the location of the Pit, the final one will be known when the contract is awarded. Cllr Jiggins and Cllr Giles said that the construction of the road would cause more noise than the work at Broadfields.

Cllr Mrs Kukiewicz explained that the Pit will be restored after use to a lake, and that the Council had commented on how this should be done to help enhance the area and encourage wildlife.

Cllr Lees added that the Council had also requested that the surface of the new road should not be concrete, and a response had been received confirming that the road will have a quieter surface. Cllr Lees passed the ECC letter to Mr Blower to read.

212.3 Condition of Brunwin Road

Mrs Bryce – 8 Brunwin Road

Mrs Hasler – 11 Brunwin Road

Mrs Bryce complained about the unacceptable state of the surface of Brunwin Road, from the junction on Shalford Road, up to the shops on Brunwin Road. Once again a repair job had been carried out this week, but as in the past this will soon disintegrate.

Cllr Jiggins replied saying that he and Cllr Giles had meet with Highways who are planning to carry out a proper repair in the next financial year. However the area to be repaired was from the junction with Shalford Road up to Smithsfield, and the entrance to Smiths field. Cllr MacNee agreed to enquire if the repair could be extended to cover the area highlighted by Mrs Bryce.

212.4 Bus Service

Mrs Bryce – 8 Brunwin Road

Mrs Hasler – 11 Brunwin Road

Mrs Bryce started by listing various traffic calming measures that had been undertaken in the local area. She went on to add that 32 buses a day passed down Brunwin Road from 5.30 am to 11.30 p.m., followed by another at 1am the following morning. She felt this caused an excessive amount of noise on a residential area. Having checked local timetables she noted that other services did not start until 6 am and finished by 10 p.m. Mrs Hasler asked if the surface of the road should be improved as it was on a bus route.

Cllr Wootton stated he thought it would be unwise to criticise the current service, as it was the best we have ever had and if we do criticise we may lose it. After discussion Cllr Giles agreed to ask the driver how many people used the early and late buses, and specifically if any one on the “Capel – Brunwin” loop used it.

00/213

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies received from Cllrs Moore, Meadows, Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Roberts.

00/214

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 6th JANUARY 2001.

The minutes having been circulated prior to the meeting were agreed to be a true record and subsequently signed by the Chairman.

Proposed Cllr Smith, Seconded Cllr Wootton.

00/215 MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

215.1 Blocked ditch – Duckend Green.

The Clerk read a reply from ECC that stated the ditch was highly likely to be the responsibility of the adjacent landowner. Cllr Giles said the ditch was not blocked, but the bank had been eroded over a number of years. Clerk to write to ECC to clarify problem.

00/216 BDC MATTERS.

216.1 Planning Applications.

TPO 15/2001 – Medley Road Estate, The Street - Details passed to Cllr Jiggins.

216.2 Planning Results

00/01729/COU – 17 Brunwin Road. Change of use of part ground floor accommodation from shop to residential use – REFUSED.

Cllr Lees asked why this had been refused. The Clerk had been contacted by the applicant who had been told it was refused as residents had complained that they did not want to lose a local shop. Cllr Lees asked if BDC listened to the views of Parish Councils when making these decisions as the Council had raised no objections when this application was made. Cllr Jiggins reiterated his point and asked for it to be added to the next Agenda when Cllr Meadows could explain why this application was refused.

CC/BTE/97/00 – Hazelmere Bridleway Overbridge. GRANTED

CC/BTE/102/00 – Fentons Road Footbridge. GRANTED

216.3 District Councillor Report – Cllr Meadows

Attached to member's agenda, a written report submitted by Cllr Meadows.

Report noted. Cllr Lees asked for the proposed 7% rise in Council Tax to be added to the next agenda, and for Cllr Meadows to supply a breakdown on the details of the increase.

00/217 ROADS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

217.1 Street Light Failures

Cllr MacNee reported that Lampost 20 – Shalford Road was still not working. Clerk to chase.

217.2 Footpath No.16

Reply received – attached to agenda.
Reply noted.

217.3 Adoption of a 20mph Speed Limit

Response received from Mr Cook – attached to agenda.

After discussion it was agreed to reply to ECC confirming our interest. However Councillors expressed their concerns over the length of time taken to implement items on the Locally Determined Programme.

Clerk to write to PC Blackburn advising him that the Council are pursuing this matter which would require the support of the Police.

217.4 Weight Restriction on Roads

Response received from Mr Cook – attached to agenda.

Reply noted - issue to be raised with Mr Forkin at planned meeting.

217.5 A120 Stansted-B/tree – Post Construction Traffic Management Measures

Mr Forkin has replied stating plan of proposed road has been sent and he is in the process of preparing traffic flow information, which he will bring to meeting.

Would like to now set a date for the meeting.

Cllr Jiggins proposed that we request a meeting for March/April time, but would like to see Traffic flow data and proposed road route in advance of any meeting. Clerk to arrange.

217.6 Bus Service

Discussions centred around a survey that was being carried out on the residents of Brunwin Road. Cllr Jiggins stated that the Parish Council should decide on their policy regarding the bus service ahead of any problems that may arise later. He proposed that the Council support the service, which was agreed by all present. Cllr Giles proposed a letter be sent to Arriva thanking them for the service they are providing, this was seconded by Cllr Lees.

The Council agreed to write to Highways to see if the whole road on the route could be improved as it was on a bus route. Clerk to write and also obtain confirmation that repair work on Brunwin Road will be carried in the next financial year. Clerk to write to Arriva as proposed, but pointing out that the Parish Council had received representations from some residents of Brunwin Road who are concerned about the noise of buses that run late at night and early in the morning.

217.7 Parking in New Road – Use of Rayne Station Car Park

Letter received from Mr Thompson, Area Manager, responding to letter sent in November regarding permission for Warner Close residents to park in the Station. Mr Thompson states the car park is for Flitch Way users only and permission is therefore not given for residents to park there.

Reply noted.

217.8 Speeding in New Road

Awaiting response from Rural Police Unit.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a speed check had been conducted on 23rd January at 6.30 – 7.30 a.m. The Shalford unit has passed our letter to the Traffic Division.

217.9 Gritting of Road during Recent Snow

MrTattersley, BDC has replied stating gritting is the responsibility of Highways.

Mr Gardner, ECC has requested specific dates – have replied 27-30 December.

A response had been received detailing routes and times of recent gritting. Letter added to circulation folder.

217.10 Road Surface of New A120

Reply received from Mr Hoath, ECC – attached to agenda.
Reply noted.

217.11 Vehicle Parking Standards (Essex Planning Officers Association)

One copy of above Consultation Draft received, comments by 1st April.
Added to circulation folder.

217.12 Passing Loop – Braintree/Witham Line

Cllr Meadows would like the meeting to consider supporting the suggestion from Cllr Peter Turner to write to ECC along the lines suggested by him (see attached)

Cllr Wootton proposed that the Council supports the suggestion from Cllr Peter Turner, Cllr Jiggins seconded this.

217.13 Erosion of bank on Shalford Road.

Cllr Giles asked the Clerk to write to ECC about a dangerous section of Shalford Road, from Janus Pet Foods to Pudneys Farm, where the bank has been badly eroded by lorries.

00/218 RAYNE'S ENVIRONMENT

218.1 Work within the Grounds

Cllr Jiggins reported that the Groundsman had carried out some work on the Elms Estate, although the poor weather had restricted what he could do. Cllr MacNee asked if the Groundsman charged the Parish Council for use of his car and trailer. Cllr Jiggins stated that at present he didn't but the Council may wish to review this at a later date.

218.2 Bus Shelter, The Street

Site meeting with Tinsley on Friday, 26th January.

Cllrs Moore, MacNee & Jiggins had meet with Tinsley. Cllr Jiggins reported that the recommendation from that meeting was to have a tiled roof rather than tin as previously discussed. He had hoped to bring a brick catalogue from Tinsley to the meeting so that the Councillors could have their say on the style of bricks. Cllr Smith proposed that the Council let the "Sub-Committee" decide so that the construction could begin as soon as possible. Cllr Moore is to oversee the work.

218.3 Grass Cutting

Meeting with Peter Tattersley 29th January.

This meeting has been rescheduled to Monday 12th February.

Cllr Giles asked for the proposed purchase of the new ride-on-mower be added to the next agenda.

218.4 Hardness of Water

Response from Anglian Water confirming modifications to treatment plant have recently been carried out, supply expected to return to normal very shortly.

Reply noted.

218.5 Problems with Postal Service

Cllr Lees reported that since Christmas a minor improvement in the service had been seen. Clerk to write to Post Office asking why service is so changeable. Cllr Lees to provide details of previous correspondence.

218.6 Footpaths

It was agreed to revive the Footpaths Committee, with Cllr Wootton as Chairman. Cllr Giles & Jiggins agreed to sit on Committee, and it was thought that Cllr Mrs Shepherd might also like to be involved.

218.7 Flooding at Village Green

Clerk read reply that stated that no work had been undertaken, even though a number of Councillors had seen workers at the site. The Council agreed to speak to the landowner directly to solve problem.

218.8 Neighbourhood Watch

See letter attached to agenda.

Cllr Jiggins felt that this letter was a positive step forward as it allowed leaflets to be delivered to all areas. Clerk to write to Geoff Yates stating the Parish Council's willingness to sponsor the scheme.

Cllr MacNee said of the 600 flyers sent out with Rayne in Focus only 12 replies had been received, although four of these had been willing to be co-ordinators.

218.9 BALC Meeting – The Rural White Paper

Report from Councillors who attended the above meeting on 24th January.

Cllr Jiggins reported that little had been gained from the meeting as there are still very few details on the scope of this initiative.

00/219

VILLAGE HALL

Quotes received for replacement of 3 kitchen windows (see attached).

Cllr Jiggins proposed that KW Glass be awarded the contract, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Kukiewicz and agreed by all present. Clerk to inform KW Glass and Village Hall of decision. Clerk to request that Mr Fleming informs the Clerk when he is satisfied with work to allow payment to be made.

00/220

HEALTH ISSUES

Report by Cllr MacNee on recent meetings attended. (See attached report).

Report noted.

220.1 Public Meeting with Jane Griffiths

A public meeting has been arranged in The Old School Room for Monday, 12th February commencing at 7:30 p.m.

Cllr Mrs Kukiewicz asked Councillors to encourage people to attend this meeting.

00/221 FINANCE

- 221.1 £20.33 Eastern Contracting – Lighting Maintenance
- 221.2 £39.25 Eastern Energy – Quarterly Energy Charge
- 221.3 £23.39 BDC – Photocopying (Neighbourhood Watch Flyer)

It was unanimously agreed to make these payments. Proposed Cllr Lees Seconded Cllr Jiggins

221.4 Skip Hire – For Information

Verbal notification received that it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to clear any rubbish around the skips. BDC have cleared in the past, but if rubbish is not in the skip itself the Parish will be charged extra to have this removed.

Cllr Jiggins said that this could cause a problem and should be discussed before the next skip is due. Clerk to provide details of next booking.

221.5 Audit of Accounts 1999/2000

The Clerk reported that audit certificates had now been issued for the year ending 31st March 2000.

00/222 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be on Friday, 2nd March 2001.

Items for Agenda to the Clerk by Wednesday 21st February 2001.

00/223 OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Cllr Mrs Kukiewicz reported that our Clerk, Mel, had produced another addition to the Whiteside family, Jake Daniel. Mother and baby were doing well.

223.1 Abandoned car in Shalford Road.

Cllr Giles reported that the abandoned car was still in Shalford Road. Cllr MacNee said that the one-week notice to remove the car had now elapsed and he would chase with BDC.

223.2 Broken Glass on Main Road.

Cllr Giles reported that youths had been placing broken bottles on the speed bumps on the Main Road. He will report this to PC Blackburn.

223.3 Stansted Meeting

Cllr Jiggins reported that this meeting has been delayed until July

00/224 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 10.07 PM

Signed Date