

RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2007

PRESENT: Councillor Michael Bamford Martyn Phillips
Adam Bulkeley Keith Rawlings
Chris Dorè Pat Roberts
Harold Giles Diane Shepherd
Roger Jiggins Dean West
Ian MacNee

Also in Attendance: District Councillor Banthorpe
PC Dan Scales
Mrs Philippa Potter - Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM

Police Report

PC Scales reported that there have been a number of burglaries in both Great Notley and Rayne over the last few weeks and advised residents to be on their guard and not to open the door to anyone they don't know. It was suggested that some publicity within the village to help with raising awareness would be very useful. Use of Rayne in Focus, the village website and e-mail alerts will be undertaken.

It was reported that youths are continuing to be a nuisance in the children's playground. The police have intervened on a number of occasions.

PC Scales reminded the Parish Council and residents of the police mobile number, which is carried by the officer on duty. The number is 07973 703810.

It was reported to the meeting that the police will be available for the public to speak to at the Village Hall every other Tuesday, between 1-2pm. This will be advertised shortly.

District Councillor Report

- Cllr Mike Banthorpe expressed his dismay at the vandalism of one of the new bollard lights along The Street/Phillips Close footpath. This is being followed up by Cllr Ian MacNee.
- In the light of the reports of burglaries above, Cllr Banthorpe reminded everyone that 'Nominate a Neighbour' packs are available free, from the Community Information Point or from BDC.
- The Village Design Statement has been submitted to Braintree District Council for approval and will be going to Committee in approximately five weeks' time.

07/71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None

**07/72 CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 6 AUGUST 2007**

It was Proposed Cllr Diane Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Adam Bulkeley and unanimously Resolved to accept the minutes as a true record, with the following amendments:

- Item 07/63 - Declaration of Interests, second bullet point, should read: '64.1 Autumn Lodge - Cllr Roger Jiggins declared a Personal Interest as he knows the owner' and
- Item 07/63 - Declaration of Interests - on a third bullet point should be: '67.5 Finance - Cllr Roger Jiggins declared a Personal Interest as the owner of the company'.

07/73**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- Cllrs Mike Bamford and Dean West declared a Personal Interest in the following items as members of the Village Hall Committee: 76.1; 76.5; 76.6; 77.8.
- Cllrs Mike Bamford and Adam Bulkeley declared a Personal Interest in the following item, as residents of the Elms Estate: 76.2
- Cllr Roger Jiggins declared a Personal Interest in item 74.2 as he knows the owner, and 77.6 as the owner of the company.
- Cllr Martyn Phillips declared a Personal Interest in item 74.1 as he knows the owner.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, all Councillors remained in the meeting, unless stated otherwise, and took part in the discussion for all the above items and the vote thereon.

07/74**BDC MATTERS****74.1 Planning Applications**

07/01825/FUL 16 Smiths Field - Loft conversion with rear dormer. It was Proposed Cllr Diane Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Ian MacNee and unanimously Resolved to support this application.

07/01893/FUL 18 Elm Walk - Erection of two storey side extension. It was Proposed Cllr Diane Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Pat Roberts and Resolved by 9 for, 2 against to support this proposal.

For Info: Applications Determined by Planning Sub-Committee

07/01227/FUL Braeburn Hall, Barnards Orchard - Insertion of four rooflights. The Sub-Committee decided to support the application as originally written, for the insertion of two rooflights - one in each room.

74.2 Planning Appeal

Site: Pudney's Farm, Shalford Road - Appeal against Enforcement of Planning Control. The Parish Council had originally supported this application and will therefore make this representation again.

74.3 Planning Results

07/01694/FUL Whelley Cottage, School Road - Construction of timber framed stables, tack room, store, cart lodge and kennels. This application was refused, following a decision made at the Braintree District Council Planning Committee on 26 September 2007. This decision was conveyed to the Parish Council.

07/01003/ELD Honeycomb Storage - Certificate of Lawfulness, storage of vehicles. Following the withdrawal of this application, Braintree District Council have forwarded the case to their solicitors to enforce their decision to refuse.

07/75 ROADS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

75.1 Street Lighting

- Hance Lane - Light number 5 has been reported as faulty.
- Lighting along Phillips Close/The Street footpath. Further to the installation of the bollard lights, which was welcomed by residents, one of the lights has been vandalised. Cllr Ian MacNee is following this up with EDF for repair and query the installation specification.

75.2 Policing Issues

The dissemination of information to the village following incidents such as the current spate of burglaries was queried. It was agreed to write to Essex Police to see what the options of using an e-mail alert system allied to the village e-mail forum.

75.3 Site Meeting with Essex County Council Highways

Matthew Reeve from ECC has submitted his report to the Parish Council following the site meeting on 22 August 2007. The contents were noted and follow up action will be undertaken.

Pedestrian Crossings at the Swan Junction/Gore Triangle: The site meeting which took place on 27 September 2007, was fruitful and Cllr Martyn Phillips went through the main points to inform Councillors of the outcome.

07/76 RAYNE'S ENVIRONMENT

76.1 Village Hall Matters

- Skate Ramp Theft - Response from RoSPA was noted. A replacement will be looked into and quotes will be obtained from both Playdale and other sources.
- CIP Door Intercom - Cllr Dean West is following up a second hand replacement.

76.2 Elms Estate

It was decided to form a cluster of residents' groups to discuss a way forward to improve the garage and parking areas in the Elms Estate, Brunwin Road, Capel Road and any other areas in Rayne which are put forward to be included. The groups will be invited to meetings with the Parish Council to discuss residents' suggestions and obtain agreement for improvements. A draft letter will be drawn up and sent round for approval.

76.3 Affordable Housing

Initial figures have been received from the RCCE in response to the Housing Needs Survey undertaken last month. The replies received were overwhelmingly in favour of affordable housing within Rayne. It was Proposed Cllr Roger Jiggins, Seconded Cllr Ian MacNee and Resolved 9 for and 2 against to ask the RCCE to go ahead with the project.

76.4 Foundry Site - Knight Developments

Knight Developments are keen to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the development at the Foundry Site, which they have just acquired. They will contact us once they are in a position to take this forward.

76.5 Holiday Toilet Facilities - Village Hall

The opening of the toilet facilities at the Village Hall (CIP) during the summer holidays was very successful. It was Proposed Cllr Roger Jiggins, Seconded Cllr Harold Giles and unanimously Resolved to continue funding for the October half term holiday. Costings on an annual basis for the entire school holiday periods will be brought back to the next meeting for discussion with a view to taking this to precept.

76.6 Bin Facilities

- Complaints had been received due to the close proximity of the dog waste bin by the playground. It was proposed Cllr Dean West, Seconded Cllr Diane Shepherd and unanimously resolved to request a bigger dog waste bin for the playing field and its relocation away from the playground.
- It was suggested that a second bin is needed in the playground and a novelty 'frog bin' could be helpful in encouraging children to use the bin. Cllrs Mike Bamford and Dean West will put this suggestion to the Village Hall Committee and work out the viability of its position within the playground.

76.7 Assistant Groundsman Vacancy

Two application forms have been sent out for this position with the closing date being 5 November 2007. The vacancy advertisement will be put on the village website and sent round on the e-mail list, as well as a card being put up in the Post Office. It was agreed that the cost of an advertisement in the Dunmow Broadcast at approximately £138 would be prohibitive.

07/77**FINANCE**

77.1	£23.59	Just Lamps - Lighting Maintenance (Sept)
77.2	£424.74	Mrs Potter - Clerks Salary (Sept - includes repayment of income tax deducted incorrectly in Aug)
77.3	£19.39	Acumen - Wages Services (Sept)
77.4	£406.55	Mr Peake - Groundsman Wages July and Aug
77.5	£68.00	Mr Peake - Petrol
77.6	£180.72	FA Jiggins & Son - Consumables
77.7	£50.00	EALC - Councillor Training Day, Cllr Rawlings
77.8	£325.00	Village Hall - Toilets open June/July/Aug
77.9	£80.32	BDC - Publication of Statutory Notice
77.10	£32.00	RCCE - Housing Needs Survey Photocopying
77.11	£69.96	BT Phone Bill

It was Proposed Cllr Michael Bamford, Seconded Cllr Dean West and unanimously Resolved to make the above payments.

77.12 Rayne Parish Council Action Plan 2007-2008

It was Proposed Cllr Dean West, Seconded Cllr Roger Jiggins and unanimously Resolved to accept the amendments to the Action Plan for 2007/2008.

77.13 Village of the Year Competition

The Web Steering Group had discussed the expenditure of the £500 ICT award and the proposals were put to the meeting. It was agreed to hold this decision over to the November meeting, after the National Village of the Year awards has been announced.

77.14 Rural Communities Development Fund 07/08

- The grant application for £4,000 towards the new mini-tractor will be discussed at the 7 November Committee meeting at Braintree District Council (BDC) and the outcome will be notified to the Parish Council within three weeks. It was Proposed Cllr Diane Shepherd, Seconded Cllr Mike Bamford and unanimously Resolved to fund the balance of the cost of the tractor over and above the £4,000 grant, if it is awarded from BDC.
- There is a further £1,000 to be applied for under this fund (making a total of £5,000 maximum), by 31 October 2007. Cllr Roger Jiggins will liaise with the Clerk to put in an application for equipment to go with the tractor.

77.15 Village of the Year Bench

Investigation into the current status of this project has revealed that it is still at the quotation stage, awaiting the go-ahead from the Parish Council. The Clerk will look into the history of the project and the paper trail to piece together the situation. This will then be brought to the November meeting.

07/78 MEETINGS / SEMINARS / CONSULTATIONS**78.1 Circulation Folder**

Cllr Martyn Phillips informed members of interesting and relevant items.

78.2 Health Issues

Cllr Ian MacNee attended two meetings last month, which he briefly outlined to the meeting.

78.3 Meetings and Training

The In-House Councillor Training was finalised for Monday 15 October 2007 at 7.30pm in the Old Schoolroom. Cllr Pat Roberts will be undertaking the training.

Cllr Pat Roberts will be attending the Transition Essex meeting on 24 October 2007 with the EALC.

07/69 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday, 5 November 2007**. Items for the agenda to the Clerk by 22nd October.

07/70 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 9:40 p.m.

Signed: _____
CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Date: _____