



Rivenhall Parish Council

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF RIVENHALL AND RIVENHALL END

Locum Clerk to the Parish Council Mrs A J Brown

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April in the Rivenhall Village Hall at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs: R Turner, J Cairns, J. Macrae, J Prime, J Abbott

Also Present: Locum Clerk Mrs A Brown, County Councillor Ross Playle and 5 members of the public.

2597 To Receive any Apologies for Absence

Councillors accepted the apologies from Cllr R Wright, and Cllr D Hammond.

2598 Disclosure of any Pecuniary Interests Relating to this Agenda

For the avoidance of pre determination Cllr James Abbott would leave the meeting at item 2608 as he sits on BDC planning committee.

2599 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th March 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th March could not be signed as there was an error in the layout which the clerk wished to correct before the minutes were signed. The minutes were agreed to be a true reflection of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Turner, Seconded by Cllr Cairns. All agreed.

2600 Public Forum

No members of the public wished to speak at this point in the meeting.

2601 ECC Councillor Report

Rivenhall flooding:

- ECC teams have been to Rivenhall to do extra work since the last meeting and have reported that something has been corrected so this will be monitored to gage whether the flooding has been stopped. Flooding still in Rickstones road.
- Anglia Water are here on 16-18th April to pressure wash the gullies.
- The extensive road damage that has been caused by the flooding is to be resurfaced completely.
- Local highways panel will be streamlined to free up money and time on the smaller projects.
- Members scheme will be updated.
- Bellway application on Rivenhall Park phase 4 is to be considered.

Points raised by the Cllrs to Cllr Playle: The fingerpost sign is still needing to be mended and the 'No Entry' at the slip road between Oak Road and Rickstones Road needs to be put back. The 'No Entry' sign could be repositioned as the actual sign is OK just needs putting back into the ground.

2602 BDC Councillor Report.

BDC agreed to a strong response to the Essex County Council draft Minerals Plan at the meeting of its Local Plan Committee on Thursday 7th March.

Additional reasons for objection to site D7 at Rivenhall End and proposed sites along the A12 and near the River Blackwater have been included in the response to ECC.

We have continued to request ECC to carry out all necessary work to prevent any more flooding at the railway bridge on Oak Road and had an acknowledgment from Cllr Tom Cunningham to our additional request to him, in his role as both Deputy Leader of BDC and as ECC Highways Cabinet Member. We have been visiting the site to discuss the situation with residents and to monitor progress on the works,

and it is clear from what ECC Highways is finding that there are many years of neglect in failing to maintain the underground pipes.

We attended the Rivenhall Airfield Waste Site Liaison Group meeting in March and will circulate a report soon.

2603 Update on the Essex Minerals Local Plan Review Consultation

There were a total of 145 responses to the consultation. No numbers were available for just Rivenhall respondents. ECC confirmed that the response from Rivenhall PC had been received and included.

2604 Update of Speedwatch Volunteers Combining with Cressing PC

The Clerk of Cressing has had no responses from villagers so far, it is hoped that with better weather and lighter evenings some people will volunteer. Silver End have a speed camera. It was resolved that Rivenhall will ask if they can use it. Agreed: All in favour.

2605 2 New Notice Boards at Bluebells and at the Bus Shelter

There was discussion on where the notice board at Bluebells should be placed.

It had already been decided to purchase aluminium notice boards to take 6-8 sheets of A4 paper.

Cllr Macrae volunteered to approach Bluebells management company Bellway to ask for a contribution towards the notice board at Bluebells and to get prices for both notice boards to bring back to the next meeting. Agreed. All in favour.

2606 Bus Shelter Flowerbeds at Rivenhall Oak

It was agreed to the replacement of the dead rose bushes – mix of colours. Cllr Hammond has offered to donate the rose bushes. Plants which are considered to be drought tolerant will be purchased by the Council to add to the flowerbeds with the roses and a date will be organised for planting. In the autumn the Council will purchase spring bulbs which will be planted by Cllr Abbott. A budget of £300 has already been put aside to pay for the planting of the flowerbeds.

2607 '.gov' Emails for Parish Councillors, including a New Website

Cllr Turner will send Councillors the link to the JPEG to read about the need for .gov email addresses.

2608 Planning Applications Cllr Abbott leaves the meeting – 19:40

24/00523/HH Juliet Balcony, Waterfall Cottages: No comment.

24/00352/FUL Rickstones Academy, Artificial Football Pitch

The Cllrs have concerns about the lighting and visibility of the lighting, the weight of extra traffic and parking on Rickstones Road. Also, the noise from the games could also be a problem with the Bluebell estate being affected. They also have concerns over the access - using the service entrance for the school into Forest Road. It was proposed to ask for the pitch to have a restriction on use after 8pm.

The Clerk to put forward the comments to BDC planning. Proposed by Cllr Turner, Seconded by Cllr Macrae for a restriction on the use after 8pm, agreed, against Cllr Prime, vote carried.

The Clerk to put forward the comments to BDC planning regarding the other issues. Proposed: Cllr Cairns, Seconded Cllr Macrae, Cllr Prime abstained from voting, vote carried.

2609 Planning Issues

Report from Cllr Macrae having attended the quarry liaison meeting:

Cllr Macrae attended the Coleman's Quarry liaison meeting on 14 March 2024. He raised various parish concerns:-

- Airbourne dust in Rivenhall End
- Rampant summer thistle down from topsoil and subsoil banks
- Mud, sand and gravel on the A12 north and south slip-roads (Colemans Bridge intersection)
- Blocked drains due to mud, sand and gravel on the A12 north slip-road from Colemans interchange – water ponds and splashes pedestrians, cyclists & mobility scooters
- Considerable mud, sand and gravel on the A12 northbound carriage way between Colemans Bridge interchange and Rivenhall End
- Sighting of HGVs using the weight restricted length of Oak Road between the railway bridge and Church Road
- Lorries leaving the quarry are driving round the wheel wash facilities (this was observed at the meeting)
- Muddy orange water from Lt Braxted Road sweeping washes down towards the Colemans Cottage Fishery entrance causing nuisance and mess
- Quarry flushing/pumping operations are sometimes causing back-flow of silty orange water to enter the Colemans Cottage Fishery lake closest to Lt Braxted Lane.

Cllr Macrae recommends the parish council writes to Terry Burns - Essex CC Principal Planning Officer - to formally log these issues. Proposed Cllr Turner, Seconded Cllr Abbott, all in favour.

2610 Finance matters

The outgoing Clerk had supplied a Bank Reconciliation for the financial year end at 31st March 2024
Payment of Accounts for April 2024 were agreed for:

The Henry Dixon Hall Charity £20.00 hire of hall on 5th March 2024.

Rivenhall Playing Fields Association for £27.00 hall hire on 2nd April 2024.

Paul Scott for Litter Picking £210.00

Kim Burton for Litter Picking £105.00

Nebulas Website Design Ltd for maintenance of the website £144.00 for March, April and May.

It was agreed to a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements.

It was discussed how to move funds from Barclays into the Unity Account with no resolution to the problem.

It was proposed to make the payments by Cllr Prime, Seconded by Cllr Macrae. All Agreed.

2612 Information Exchange and Items for the Next Agenda

Two areas of the wildflower contract are being cut which is against the contract. There has been no communication or invoices from the contractor P G Groundcare.

The Clerk was asked to send a formal letter to PG Groundcare to ask if he was cutting the verges.

Posts to be replaced where they have been knocked down. One in the centre has been put up by Eastlight.

The Clerk was asked to make up a flyer for the APM on 7th May – the Councillors would send through their ideas of what subjects they would be willing to discuss with the public on the evening.

2613 Ten Minutes Public Feedback (if required)

Kerbstone been dislodged and is a trip hazard, in front of the old forge, in Oak Road at the Rivenhall End.

Waterfall cottage has been renamed Lakeside cottage.

It was stated that no litter picking had been done near Lakeside cottage area. Councillors reported to the resident that the verges along Park Road around the cottages are regularly litter picked and a litter pick had been carried out very recently such that the verges are clear of litter.

2614 Future Meeting Dates:

07.05.24 (APCM at VH): 04.06.24 (HDH): 02.07.24 (VH): 06.08.24 (VH): 03.09.24 (HDH): 01.10.24 (VH):
05.11.24 (VH): 03.12.24 (HDH): 17.12.24 (HDH Precept meeting)

2615 Meeting Closed to the Public

Public excluded from the meeting to progress a confidential staffing matter.
Proposer Cllr Macrae, Seconded Cllr Abbott, all agreed.

2616 To Consider and Decide on the Progress of Staff.

After his resignation as Clerk, Mr. Kevin B. Money was asked to stay working for the Parish as the RFO, but on reflection he decided not to take up the post.

The Councillors accepted the offer of help to complete the AGAR from a Locum Clerk.

Applications were being received for the post of Clerk/RFO so it was decided to close the application process on 30th April and applicants would be interviewed after this date. The Clerk was asked to inform EALC to continue to advertise the post until the end of the month. The Clerk was also asked to put all the applications into one document to send to Councillors.

2617 Closure of the Meeting

The meeting having considered and determined all items of business closed at 21.15.

Signed:

Chairman, Bob Turner

7th May 2024