

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH FEBRUARY 2012.**

Present: Cllrs. Abbott, Bills, Brailey, Wright, Prime and Clark.

In the Chair: Cllr. Abbott.

Also present: Parish Clerk, Mr. Ashley Seaborne from Green Light Trust and 2 member of the public.

560.. To receive any apologies for absence.

An apology was received from Cllr. Salmon who continues to be unwell.

561.. Declarations of Interest relating to Agenda items.

Cllr. Bills declared a Personal Interest in item 565: Planning Application 12/00163/FUL.

562.. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2012.

The Minutes were **unanimously approved** and then signed by the Chairman.

563.. Public Forum for 10 minutes.

The following matter was brought to the attention of Members:

Mr. Seaborne from Green Light Trust gave further information to Members concerning the failed planning application for a building to be located on the informal car park in Rickstones Road together with various management and operational details of the work the Trust would undertake in conjunction with local residents and interest groups in Tarecroft Wood, given the opportunity.

564.. Matters for Discussion.

i. Play Area, Henry Dixon Road.

Members had received a copy of the Clerk's report regarding his site meeting with the landowner.

It was **proposed by Cllr. Clark, seconded by Cllr. Prime** that the Council retain this area of land and further negotiate a new lease with the landowner. After much discussion **the proposition was lost by a majority vote.**

It was then **proposed by Cllr. Bills, seconded by Cllr. Wright** that the Council surrender the lease and return the land to the landowner. After further discussion this was **agreed by a vote of 3 to 2 with 1 abstention**, and the Clerk will write to the landowner accordingly and at the same time enquire as to the status of the perimeter fencing.

ii. Management of Tarecroft Wood.

Members were made aware of the work undertaken by the ECC contractors resulting in a large part of this woodland being felled for the commercial sale of logs.

It was **unanimously agreed** that TPOs be requested on specific trees identified by Cllr. Clark who will then approach and liaise with BDC.

It was further **proposed by Cllr. Wright, seconded by Cllr. Prime and unanimously agreed** that the Council's interest in the possibility of obtaining freehold on Tarecroft Wood be notified to ECC subject to an investigation into possible additional Public Liability Insurance and other costs.

Concerns were also raised regarding the amount of brushwood left lying on the ground and the Clerk will request ECC to tidy or remove this.

iii. Former allotment site in Rickstones Road.

This land appears to be used as a builders yard during the ongoing refurbishment of 321 Rickstones Road. It was **agreed** to defer the matter pending completion of the building work.

In addition a letter of complaint has been received regarding the parking of vehicles outside 321 Rickstones Road, which, at times, causes problems for other

- road users. The Chairman and Cllr. Wright agreed to personally respond to this letter
- iv. Commemorative Plaque for the Jubilee Oak on the Village Green.
Proposed by Cllr. Bills, seconded by Cllr. Wright and unanimously agreed that Cllr. Clark obtain a plaque with appropriate wording at an estimated cost of £40.00.
- v. Possible planting of mature, bare root Christmas Tree on the Village Green.
 After a short discussion it **was agreed** not to proceed with this proposal.
- vi. Possible installation of solar powered lights in the Parish Council sheds.
Proposed by Cllr. Prime, seconded by Cllr. Bills and unanimously agreed that these be installed. Cllr. Bills is to obtain prices, in the region of £50.00, and liaise with the Clerk regarding purchase.
- vii. Adoption of the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy Document.
 It was **formally agreed** to adopt the Equal Opportunities Policy as prepared by the Clerk and for it to be included with the other published documents on the Council's website.
- viii. Maintenance matters.
- (a) *Provision of planters at former salt bin site.*
Proposed by Cllr. Wright, seconded by Cllr. Prime and unanimously agreed that the Clerk obtain 2 half barrels from the local garden centre at an estimated cost of £30.00 each.
- (b) *General maintenance.*
- Additional salt is required for spreading at the entrance to the Tusser Close garages and on the Village hall car park
 - There is a damaged tree at the entrance to the John Ray Walk off Rickstones Road, which a local resident has volunteered to replace by donation. Cllr. Clark will provide a suitable replacement tree from stock.
- ix. Training Courses.
- (a) Councillor Training Day 1 - Wednesday, 7th March 2012. No attendees
- (b) Law & Procedures - Thursday, 15th March 2012. Cllr. Clark to attend.
- (c) Council Finance - Wednesday, 28th March 2012. No attendees.

565.. Planning Matters:

Applications:

12/00020/FUL: Retention of 1 demountable classroom etc. - New Rickstones Academy. Members raised no objection to this application.

12/00163/FUL: Erection of single and two storey rear extension - 49 St. Mary's Road. Members raised no objection to this application.

Planning Results:

11/01353/FUL: Proposed access/driveway for wheelchair use - 455 Rickstones Road. Application granted.

11/01593/FUL: Removal of conditions - The Fox Inn, London Road. Application granted.

11/01620/ADV: Installation of externally illuminated totem signs - Kelvedon Park, Rivenhall End.

Application granted.

Planning Enforcement:

There was nothing further to report.

Ongoing Planning Matters:

- i. Local Development Framework.
- (a) *LDF Panel 24th January 2012*

It was reported that all the Council's recommendations were agreed by the BDC Committee. They still must be finally agreed by the BDC full Council.

- ii. Rivenhall Airfield.
There was nothing further to report.
- iii. ECC Waste Development Document: Preferred Approach.
The Council's response to this consultation was sent to ECC before the deadline date of 19th January 2012.
- iv. New Rickstones Academy.
There was nothing further to report.

566.. Correspondence received since the date of the Agenda - no discussion.

- (i) It would appear that the Council's bid for MiCommunity funding towards the weight restriction in Oak Road has been rejected by BDC. Reasons for the rejection have yet to be received.
- (ii) Braintree District Local Highways Panel - The Chairman reported that all the Council's local schemes are still 'live' and very favourable comments were made by members of the Highways Panel regarding the Railway Bridge and the HGV weight restriction. The extended parking restrictions in Church Road are still being investigated.

567.. Finance Matters:

To agree accounts for payment.

Proposed by Cllr. Prime, seconded by Cllr. Brailey and unanimously agreed that the following accounts be paid. Cheques were then drawn accordingly.

811	K. P. Taylor	£283.43	Clerk's salary/expenses (Jan.)
812	Ladywell Accountancy Services	£25.00	PAYE operation 2011/12.
813	A. Walsh	£113.00	General maintenance (Jan.)

568.. Information exchange and items for the next Agenda.

- The Clerk reported that invitations had been sent for local organisations to attend the APA and to provide reports for the Community Information leaflet. It was agreed that invitations to attend the APA be sent to BDC (Senior Officer), the local Police and ECC Highways.
- Fallen trees along John Ray Walk.
- Pothole survey will be necessary during March 2012.
- Volunteer salt scheme appears to operate successfully.
- Street lights in St. Mary's Road.

569.. Dates of future meetings:

Tuesday 6th March in The Henry Dixon Hall and Tuesday 3rd April in Rivenhall Village Hall, both commencing promptly at 20.00 hours. Items for the March meeting to the Clerk by 24th February 2012 at the latest.

570.. Closure

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.48 hours.

Signed:

CHAIRMAN

Date: