

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7th JANUARY 2014.**

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

In the Chair: Cllr. Abbott.

Also present: Parish Clerk and 1 member of the public.

855.. To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies received.

856.. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests relating to matters on the Agenda.

Cllr. Abbott disclosed a non-pecuniary interest in all items related to ECC.

857.. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December 2013 and the Precept Meeting held on 18th December 2013.

Both sets of minutes were unanimously approved and then signed by the Chairman.

858.. Public Forum for 10 minutes.

The following matters were brought to the attention of Members:

- Litter accumulated at the car parking area at the bottom of the track leading to Tarecroft Wood.
- The removal of the fallen tree near the hotel in Rivenhall End has resulted in the tearing up of the grass verge - the Chairman will contact ECC.
- The flooded footway area at the bottom of Stoverns Hill in Rickstones Road has been included in many complaints and requests for repair made to ECC.

859.. Matters for Discussion.

i. ECC proposals to expand Chipping Hill Primary School, Witham and Silver End Primary School, with effect from September 2015.

Members made no comment or recommendation regarding this item.

ii. County Highways Maintenance (NOT Local Highways Panel - see item 861(v)).

Members commented on the appalling state of the drains and verges along Rickstones Road - this falls into both ECC Highways maintenance and BDLHP projects.

The many potholes have still not received any attention.

One of the 30mph warning signs in Church Road has been broken and uprooted from the ground.

Future road closures: Park Gate Road - 03/02/14

Rickstones Road - date unknown

Railway Bridge, Oak Road - possible March 2014

Galleys Corner, Braintree - various future dates

iii. General Maintenance.

Planting hedging along Oak Road, Rivenhall End.

Planting Mr. Gibbons' commemorative tree.

Clearing various rubbish items at entrances to Tarecroft Wood.

860.. Planning Matters:

New Applications:

There were no new applications to consider at this meeting.

Planning Results:

13/01223/FUL: Erection of water tank - Essex Fire & Rescue HQ, Kelvedon Park, London Road, Rivenhall End.

Application granted.

Planning Appeals:

There was nothing to report under this item.

861.. Ongoing Planning Issues:

- i. Local Development Framework.
Still awaiting details from BDC.
- ii. Rivenhall Airfield.
Nothing further to report.
- iii. ECC Waste Development.
Still awaiting details from ECC.
- iv. ECC Minerals Local Plan.
Draft examination results are expected by 24th January 2014.
- v. Braintree District Local Highways Panel.
 - (a) Rickstones Road drains and kerbing.
The Chairman has written a strongly worded communication to ECC requesting urgent action to alleviate these problems. Estimated cost £130k.
 - (b) Railway Bridge, Oak Road.
On track for 31st March 2014 completion, subject to satisfactory detail plans.
 - (c) 7.5T weight restriction, Oak Road.
Now with Highways Agency for comments but costs have risen up to £70k to include additional signing along the A12 required by the HA. The Clerk is to officially request a detailed breakdown of these costs to explain the vast increase from the original cost of the scheme.
 - (d) 30mph along Oak Road & Henry Dixon Road.
ECC indicate estimated completion before end of March 2014.
 - (e) Church Road additional Bus Stop.
Currently under construction.
 - (f) Hard parking area outside Parish Church.
To be submitted to the Panel at the January meeting.
 - (g) Extended 30mph limit along Church Road.
Initially rejected by the Panel but later re-submitted.
 - (h) Extended railings outside School entrance.
To be submitted to the Panel at the January meeting.
 - (i) 20mph outside the School - for consideration at the next Council meeting.

862.. Correspondence received since the date of the agenda.

There was no additional correspondence to report at this meeting.

863.. Reports from PC Representatives.

There were no reports to be brought to this meeting.

Cllr. Prime reported of number of recent incidents where the First Buses have broken down, this despite First's assurances that their buses were now well maintained.

864.. Finance matters:

- i. To agree accounts for payment.

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

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|-----|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 942 | R.P.F.A. | £30.00 | Hire of Village Hall |
| 943 | Stephanie Bills | £108.86 | Website hosting |
| 944 | J. Abbott | £29.60 | EiP expenses. |
| 945 | Henry Dixon Hall Charity | £6.25 | Hall Hire |
| 946 | K.P. Taylor | £307.95 | Salary/expenses Dec. '13 |
| 947 | A. Walsh | £154.00 | Maintenance Dec '13 |

ii. To formally agree the Budget and Precept amount for 2014/2015.

In consideration of the latest information received by the Clerk/RFO from BDC, the Council's net revised Revenue Budget amounts to £9,158.00.

Proposed by Cllr. Prime, seconded by Cllr. Wright and unanimously agreed that the Council's Precept for 2014/2015 be confirmed at £8,780.00.

865.. Information exchange and items for the next agenda.

- Members were given a revised list of future meeting dates because the May 2014 meetings had been changed to 7th May due to a clash with BDC meetings on the same day.
- The cost of changing the VAS at Henry Dixon Road together with the warranty renewal with Solagen will be on the next agenda.
- Waymark posts have been ordered from ECC but delivery is still awaited.
- An attempted shed break-in was reported.
- Thanks to the Millennium Committee for their work in erecting and decorating the Christmas Tree, the costs of the tree and the lighting power being paid by the Council.
- Thanks to the RPFA for their hosting of the Friday Coffee Morning.
- Cllr. Prime is temporarily without email facilities.
- Road closure notices which necessitate the cancellation of buses via Rivenhall will be displayed locally in due course.
- Damage to vehicles parked along Beech Road over Christmas/New Year was reported.
- Damage to local grass verges by British Telecom was also reported.
- High Speed Broadband should be in the Parish within 2014.

866.. Dates of future meetings:

Tuesdays 4th February 2014 in Rivenhall Village Hall and 4th March 2014 in The Henry Dixon Hall, Rivenhall End, both commencing promptly at 20.00 hours.

Items for the February meeting to the Clerk by 24th January at the latest.

867.. Closure.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20 hours.

Signed: Date:

CHAIRMAN