

**MINUTES OF THE RIVENHALL ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH APRIL 2011.**

In the Chair: Cllr. Abbott who welcomed everyone to the Assembly.

Apologies for absence were received from PC Hull.

There were 26 persons present at the meeting.

The Minutes of the 2010 Assembly.

The Minutes were approved and then signed by the Chairman.

Parish Council Chairman's Report.

As a full report had previously been circulated to all residents within the Parish, the Chairman gave a brief resume and an up to date report regarding the following:

- Braintree District Council's LDF consultation procedure.
- Thanks to the PC's Maintenance Contractor and other volunteers for the good upkeep of the Parish.
- Discussions ongoing with ECC and the Highways Agency re the use of Oak Road from the A12 slip by an increasing number of HGVs.
- Verges and potholes along Rickstones Road.
- The New Rickstones Academy Liaison Group is open to local residents' representatives.

Questions were subsequently raised concerning the following:

- The total closure to traffic of Oak Road - this is not considered to be feasible.
- Flooding under the Railway bridge on Oak Road - reported to ECC for action.

Sharon Lowe: Assistant Chief Executive, BDC.

Sharon gave a brief outline of the financial constraints being placed upon Local Government at this time and stressed that BDC was endeavouring to maintain 'frontline services' by cutting back on the number and operational procedures of 'back office' staffing. Mention was also made of the Big Society and the liaison between BDC, ECC and the Braintree Association of Local Councils which represents Parish Councils in the Braintree District.

Questions were subsequently raised relative to the following:

- The return of monies previously invested with the Icelandic Banks - negotiations are ongoing via the Courts.
- The Big Society relative to Braintree which does not have a Parish Council - investigations are looking to the future.
- The cost of refurbishing Causeway House - when complete it will be possible to share the use of this building with other bodies thereby recouping some of the refurbishment costs.

PC Jason Corrigan: Essex Police.

PC Corrigan spoke briefly concerning the reorganisation taking place within Essex Police but confirmed that as far as is known at the moment Neighbourhood Policing would remain, although whether all local Police Stations and Offices will remain has yet to be determined. He then went on to outline certain crime statistics for the Rivenhall, Forest Road and A12 area; these involved mainly theft of motor vehicles, two local burglaries and other 'minor' thefts of property and property damage. Information is always welcomed from local residents regarding incidents and the Police will respond. Residents were advised to take all reasonable precautions to safeguard their property whether in the car or at home.

Questions were subsequently raised relative to the following:

- Convictions from the involvement of the Community Speedwatch - these would have to be obtained from the relevant controlling officers.
- Local Police contact telephone numbers - available from the Mobile Police Office.
- Vehicles parked overnight at the petrol station on the A12 - BDC are investigating.

Greenfields Community Housing.

The Parish Clerk read a brief report from Greenfields Community Housing.

A new Neighbourhood Co-ordinator (Lena Butcher) will be in-situ from 2nd May 2011 and will pick up issues raised to date, including the salt bins and the possible re-alignment of the top circle of St. Mary's Road.

Questions were subsequently raised relative to the following:

- The repainting of the garages has been reported to GreenfieldsCH - repainting is scheduled for 2014/15.

Community Speedwatch.

Parish Councillor Bills said that by default this was not operational within Rivenhall and he called for volunteers to bring the scheme back into local use and for a local co-ordinator.

Millennium Committee.

The Chairman read a notice on behalf of the Committee indicating their intention of organising a Fete and Evening Dance in July 2012 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Final remarks:

The Chairman answered questions relating to the ECC Minerals Consultation; the Waste Disposal Site at Rivenhall Airfield and a further question regarding Oak Road, from the A12 to the junction with Henry Dixon Road.

Closure:

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.30 hours.

Signed: Date:

CHAIRMAN