

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL  
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4 OCTOBER 2016**

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

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Abbott

**Also present:** Parish Clerk and 6 members of the public.

**1334. To receive any apologies for absence.**

An apology was received from BDC Cllr. Bowers.

**1335. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests relating to matters on this Agenda.**

Cllr. Abbott declared non-pecuniary interests in all matters relating to ECC and the BDLHP.

**1336. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2016.**

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

**1337. Public Forum for 10 minutes.**

The following matters were brought to the attention of members:

- Cessation of the domestic "Green Bin" collections for 3 months by BDC - the Clerk will forward the expressed complaints to BDC.
- The possible introduction of speed bumps along Rickstones Road to deter speeding motorists - Chairman to refer this enquiry to the BDLHP Officer for comment.
- Maintenance of steps and slopes up to the A12 - the Clerk has already contacted the Maintenance Contractor.
- Fly tipping and broken footway near The Drive off Henry Dixon Road - the Chairman will investigate and report accordingly.

**1338. Matters for Discussion.**

i. Protection of children on the playing field.

It was agreed that, as BDC has an ownership responsibility for this play area, the Clerk will request that they undertake an inspection to ascertain whether, in their opinion, BDC consider there is sufficient protection against children running onto the car park from this play area.

ii.  $\frac{1}{2}$  yearly report.

It was agreed to once again publish this report for distribution during late November 2016. The Chairman will report on all current matters and actions of the council and the Clerk will include an up to date financial summary together with an advert for a part-time litter picker.

iii. S.137 grant to Essex Air Ambulance.

**Proposed by Cllr. Prime, seconded by Cllr. Wright and unanimously agreed** that a grant of £25.00 be donated.

iv. Potential removal of BT payphone - Church Road.

**It was agreed** that no objection be raised against the removal of this payphone.

v. Street naming - development off Forest Road.

**It was agreed** that the following names be recommended for use: Rev'd Hawkins who lived in The Old Rectory and contributed so much to Rivenhall Parish.

Halfhides Farm and Bearcroft Farm, both now "swallowed" by the Forest Road estate.

Tarecroft and Barrowfield, both areas of local ancient woodland.

Storey's Wood, an area of local woodland.

Burghey Brook a local landmark

Robert Brice and Albert Moss, both former local Rivenhall benefactors.

vi. Network Rail - removal of crossings (Potters at Rivenhall End).

Network Rail's preferred option is to close the crossing to all users. On the southern side of the railway, users would access the underbridge on Oak Road using footpath 47. On the northern side of the railway, they would make use of footpath 48 from which a footpath would be constructed to allow access to footpath 43. This diversion route would add an additional 800 metres to the route.

**Proposed by Cllr. Clark, seconded by Cllr. Prime and agreed** that an objection be raised re this proposal with a recommendation to close the crossing to all users but that the blue footpath be retained and a new footpath be constructed to run along the northern boundary of the railway to access the underbridge on Oak Road and connect with footpath 47.

vii. ECC Highways maintenance.

It would appear that the work to improve the drainage along Oak Road has been completed.

Items remaining outstanding are to trim back the hedge along Rickstones Road between the highway and the footpath; to trim the verge at the end of the footway down Rickstones Road below Stoverns Hall Farm and to repaint the highway surface signs along Oak Road towards the A12 hoping to reduce the number of HGVs turning into Foxmead.

ix. General maintenance.

(a) *Provision of Spring flower bulbs.*

It was **unanimously agreed** to spend up to £50.00 each on Spring bulbs at both Rivenhall End and Rivenhall Village.

(b) *Maintenance of the War memorial.*

It was **unanimously agreed** that the Maintenance Contractor be requested to maintain the War Memorial garden in liaison with Cllr. Clark, if possible before 11 November 2016 and to maintain this area 4 times each year for 2 hours each time.

(c) *Litter Picking.*

Mr. Walsh has given notice that he will cease litter picking at the end of December 2016.

**It was unanimously agreed** that the Clerk advertise for another part-time litter picker. Grateful thanks were expressed to Mr. Walsh for his untiring work over a number of years.

**1339. Planning Matters:**

**New Applications:**

**16/01623/FUL:** Change of use of spa area to function room and layout alterations - The Rivenhall Hotel, London Road, Rivenhall End.

Members raised no objection to this application.

**Planning Results:**

**16/01155/FUL:** Extension - 16 Tusser Close.

Application granted.

**16/01124/FUL:** Extension - 3 Waterfall Cottages, Park Road.

Application withdrawn.

**16/01217/ADV:** Replacement sign - Foremost House, Waterside Business Park.

Application granted.

**Planning Appeals:**

None to hand.

**1340. Ongoing Planning Issues:**i. A12 widening.

The Chairman attended the meeting of the joint A12/A120 Forum. Consultations re both A12 and A120 should commence in January 2017 with an A12 public information event possibly being held in The Henry Dixon Hall.

A major concern arising from the meeting was that the long-term aim was to work towards the A12 and A120 being "Expressways". This is a class between dual-trunk and motorway and one of the criteria is no buses. This clearly indicates a lack of understanding and local knowledge regarding potential bus re-routing.

An apology was forthcoming regarding the cancelled meeting in May and a request was made for an urgently reconvened meeting due to the particular problems relating to Rivenhall End..

ii. BDC Local Plan.

In January/February 2017 the Submission Draft Local Plan will be considered by the BDC Local Plan Sub Committee and Council and, if approved will be subject to a further round of public consultation shortly thereafter

iii. Rivenhall Airfield - Bradwell Quarry.

The latest Liaison Meeting was held on 29 September 2016.

iv. Rivenhall Airfield - Waste Incinerator.

There was nothing further to report at this meeting.

v. Proposed Colemans Farm Quarry.

BDC Application 16/00004/ECCDAC: Consultation on application 14/01057/ECC conditions 6, Plant details; 42, Soil movement scheme; 43, scheme for machine movements and 47, phased plan for soils types, bunds etc.

The Chairman will liaise with the Clerk regarding any response to this consultation.

vi. Braintree District Local Highways Panel.a. *7.5T weight restriction, Oak Road.*

The objection to this scheme is still unresolved

b. *Extended 30mph limit along Church Road.*

This scheme has apparently now been rejected on the basis of an objection raised by an unnamed source at Essex Police. The Chairman had received no advance warning of this rejection.

It **was agreed** that the Clerk write to the BDLHP strongly objecting to the rejection of this previously agreed scheme

backed locally by the Parish Council, the Church, the School, a petition signed by over 100 local residents and the former ECC Highways Cabinet Member. The Chairman will also request information regarding the identity of the official from Essex Police who raised the puerile objection.

c. *Rectory Lane.*

There was nothing further to report at this time.

**1341. Correspondence received since the date of this Agenda.**

- \* ECC/Ringway Jacobs have given notice that Oak Road will be close for 1 day on 20 October 2016 while a detailed bridge examination is undertaken.
- \* There is an open public meeting with the Essex Police & Crime Commissioner in The New Rickstones Academy from 18.30 to 20.30 on Wednesday 12 October 2016.

**1342. Reports from PC Representatives.**

Cllr. Prime brought a brief report from the EALC Annual General Meeting.

**1343. 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.

1118	PKF Littlejohn LLP	£120.00	Audit fee 2015/16
1119	C.P.R.E.	£36.00	Subscription
1120	The Henry Dixon Hall Charity	£12.50	Hall Hire
1121	R.P.F.A.	£45.00	Hall Hire
1122	P. G. Groundcare Ltd	£178.50	Maintenance Sept.
1123	K. P. Taylor	£318.86	Salary/expenses Sept.
1124	A. Walsh	£72.00	Litter picking Sept.

ii. Completion of 2015/16 External Audit.

The Clerk reported the successful conclusion to the 2015/16 external audit - there were no matters to be reported.

iii. 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement

The Clerk reported that the government is considering the possible introduction of local referendums when local councils, including smaller local councils such as Rivenhall, seek to increase their annual Precept by more than 2% - £189.00 at the current Rivenhall figure. The actual cost of any referendum will well exceed that figure.

**It was agreed** that the Clerk will, as recommended by both the EALC and SLCC, make a response in opposition to this via the recommended website and by writing to the local Witham MP.

**1344. Information exchange and items for the November Agenda.**

- \* The local owner of the property near the Railway Bridge on Oak Road has complained regarding the numbers of HGVs that continue to use his entrance in order to turn round once the drivers find that they cannot travel under the bridge. He has been advised to take vehicle

registration details whenever possible and contact Essex Trading Standards.

**1345. 10 Minutes Public Feedback - if necessary.**

There was no feedback from the public.

**1346. Dates of future meetings:**

Tuesdays 1 November 2016 in Rivenhall Village Hall, and 6 December in The Henry Dixon Hall both commencing promptly at 20.00 hours.

Items for the November meeting to the Clerk by 22 October at the latest. Members were reminded that the Precept meeting date is Wednesday 14 December 2016, in Rivenhall Village Hall.

**1347. Closure.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55 hours.

Signed..... Date:.....  
CHAIRMAN