

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2014**

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

In the Chair: Cllr. Abbott.

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

1003. To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

1004. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests relating to matters on this Agenda.

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

1005. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2014.

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

1006. Public Forum for 10 minutes.

The following matter was brought to the attention of Members:

- An increasing number of vehicles are parking on the grass verges and the Village Green.
- Off-road m/cycles continue to operate in fields north of Rickstones Road - Essex Police are currently involved and investigating.
- Vehicles parked in the lay-by on Henry Dixon Road have reportedly been broken into and items stolen.

1007. Matters for Discussion:

i. Public footpaths truncated and/or diverted by the A12.

Confirmation was received from ECC Rights of Way Dept. that the footpath crossing the A12 south of the Colemans Interchange is defined as Witham Footpath 103 and does not meet Rivenhall Footpath 63 until the River Blackwater.

There are other Public Footpaths truncated by the A12 and the Chairman will draft and circulate a scheme request to be addressed to the BLHP requesting they undertake a survey of all such Public Footpaths in the district.

ii. County Highway Maintenance.

Defunct streetlights are being reported to ECC for repair.

The damaged sign at Rickstones Road has been reinstated.

Oak Road and Church Road have been marked out in preparation for resurfacing.

iii. General Maintenance.

Rotten Village Green posts are being replaced.

The collection of McDonald's litter has been referred to BDC for further action.

1008. Planning Matters:

New Applications:

14/01539/FUL: Change of use of building from B8 storage to B1 light industrial - Appleford Farm, Braxted Road, Rivenhall End.

By a **majority decision** (just one abstention) Members agreed to recommend refusal of this application for the following reasons:

- The weekday operational working hours of 06.00 to 20.00 would result in noise disturbance and light pollution in a rural setting with cottages nearby.
- This site in the countryside is not considered a sustainable location for industrial activity.
- There are fears for future expansion of industrial activity if this application is granted

- As with previous activity at this site there is the danger of HGV movements out on to a non-classified country road adjacent to a very narrow priority working bridge over the River Blackwater, which has so often been damaged by HGV movements.

Planning Results:

14/00063/NMA: Non-material amendment - 3 Foxmead, Rivenhall End.

Application granted.

14/01130/FUL: Various conversions - The Old Rectory, Rectory Lane.

Application granted

14/01246/FUL: Car park construction - E.H. Smith Builders Merchants.

Application granted for use until 31 December 2015.

Planning Appeals:

There were no planning appeals to report.

1009. Ongoing Planning Issues:

- i. BDC Local Plan.
BDC are still working on the 300 sites and anticipate producing a list during mid December.
Bellway Homes Ltd. (proposed Forest Road site developer) anticipates submitting a planning application during May 2015.
- ii. Rivenhall Airfield.
There was nothing to report at this meeting.
- iii. ECC Waste Development Plan.
There was nothing to report at this meeting.
- iv. ECC Minerals Plan... Colemans Farm Quarry Application. ECC case officer indicates that this application will not go to Committee until, possibly, February 2015. Additional documents produced re hydro and archaeology require no additional response from this Council.
It is anticipated that further additional documents will be produced which will require a PC response.
- v. Braintree District Local Highways Panel:
 - a. Rickstones Road drains and kerbing. **AGREED, FUNDED AND DESIGN COMPLETE.** Following site meeting with ECC Highways Cabinet Member, £75,000 central funds allocated so net cost to BLHP is reduced. Estimated total cost £130,772. **Delivery date 01/02/2015.**
 - b. Railway Bridge, Oak Road. Widen footway and introduce priority working. Final plans now signed off and agreed with the farmers (re width for agricultural machinery). **New delivery date 20/03/2015, but should be sooner based on information to hand.** ECC say that the works are expected to commence Monday 9 February 2015.
 - c. 7.5T weight restriction, Oak Road. Previously **AGREED** subject to surveys. Panel agreed at January meeting to put an additional £7,500 into detailed design. Main hold up is cost of signs on A12 and slowness of Highways Agency in responding. Good agreement of Panel members that the scheme needs to be delivered along with improvements to A12 junctions (Highways Agency future scheme). The Chairman has requested a firm date for the implementation of this weight restriction from ECC. **Date for delivery has now been put back to 27/02/2015.**
 - d. Church Road layby at church. Panel previously **AGREED, FUNDED AND DESIGN COMPLETE.** Total cost £21,500. **Delivery due by end of March 2015.**

- e. Extended 30mph limit along Church Road. 40mph buffer northwards along Church Road - Speed survey conducted, which showed average speeds above 30mph at War Memorial. ECC officers reluctant to agree scheme but after long discussion, Panel **AGREED** to recommend to Cabinet Member as an exception to policy. No delivery date yet known.
- f. Extended railings outside the School entrance. **AGREED AND FUNDED**. 22m of new Railing will be installed at a cost of £3,000. **Delivery date 10/12/2014**.
- g. Possible 20mph restriction outside the School entrance. A letter in support of the petition submitted to ECC was sent to ECC Cllr. Bass (Cabinet Member for Highways & Transportation). Cllr. Bass has since written to the Chairman (in his role as County Councillor) to announce that he has turned down the proposal.
- h. Church Road/Oak Road clearer highway signage - **AGREED AND FUNDED**. **Delivery date 02/04/2015**. Members recognised that there is a great need to re-route HGVs onto the A12 away from all the local villages and Witham town centre.
- i. Grass verge outside 51-53 Oak Road - to allow parking and protect verge from further damage. **AGREED AND FUNDED £1,500**.

1010. Correspondence received since the date of this agenda.

There was no correspondence to report.

1011. Reports from PC Representatives.

There were no reports to be received.

1012. Finance matters:

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.

1000	Fred Smith	£200.00	Christmas Tree contribution
1001	Rivenhall & S. End PCC	£350.00	Parish magazine publication grant
1002	HMRC	£176.20	PAYE 3 rd $\frac{1}{4}$ year 2014/15
1003	K. P. Taylor	£317.40	Salary/expenses November
1004	A. Walsh	£274.30	Maintenance November

Members were reminded that the annual Precept meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 December at 20.00 hours in Rivenhall Village Hall.

1013. Information exchange and items for the next agenda.

- Essex Police parking and waiting in the Village Hall car park - the Clerk will contact the PCSO requesting a list of dates when she will be on site.
- The Vice Chairman to contact the RPPFA regarding the salt storage at the Village Hall.
- The Christmas Tree will be erected on 13 December with the carol service around the tree on 16 December.
- Members received the sad news that Mr. Coleman, former Rivenhall School headteacher has recently died.
- There has been another road traffic accident along Park Road.
- Matters referred to the NEPP for action have been deferred.
- The Chairman is still endeavouring to meet with representatives of First Bus re the A12 bus stops.

1014. Dates of future meetings:

Tuesdays 6 January and 3 February both in Rivenhall Village Hall, commencing promptly at 20.00hours.

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

1015. Closure.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.07 hours.

Signed: Date:

CHAIRMAN