

RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



Chair's Report

I cordially invite you all to the Annual Parish Assembly on Wednesday 20th April in the Old School Room! This will be the first for two years, due to the pandemic. This will also be my first one to conduct as Chair of Rayne Parish Council. I really hope you can and want to attend, so you can meet other villagers, other groups and organisations within the village and listen to what is happening in the village and at the Parish Council.

It has been another busy year for the Council, and we have had key changes in personnel:

Back in July we welcomed Dave Underwood as our new Groundsman. He took to the role with great enthusiasm, learning how to use our equipment and learning the village! He has added a different skill set, enabling us to complete projects that otherwise would have required an outside contractor. Mark and Dave continue to do fantastic work around the village, and we thank you for making our village look so well kept.

January saw Sarah Cocks depart the council after 10 years of clerkship and we thank her for the dedication she showed to the role, the village and Council. Amanda Brown was appointed as the new Clerk and RFO and is doing a fantastic job settling in, getting used to our processes and also getting used to us!

Due to changes in their circumstances, we have had two councillor resignations over the past year. So, if you care about Rayne and are enthusiastic, please get in touch. Many of the councillors, (including me) volunteer to be a councillor alongside full-time work, but we all find it a rewarding challenge, with a drive to improve and enhance the PC and Rayne.

We have had many achievements during the last year, and these are just some of them:

- ◆ The telephone box was officially opened in June 2021, after the completion of its refurbishment. It is now a book swap and information point. The facility has been well used and is popular at its location near the station and the Flitch Way.
- ◆ Our Duty Councillor scheme continues to support local residents in need of assistance.
- ◆ Installation of 5 new litter bins around the village.
- ◆ Installation of two benches (one being the reinstatement of the 1937 coronation bench with the help of the Community Group).



- ◆ The Parish Council was able to take back the 'Eastlight' contract, meaning the PC now maintains the grass and hedges opposite the school on Capel Road and the area by Barracks yard.
- ◆ The building of the Ashes Walls fell victim to time and the oncoming of winter. By October we had the planning application, faculty, funding and archaeological advisor in place. The footings were dug, and the first courses of bricks were laid, before an issue (that has been resolved) with the bricks, stopped the project for the winter. At the time of going to press the building of the walls had recommenced and it is anticipated that when this report lands on your doorstep that they are completed.

We have aspirations for the forth coming year:

- ◆ To purchase a hedge cutter for the tractor (Sasha). This will make a huge difference to the efficiency of the groundsman.
- ◆ To be more strategic and further our community engagement.
- ◆ To update our website and also engage all residents of Rayne especially at either end of the age range.
- ◆ To sit on the Ingrebourne Valley liaison committee for the forth coming mineral extraction.

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Chair's Report Cont.

The village continues to have issues with littering, dog fouling, fly tipping, inconsiderate parking and while there is no easy answer to any of these problems and we don't have a magic wand, but we will endeavour to do our best to try ease them.

There are many volunteers that also help around the village. Including litter pickers, the group that look after the planters, the Community group, Speed Watch, the Village Hall Committee and many others that do so much for our village. On behalf of the Parish Council I personally thank you all.

We had to take the difficult decision to increase the precept demand by 5.99% to keep up with increasing staffing costs and to be able to continue to provide the high-quality service to the village. This increase equates to an increase of 27p on to monthly council tax.

The Council and village continue to receive fantastic support from our District Councillor Paul Euesden and County Councillor Graham Butland during the last year and we thank them for their dedication to aiding us with village issues.

After the last tough two years, we hope to kick this summer off with a fantastic Jubilee weekend. The Community group are busy organising events and there will be something for everyone. So, keep an eye on the Rayne in Focus and social media for the upcoming events. It will be great that we can do something together to celebrate such a landmark event. We hope to see you there!

Ann

Your Village, Your Meeting - The Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish meeting is your opportunity to ask questions about the work of your council and hear from other organisations that form an integral part of village life. We look forward to meeting with you on Wednesday 20th April at 7pm. Please see the Agenda below on the events of the evening. Awards, recognising the contribution made by villagers, will be presented at the end of the meeting. In conclusion may we thank all villagers for their support in making Rayne such a pleasant place to live.

AGENDA

The evening starts at 7pm with refreshments and tables/stalls set up by community groups for your interest

1. WELCOME – From the Chairman — Mrs Ann Hooks at **7:30pm**
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3. MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
4. PRESENTATIONS FROM INVITED SPEAKERS:

Pupils from Rayne Primary School

Ingrebourne Valley, Victoria Harris, Minerals & Environmental Planner

and Andy Clark, Man Director

Rayne Heritage, Richard Bale and Roman Kukiewicz

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Community Group, Ian Reynolds, Martyn Phillips

PC Paul Draper, Update on policing in the area

6. PRESENTATION OF CITIZENSHIP AWARDS
7. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS
8. CLOSURE— 9pm

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Continuing Parish Council Activities:




- ♦ Litter picking and emptying waste bins
- ♦ Provision of recycling sacks and waste bags to dog owners
- ♦ Maintenance of grass and associated hedge areas within the village, including Churchyard maintenance, public footpaths and the planting of spring bulbs
- ♦ Provision and maintenance of street lighting (the parish council does not own all the village streetlights)
- ♦ Liaison with property owners on overgrowing vegetation affecting footpaths
- ♦ Monthly summary provided to Focus magazine and regular updates on social media
- ♦ Complaints to Essex Highways regarding potholes, defective streetlights and other highway issues.
- ♦ Reporting of flytipping to Braintree District Council Green Team.
- ♦ Provision of Precept grants to Rayne in Focus magazine and Rayne Village Hall.




Planning:



Rayne Parish Council is a statutory consultee on planning matters and lawfully has a right to be consulted on planning applications tendered to Braintree District Council, which would affect the village. In turn the Parish Council will invite applicants to come to a Parish Council meeting where the application will be discussed. Councillors are only able to object to planning on grounds found within the National Planning Policy Framework and although objections may be considered by Braintree District Council the District Planners are not obliged to agree with the Parish Council on the preferred outcome. Rayne Parish Council has worked hard during the year to put the resident's opinions forward to Braintree District Council and will continue to fight large developments that are considered unjustified for the area considering this an important piece of council work.

	Virtual	Virtual										
Cllr	April	May	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Precept	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Agutter	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	A	A
Eldred	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A
Hooks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meehan	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	R
Murton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Pickton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A
Rippingale	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spencer	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓
Willis	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wilsdon	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓	A

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

 @rayneparishcouncil
 Rayne Parish Council
 www.rayne-essex.gov.uk

 @rayneparish
 Rayne Parish Council
 rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

 @rayneparishcouncil
 01376 552489

Rayne Community Information Point and Parish Office

This facility is there for you to bring any issues or concerns regarding the Parish, Braintree District or Essex County Councils to the Clerk for help or advice.

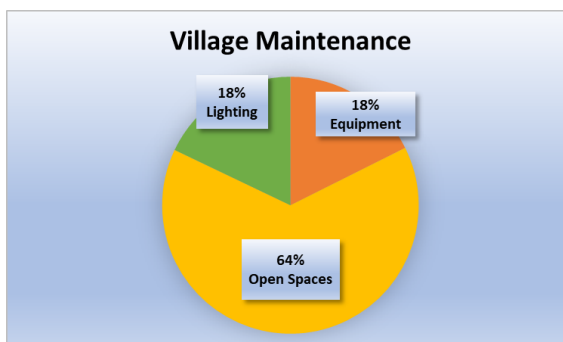
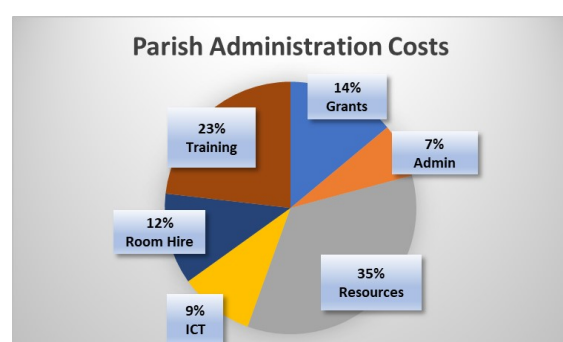
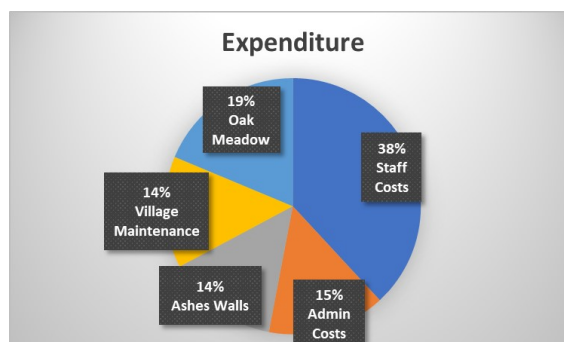
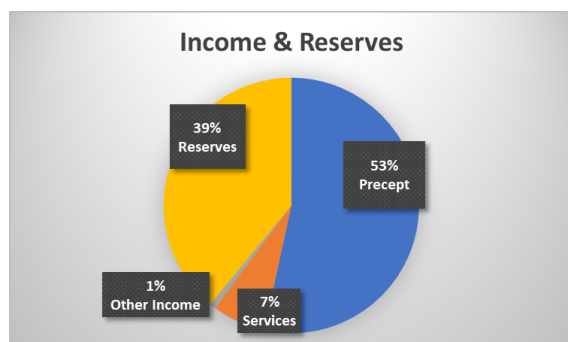
Open Mondays 12.30pm – 3.00pm and Thursdays 9.30am -12noon at the rear of Rayne Village Hall

CIP, Gore Road, Rayne, Braintree, Essex CM77 6TX Telephone No.: 01376 552489

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HOW IS YOUR MONEY SPENT?



Total Income & Reserves £83,463

Total Expenditure £56,512

Introducing Your Parish Councillors:



Chairman

Cllr Ann Hooks

Email: cllrhooks@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Tom Agutter

Email: cllragutter@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Dawn Pickton

Email: cllrPickton@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Karen Spencer

Email: cllrspencer@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Scott Wilsden

Email: cllrwilsden@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Vice Chair

Cllr Mike Eldred

Email: cllreldred@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Celia Murton

Email: cllrmurton@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Trevor Rippingale

Email: cllrrippingale@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Paul Willis

Email: cllrwillis@rayne.gov.uk



Clerk: Mrs Amanda Brown, CiLCA

Email: rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

