

RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023



Chair's Report



I would cordially like invite you all to the Annual Parish Assembly on Wednesday 19th April in the Old School Room. Last year's event was very successful and I hope that you can attend to meet other villagers, groups and organisations from within the village and to learn about what the Parish Council has been doing for you.

It is never a dull moment and for a second year we have had key changes in personnel. Amanda, our clerk felt that Rayne wasn't for her and left the Parish Council in January. I would publicly like to thank her for the hard work that she did for the PC and the village during her year with us. After three rounds of advertising and one near miss in the recruitment market we finally appointed our new clerk in March. I welcome Hazel Godfrey to the fold, a person you may recognise and know from around the village.

My personal thanks also go to Sarah Cocks for stepping in as interim clerk during our period without a clerk. Sarah will also be staying on for a short while as a mentor to Hazel, to ensure we have a smooth and solid transition period.

During the last year we also welcomed two new Councillors Jan Rickwood and Martyn Stringer. Rayne is a large council with 11 seats. It can be quite an achievement keeping all of those seats filled. This year is no exception, there are councillors stepping down and not seeking re-election at the forth coming local elections.



If you have an aspiration to be a councillor please keep an eye on our social media and website, as there are often vacancies. Many of the councillors, (including myself) 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.

The Council cannot run without dedicated people, people stepping up and going above and beyond for our village. I would like to thank all of the Councillors and especially those that take on extra

responsibilities on charring committees and of course Mike Eldred being a brilliant and dependable vice chair.

Mark and Dave our groundsmen continue to do a fantastic job around the village. Using a 'see it, do it' attitude when jobs crop up around the village, this is of course alongside the programmed works. The verges, hedges and nature reserve have never looked so tidy and well kept. They now take before and after photos when tackling work, so we can share on our social media.



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

- ♦ The two new Ashes walls were completed in April 2022. Giving ample room for years to come, for people to commemorate their loved ones.
- ♦ Purchase of a hedge cutter attachment for our tractor. This has allowed our groundsmen to be more efficient, covering a larger area in a safer manner.
- ♦ Our Duty Councillor scheme continues to support local residents in need of assistance.
- ♦ Installation of two salt bins around the village.
- ♦ The Parish Council continues to hold the 'Eastlight' contract, meaning the PC continues to maintain the grass and hedges opposite the school on Capel Road and the area by Barrack Yard (Bay tree Close)

We have aspirations for the forth coming year:

- ♦ 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.

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Chair's Report Cont.



- ♦ To commence Councillor surgeries, allowing villagers to engage fully with the Council
- ♦ Updating of the planters on The Street.

During the past year I have sat on the Ingrebourne Valley Liaison committee (along with two other Councillors) being updated on its construction and liaising with any issues with the mineral extraction site. There was also the very successful evening, where archaeological exhibits from the quarry site were displayed at the school. In my capacity as Chair of the PC, I have attended BALC (Braintree Association of Local Councils) meetings to share our village experiences with other parishes in our district. I have also attended meetings about the Old School Room, that requires our love and attention, to make it a viable business prospect going forward.

The village community spirit was fantastic during the Jubilee weekend in June, where businesses, groups and parishioners came together to celebrate the monumental achievement of our late Monarch. We also came



together again in September on the sad occasion of Her Majesty's death, with many villagers coming out on a dark Sunday evening to observe national mourning and the proclamation of our new King. I hope that Rayne will have the same spirit for the impending Coronation.

Rayne continues to have issues with littering, dog fouling, fly tipping, inconsiderate parking & while there is no easy answer to any of these problems, we will endeavour to do our best to try to 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 decision to increase the precept demand by 7.8% to keep up with increasing staffing and running costs and to be able to continue to provide the high-quality service to the village. This increase equates to an increase of 37p on to monthly bills for a band D property.

I wish you all well and I hope to see you on the 19th! 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 19th 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.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY AGENDA

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

1. WELCOME—From the Chairman—Mrs Ann Hooks at **7:30pm**
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3. MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
4. NAMING OF THE HEDGECUTTER
5. PRESENTATIONS FROM INVITED SPEAKERS
 - Pupils from Rayne Primary School**
 - Essex Fire Chief Officer, Rick Hylton**
 - Ingrebourne Valley, Victoria Harris, Minerals & Environmental Planner and Andy Clark, Managing Director**
 - PC James 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 residents' 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.

Councillor Attendance to Full Council meetings 2022/2023

A = Absent
R = Resigned

Cllr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Precept	Dec	Dec Ext	Jan	Feb	Mar
Agutter	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Davies	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Eldred V. Chair	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hooks Chair	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Murton	A	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	X	A	✓	✓
Pickton	A	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Rickwood	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Rippingale	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Spencer	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Stringer	n/a	n/a	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Willis	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wilsdon	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	A	A	✓	A	✓	✓
Euesden (Dist)	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	•	✓	•	✓	A	✓
Butland (ECC)	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	✓	•	✓	•	✓	A	A

KEEPING IN TOUCH:



@rayneparishcouncil



@rayneparish



@rayneparishcouncil



Rayne Parish Council



Rayne Parish Council



01376 552489



www.rayne-essex.gov.uk



rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

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.

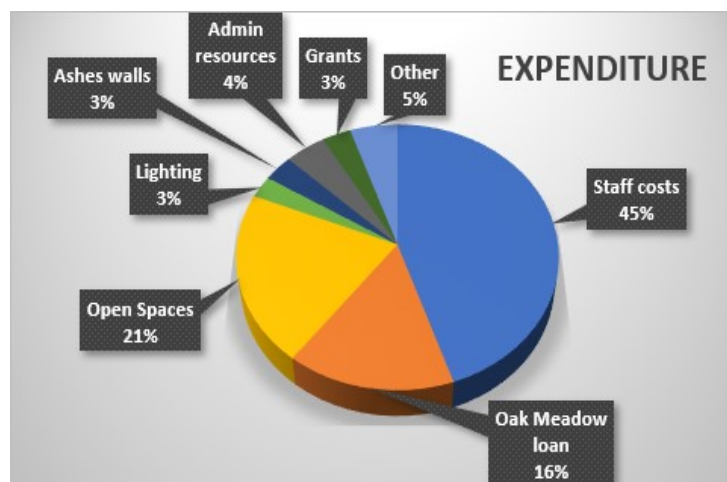
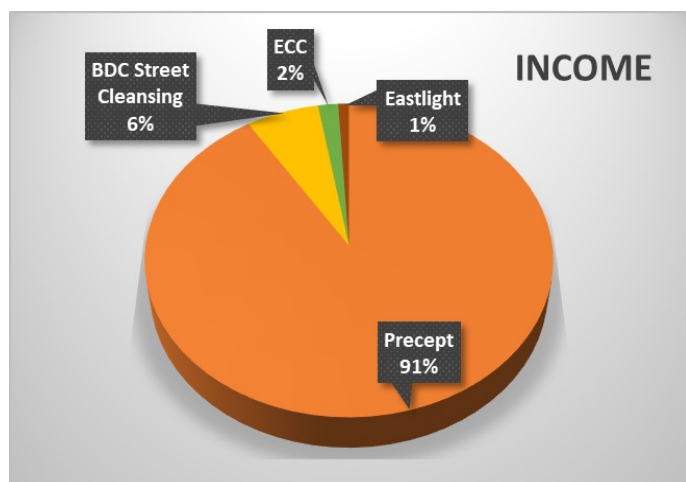
Open Mondays 12.30pm – 3.00pm and Thursdays 9.30am -12noon at the rear of Rayne Village Hall

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

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HOW IS YOUR MONEY SPENT?



Total Income & Reserves £91,197

Total Expenditure £66,622

Introducing Your Parish Councillors:



Chairman

Cllr Ann Hooks

Email: cllrhooks@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Vice Chair

Cllr Mike Eldred

Email: cllreldred@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Tom Agutter

Email: cllragutter@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Cllr Celia Murton

Email: cllrmurton@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Jan Rickwood

Email: cllrrickwood@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Cllr Trevor Rippingale

Email: cllrrippingale@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Karen Spencer

Email: cllrspencer@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Cllr Paul Willis

Email: cllrwillis@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Scott Wilsdon

Email: cllrwilsdon@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Cllr Martyn Stringer

Email: cllrstringer@rayne-essex.gov.uk



Cllr Kimberley Davies

Email: cllrdavies@rayne-essex.gov.uk

Clerk: Mrs Hazel Godfrey

Email: rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

