



RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 1st AUGUST at 7.30pm IN THE OLD SCHOOL ROOMS, SHALFORD ROAD, RAYNE

Present: Cllr T Agutter Cllr K Davies
Cllr M Eldred (V Chair) Cllr C Murton
Cllr T Rippingale Cllr K Spencer
Cllr P Willis

Councillors: County Cllr Graham Butland

Clerk: Mrs A Brown

Members of the Public: 0

Apologies: Cllr A Hooks Cllr M Stringer Cllr S Wilsdon
District Cllr P Euesden

AGENDA NO.	BUSINESS
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The V Chair, Cllr M Eldred, chaired the meeting in Cllr A Hooks absence.

22/060

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr A Hooks, Cllr M Stringer, Cllr S Wilsdon and
District Councillor Parul Euesden

Resolution

The apologies were accepted by the councillors present at the meeting

22/061

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Agutter declared any interest if there were IT matters discussed.

22/062

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th July 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

Resolved

Proposed: Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Rippingale, all agreed

To note the draft minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 25th July

There were no minutes from the planning meeting 25th July available

22/063**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

22/063.1**District & County Councillor Reports**

County Cllr Butland confirmed that the BDC Local plan was unanimously voted through at the meeting and this could mean a drop in the 5-year land supply for housing

County: Request by RPC for potholes to be filled in was confirmed as being received and those to be repaired would be planned by highways at the end of the month.

Devolution/levelling up: Essex was working on how to proceed and decide what could be done: Essex as a county is made up of three groups: 2 Unitary Councils and the County Council. ECC is reviewing how the levelling up finance could affect three areas: Economy, Communities, and Transport & Infrastructure. The government may insist on putting a Mayor in place who would also be the Police and Crime Commissioner if the County request funding.

Transport maybe one area which would come back into local government control if the finances allow.

ECC need to close a gap of 80 million in the budget. Which will be difficult with pay rises for staff in the region of 6% plus the fuel prices are affecting all Local Authorities plus adult social care.

22/064**Report from the Chair**

The report from the chair had been previously circulated.

22/064**ADMINISTRATION****22/064.1****Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report had not been circulated but the clerk reported at the meeting that all was up to date from previous meetings.

22/064.2**Co-Option**

BDC have confirmed that RPC can go ahead and make a co-option for the vacant seat on the council as there was no call for an election.

It was agreed to advertise for a councillor and use the previous advert again in the Focus Magazine.

Resolved

Proposed: Cllr Willis, Seconded: Cllr Agutter, all agreed

22/064.3**Wifi at the Old School Rooms**

This item is being deferred to the C& D meeting on 8th August 2022

22/064.4**Use of Noticeboards**

The review of the noticeboards was deferred to the C& D meeting on 8th August.

- 22/064.5 SLCC Membership**
It was agreed not to renew the SLCC membership until the personnel issue has been resolved.
- Resolved Proposed: Cllr Spence, Seconded Cllr Rippingale. All agreed.
- 22/064.6 Grants/Funding Opportunities**
The Clerk proposed a report would be circulated during September on grant funding available.
- 22/064.7 Unity Trust Bank**
Forms were signed to change the signatories on the banking.
- The council have a bank card. Clerk to find out which bank account the card is used for. Clerk to report back in September.
- Councillor K Davies is to be an authoriser.
- Resolution Proposed: Cllr Rippingale, Seconded: Cllr Murton. All agreed.
- 22/065 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**
- 22/065.1 Nature Reserve & Open Spaces**
The pond is spring fed – in good condition so will try for a grant to do silt removal works necessary.
It is thought that the rabbits are dying from lack of water and lack grass as the numbers are declining.
- 22/065.2 Tree Inspections**
The Clerk to be included in meeting with Paul King to discuss the tree inspections has been agreed with the Chair.
- 22/065.3 Oak Tree Report**
Councillors agreed to forward the report on the Oak tree to the tree wardens for their comments. Any further decisions will be deferred until the Tree Wardens have reported back.
- Resolution Proposed: Cllr Eldred, Seconded Cllr Rippingale. All agreed.
- 22/065.4 Grounds Work**
Purchase of hedge cutter from Agri-Mech is going ahead with the deposit paid and the balance due on the day of delivery, which is scheduled for 15th August. The hedge cutter will need to be added to the asset register and onto the insurance schedule.
- Resolution Proposed: Cllr Murton, Seconded: Cllr Willis. All agreed.
- The Cllrs wanted to minute their thanks to the groundsmen for all their work.
- Requested that Dog Poo Bins go elsewhere rather than doubling up. Cllr Rippingale stated that BDC don't want to put out new bins but will double up on what is already available.

It was requested to cut back growth on the Dunmow Road at the junction to/from Felsted as vision is obscured when pulling out onto the junction.

The tractor can fit through the pedestrian gap at the side of the vehicle entrance to the car park, so it is not necessary to get under the height barrier.

22/065.5

Village Hall

Nothing to report from Cllr Murton

22/066		FINANCE	
22/066.1		August Payments and July Receipts	Resolution
To review and approve the following items of expenditure, retrospective payments and note payments by Standing Order and any Receipts:			
Invoice No.	Amount (£)	Payable to/Received from	Payment in respect of
	1,920.24	Salaries	Clerk & Groundsmen
Inc	94.80	Overtime payment	Groundsman Emergency Call-out
July	277.45	Essex Pension Fund	Combined contribution
	18.21	Clerks Expenses	Mileage
	6.50	Groundsmen Expenses	Mileage for call-out
7653581	208.87	Fuel Genie	Petrol & Diesel
IN04043021	276.93	NPower	Street Lighting Apr - June
Jun stmt	230.10	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	Consumables
Feb-Jun	270.00	Allen Taylor	Grounds Contractor
36370	202.20	A & J Lighting	Mending streetlight in Fairy Hall Lane
106922	5,180.00	Beechdale Matlock Limited	Hedgecutter balance
	126.92	HMRC	Tax/NI
22/066.2	Payments Made by Direct Debit/Standing Order		
36345	41.10	A J Lighting	Maintenance
20607	49.20	CSD Network Services	IT services
7497	15.00	F A Jiggins	Rental of Unit
22/066.3	Receipts		
	964.58	Essex County Council	Grass Cutting
22/066.4	Retrospective Payments made during July		
	72.60	RCCE	Membership
	1,000.00	Beechdale Matlock Limited	Hedgecutter deposit
	1,648.13	Essex Pension Fund	Pension payments from January - June
22/066.5	Bank Reconciliation		
	To note the bank reconciliation to the end July 2022: £ 32,024.90		

22/067

MEETINGS AND TRAINING

Cllr Davies reported that she could not attend the 20 is plenty webinar because of work commitments but that the presentation notes would be sent through.

22/068	PRIVATE SESSION
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To agree the exclusion of the public and press for the consideration of the following items for the reasons set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Resolution Proposed: Cllr Willis, Seconded: Cllr Murton

22/068.1 The clerk confirmed pension payments to the LGPS had started and been back dated to January. This meant that the Clerk's portion of the pension needed to be paid to the council.

The Clerk requested to repay this in three instalments.

The councillors requested a contract to show the amount to be repaid with a payments schedule.

Resolution Proposed: Cllr Willis, Seconded: Cllr Agutter. All agreed

22/069	OPEN MEETING TO THE PRESS & PUBLIC
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Resolution Proposed: Cllr Eldred, Seconded: Cllr Davies.

22/070 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next **Parish Council Meeting** will be held on **Monday 5th September 2022**. Please send items for the agenda to the Clerk by **Monday 22nd August 2022** at the latest.

22/071 **CLOSURE**

With no further business to be conducted the meeting closed at 20:48hrs

Signed By:

Dated: 5th September 2022