



RAYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Amanda Brown
Community Information Point, Gore Road,
Rayne, Braintree, Essex CM77 6TX
Tel: 01376 552489

E: rpc@rayne-essex.gov.uk

W: www.rayne-essex.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of Rayne Parish Council held on **Monday 5th December 2022 at 7.30pm** in the Old School Rooms, Shalford Road, Rayne for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Members present:	Cllr K Davies	Cllr A Hooks (Chair)
	Cllr C Murton	Cllr J Rickwood
	Cllr T Rippingale	Cllr K Spencer
	Cllr M Stringer	Cllr Paul Willis

District Councillor P Euesden

Clerk: Mrs Amanda Brown

Members of the Public: 6

MINUTE NUMBER	BUSINESS
22/119	APOLOGIES
Resolution	Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Eldred, Agutter and Wilsdon as work commitments and illness kept them away from the meeting. Proposed: Cllr Murton, Seconded: Cllr Rickwood. All agreed. County Councillor Graham Butland also gave his apologies.
22/120	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	There were no declarations of interest
22/121	CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th NOVEMBER 2022
Resolution	The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 th December were signed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed: Cllr Davies, Seconded: Cllr Stringer. All agreed. Minutes of the Budget & Precept meeting held on Monday 14 th November were also signed after an amendment to the wording of minute number 22/114.4 which the councillors wanted to read as: A grant will be considered as and when an application is applied for during the summer as at this time the budget will not stretch to the giving of a grant.
Resolution	Proposed: Cllr Murton, Seconded: Cllr Spencer. All agreed.
22/122	PUBLIC FORUM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident asked about parking, "has there been any initiatives to help with the issue of parking in the village" as he cannot get in and out of his drive and pedestrians cannot walk along the pavement because of cars putting their wheels
	Rayne in Focus ask for considerate parking

	<p>up on the kerb?" The Chair answered that the NEPP can be asked to visit at a time when the problem occurs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions arose about the planning application for No. 43 Shalford Road. Plot size is an old plan when the previous owner was living there. Too big a building to fit on the plot. The access road is private. • Broadfield Farm, solar farm. The farm is operating as an industrial site, the solar farm is a very small part of the available land so questions were asked as to what is happening to the rest of the land. • A resident pointed out that the grass areas in front of the school have been churned up by grass being cut wet. It was explained that it looked bad because of the new nonslip tyres on the mower. 	
22/122.1	District & County Councillor Reports:	INFORMATION
	<p>The District Councillor had to leave the meeting, so the Chair moved onto her report.</p> <p>20:53 Paul gave his report.</p> <p>Fenton's Road fencing has at last been completed. The remaining fencing on approach slopes does not belong to National Highways. Paul has written to ECC to ask who owns the fencing as he has located a name, phone number and email address of a contact for ECC Highways.</p> <p>The BDC Road Sweeper came to the village very quickly to clear away the straw from the roads.</p>	
22/122.2	Chair's Report	
	<p>The Chair gave an update on applications for the Clerk's role. Interviews would take place on Tuesday 6th December when it was hoped that two candidates would attend.</p> <p>A Christmas tree would be entered for the All Saints Church Festival at the weekend. Multiple gingerbread men will be displayed around the village for the Rayne Parent Staff Association Holiday Trail.</p> <p>Wethersfield Airbase Scrutiny Committee are in a position to oppose the building of the prison if it comes to planning. As the Government have cut the budget for prisons residents are hoping it will not now go ahead.</p> <p>James Cleverly MP visited the area to understand the impact the prison could have on the community and what an asset the open space could be if the prison does not proceed.</p> <p>The Chair attended the Braintree District Council Budget Scrutiny Committee meeting and was advised that Rayne needed to precept for the large reduction of the street cleansing grant. BDC are exploring increasing parking charges in the Town, charging for green bins to remove green waste from households and cutting back on floral displays in order to plug the budget deficit.</p>	

22/122.3	Clerks Report
	Councillors raised no questions regarding the report. The Clerk was asked to contact the District Councillor who covers the area at Sun Lido to request the Highways Rangers to cut back vegetation and overgrown hedges on Rayne Road leading to the Springwood Industrial Estate roundabout.
22/123	CORRESPONDENCE
Resolution	<p>Rayne Primary & Nursery School have agreed that the January and May meetings may be held in the school hall due to the Old School Rooms being unavailable to the parish council. The booking form is to be completed by the Clerk. The January meeting date has been changed to Tuesday 10th January and the Annual Council meeting to Tuesday 9th May, both at the school hall.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Hooks, Seconded: Cllr Murton. All agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Hooks now has authority to upload payments to Unity Trust bank for authorisation in the absence of the Clerk, when this occurs two other bank account signatories will be required to authorise payments.</p>
22/124	NEW WEBSITE & EMAIL PROVIDER
Resolution	<p>Cllr Davies reported on potential website and email providers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal to agree a website designer. It was agreed to undertake further negotiations with a company called Wingnut and ask them to a Zoom meeting to include Cllrs Eldred and Agutter and to come to the Communication & Data Committee meeting on 9th January either face to face or again over Zoom. <p>Proposed: Cllr Davies, Seconded: Cllr Willis. All agreed.</p>
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Proposal to agree on an email provider. It was again agreed to have further discussions with Wingnut. <p>Proposed: Cllr Willis, Seconded: Cllr Murton. All agreed.</p>
22/125	PERSONNEL MATTERS
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A proposal was tabled that new employees will be entered into the NEST pension scheme, if and when, the Council wish to offer a pension. Proposed: Cllr Spencer, Seconded: Cllr Davies. All Agreed.
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To agree an employer contribution of 7.5% for new employees over the qualifying amount. Proposed: Cllr Willis, Seconded: Cllr Spencer. All agreed.
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The LGPS pension scheme will be terminated/suspended when the current clerk leaves. Proposed: Cllr Davies, Seconded: Cllr Spencer. All agreed.
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To agree the employment and salary of Sarah Cocks as a locum clerk in the current clerk's absence of extended leave. Proposed: Cllr Spencer, Seconded: Cllr Rippingale. All agreed.
Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To make note and agree the National Salary Award from the Local Government Association for 2022-23. Proposed: Cllr Spencer, Seconded: Cllr Rippingale. All agreed.
22/126	PLANNING
22/126.1	New Planning Applications

	<p>22/02916/FUL Erection of 1 x 3/4 bedroom, two and a half-storey dwelling with associated amenity space and parking, Land Rear Of 43 Shalford Road Rayne Essex. Comment by: 6th December. Unanimously rejected by all councillors. Comment to be sent to Braintree Planning Dept., building design not in keeping with the village, Barnfield is a private road so access cannot be guaranteed, a precedent should not be set to use land at back of gardens. Not part of the Rayne village design statement.</p> <p>Ref. No: 22/03024/HH Single storey rear extension. Planning Application. 2 New Road Rayne Essex CM77 6TG Status: Pending Consideration. Comment by: 12th December.</p> <p>The Councillors comment to BDC planning dept., no planning grounds for objection.</p> <p>Ref. No: 22/03179/FUL Installation and operation of a 50kW ground mounted solar array on land associated to Broadfields Farm. Planning Application. Broadfields Farm Dunmow Road Rayne Essex CM77 6SA. Comment by: 22nd December 2022.</p> <p>The councillors comment to BDC planning dept., no planning grounds for objection.</p>
Resolution	Proposed: Cllr Hooks, Seconded: Cllr Davies. All agreed.
22/126.2	Planning Results
	<p>Cllr Spencer reported to the councillors that the Perkins Garage application was refused as it was a poorly put together application. The District Cllrs were appreciative of a Rayne Parish Councillor attending the planning committee meeting to give a statement.</p> <p>Application refused land north-west of School Road</p>
22/127	ENVIRONMENT
	<p>Proposal to update the Open spaces action plan to spend the £3,600 S106 monies left for us to spend in Rayne.</p> <p>Request to spend money on restoration of the ponds within the nature reserve.</p>
Resolution	Proposed: Cllr Rickwood, Seconded Cllr Murton. All agreed.
22/127.1	<p>Grounds:</p> <p>Tractor tyres are now fitted on the mower and work very well. Quotes to be sought for tractor tyres for the two front wheels.</p> <p>The Council need quotes for the two salt bins.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to check on the insurance that the groundsmen could store up to 72 ltrs of diesel in the unit at Goulds Farm.</p>
22/127.2	<p>Oak Tree: Further to the previous decision to ask Monarb to trim the tree, the Clerk has spoken to them and two other tree specialists who agree with our Groundsmen that no further work should be done to the tree.</p>
Resolution	Proposed: Cllr Murton, Seconded: Cllr Rippingale. All agreed.
22/127.3	<p>Nature Reserve: A Sparrow Hawk has taken up residence around the village and is keeping down the pigeon and rabbit populations at the Nature Reserve and surrounding area.</p>
22/128	REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Signed:

Dated: 10th January 2023