

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup>. OCTOBER 2023 IN THE  
RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllrs. Turner, Macrae, Abbott, Wright, Cairns, Prime and Hammond.

**Also present:** Parish Clerk Kevin B. Money, ECC Cllr. Playle and 1 member of the public.

**2463. To receive any apologies for absence.** None received

**2464. Disclosure of any Pecuniary Interests relating to this agenda.** None declared

**2465. To agree the minutes of the Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.** All Agreed

**2466. Chairman's report.**

I was pleased to see BDC planning committee support the officers' recommendation to refuse the solar farm application at a recent meeting. The reporting in the Braintree & Witham times was a bit misleading by not explaining the support it mentioned was not local support but came from all over the UK including Northern Ireland, I believe this was organised support, as I mentioned last month. A date will now be fixed for an appeal. Highways have cleaned out the drains in St. Mary's Road, we will have to wait until the next heavy rain to see if the problem has been fixed, it's possible as the drains were full to the top with debris the outlet pipes may also be blocked, the drains should be cleared more often before the rubbish reaches the height of the outlet pipe.

Flooding:

We were told some time ago that the problem with the flooding just under the rail bridge was a broken pipe in the field and it was the responsibility of the EA, as this has not been dealt with, can our ECC Councillor please get this problem resolved and also as a matter of urgency supply us with the contact details of the correct department so we can also apply some pressure as the flooding is a H&S issue.

Bus Shelter:

The bus shelters were very dirty with graffiti on the newest one. I have now cleaned the new one but could not remove the graffiti and have also swept the wooden shelter

Buses do not run to time and miss buses out on a regular basis

A wreath has been ordered by the Parish Council to be laid on behalf of the residents on Remembrance Sunday. Rivenhall Millennium Committee will erect the remembrance tributes throughout the Parish on 1<sup>st</sup>. November.

**2467. BDC Councillor report**

- BDC uptake on new green bin has increased but only 15% of residents in the District
- 2,500 residents in the district have assisted bin collections due to mobility problems. BDC were asked if those residents can be added to the new green bin subscription system from spring 2024, but without any charges
- No paper copies are delivered to residents anymore, unless a specific request is made to BDC
- Can a few copies be printed and placed inside notice boards and website? Search BDC website
- Paper bins have been removed due to fly-tipping
- Devolution is being led by ECC

**2468. ECC Councillor report**

- Potholes deadline for phase 2 has placed more into the system
- Following a walk around the village
- Highways work in the coming months
- Waste management 100% of what ECC does not get reused goes into landfill site
- In 3 years' time all rubbish will not be burnt and placed in landfill sites but will convert it into energy

- All Councils to offer roadside glass collections
- Booking system for recycling centre consultation starts next week. And open for 6 weeks either on-line or telephone or libraries. High level of satisfaction. Ease of booking. Not as many residents using the site as originally thought. Fly-tipping has not increased.
- Bus consultation taking place.

ECC Cllr. Playle left the meeting

#### **2469. Public Forum for 10 minutes**

A speeding issue happened in the village where pedestrians and a car could have been involved in a major accident. Councillors discussed about setting up a Speedwatch

#### **2470. Matters for Discussion.**

i. RPC Website. The Clerk explained that as the website is comprehensible it is recommended to stay with Nebulas as the hosting site.

Photographs of Councillors. Meeting dates for 2024 etc to be placed on the website

ii. Internet banking. It was decided to change to internet banking with Unity Trust Bank. All banking information will be sent to Councillors for completion before the next meeting. 4 Councillors. Cllr Abbott proposed to change bank to UTB Cllr Wright seconded.

#### **All Agreed**

iii. Rivenhall Neighbourhood Plan.

The Village Design Statement was produced in September 2005 lasting for 20 years.

Councillors discussed having a Neighbourhood plan and to seek a presentation from EALC & Feering PC to talk to Councillors on future NP involvement.

A local Neighbourhood Plan is good for the residents of Rivenhall

The Clerk to write to BDC planning officer to see what weight a NP carries

iv. Winter highway salt storage at Rivenhall End.

The Winter Salt has been delivered. A further site is needed at Rivenhall End for the salt to be stored. Suggested we request permission from Henry Dixon Trust to storage salt on their site

v. Highway maintenance

(a) Marked pedestrian road crossings – Oak Road & Rickstones Road

An inspection with ECC Cllr Playle and Cllr Prime of various sites have been undertaken where there is good and poor visibility. Three LHP form need to be completed. Bring to next meeting.

All footpaths are passable but footpath 48 from Hoo Hall Bridge to the train line is wet in couple of places. ECC Officers will inspect the footpaths in November with a view to fitting a boardwalk in those two areas.

Ask contractor to cut re-wilding verges once a year at the end of October.

Cllr Abbott stated that other verges throughout the parish were being cut by third parties and this should be stopped.

vi. General maintenance

(a) War Memorial and garden plus Village Green flower beds.

War Memorial and garden needs attention.

War Memorial is flaking and names need restoration. 1 quotation has been received for £15,850 to repair the War Memorial. It was proposed that 3 quotations were sought. The Chairman will seek grant funding. **All Agreed**

Gardens around War Memorial the Church volunteers state it is beyond their scope. New plants to be purchased. Cllr Hammond volunteered to get quotation for new plants. Cllr Abbott proposed to spend up to £300 on new plants. Cllr Prime seconded. **All Agreed**

Cllr Turner proposed restoring the gardens near the wooden bus shelter at The Oak Cllr Hammond seconded. **All Agreed**

**2471. Planning Applications:**

- i. New Applications: No new planning applications have been submitted
- ii. Results: No planning decisions made by BDC affecting Rivenhall
- iii. Appeals: No planning appeals made by BDC affecting Rivenhall
- iv. Enforcement: No enforcement issues have been made by BDC affecting Rivenhall

**2472. Ongoing Planning Issues:**

- i. A12 to A120 widening. No update
- ii. BDC Local Plan. No update
- iii. Bradwell Quarry. No update
- v. IWMF. Next meeting is on 5<sup>th</sup>. October at 11am
- vi. Colemans Quarry. No update
- vii. BDLHP. No update

**2473. Finance matters:.**

To agree accounts for payment.

Chq 1599 £30.00p to Essex & Herts Air Ambulance - Donation  
 Chq 1600 £60.00p to RBL – Poppy Wreath  
 Chq 1601 £36.00p to C.P.R.E. - Donation  
 Chq 1602 £1409.06p to BDC – Election costs  
 Chq 1603 £176.00p to P. Little – Local handyman repairing notice board  
 Chq 1604 £421.18p to K. Taylor - Salary/expenses September '23  
 Chq 1605 £105.00p to K. Burton - Litter picking September '23  
 Chq 1606 £210.00p to P. Scott - Litter picking September '23  
 Chq 1607 £108.00p to Nebulas Website Design - Website hosting  
 Chq 1608 £227.40p to P. G. Groundcare Ltd - Maintenance September '23

**2474. Information exchange and items for the November agenda.**

LHP – Road survey to be discussed - Councillors discussed about setting up a Speedwatch  
 The Clerk to find out costing of speed camera

Rivenhall Neighbourhood Plan – EALC & Feering PC representative

The Clerk to find out costing of a NP

2 New Notice Boards at Bluebells and at the Bus shelter

EALC AGM

13.6% of crimes solved by Police: Scam leaflets were circulated: The Jubilee Oak tree on the village green appears to have been damaged by BDC with a strimmer. Serious fly tipping in Church Road.

**2475. Ten minutes public feedback (if required).**

No questions were asked

**2476. Dates of future meetings.**

7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in Rivenhall Village Hall at 7pm and

5<sup>th</sup> December in the Henry Dixon Hall starting promptly at 7.30pm

Items for the November agenda to the Clerk by 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at the latest.

**January 2024 meeting date should be Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>. January not 9<sup>th</sup>. January**

**2477. Closure. The chairman then closed the meeting at 9.30pm**

Signed

*R Turner*

Robert Turner - Chairman

7<sup>th</sup>. November 2023