



Rivenhall Parish Council

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF RIVENHALL AND RIVENHALL END
IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX

Clerk to the Parish Council Email: clerk.rivenhallpc@gmail.com

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th March 2024 in the Henry Dixon Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllrs R Turner, J Cairns, D Hammond, J. Macrae, J Prime, R Wright (& Dist.)

Also present: Locum Clerk Mrs A Brown, County Councillor Ross Playle and 27 members of the public.

2574 To receive any apologies for absence: Apologies received from Cllr James Abbott

2575 Disclosure of any Pecuniary Interests relating to this agenda: A personal interest was noted for Cllr Macrae as he is affected by the mineral extraction which comes up at point 2580.

2576 To agree the minutes of the Meeting held on 6th. February 2024

Matters arising from the minutes: Cllr Jean Cairns was missed off the attendance for the meeting.

It was to be noted that Cllr Cairns did not speak to the PCSO as written but spoke to the Witham Street Scene Enforcement Officer (the Street Warden).

It was resolved to agree the minutes with the above items noted. Proposed by Cllr Prime, Seconded by Cllr Cairns. All agreed.

2577 To accept the resignation of the Parish Clerk Mr. Kevin B. Money as at 29th. February 2024

It was discussed that Mr Money should continue to do the finances of the Parish Council until the AGAR is completed. A Locum would take the minutes and complete work arising from the meetings until a permanent Clerk was employed. Proposed by Cllr Turner, Seconded by Cllr Macrae. All agreed.

The County Councillor report was brought forward as C. Cllr Playle had further meetings that evening.

2578 Essex County Councillor report

Flooding – not much more information to impart from what was said at the last meeting – Essex has said that work with the CCTV is ongoing as additional manhole covers haven't yet been found, there is damage to the pipes underground which is causing the flooding.

A County Council budget meeting was held mid Feb. There was an additional £12m for Highways to fill potholes along with sections of pavements to be repaired and gullies to be cleansed.

The Locality Grant is available again, each County Councillor will have £5k to give away to community groups and good causes within their area.

The appointment system for the refuse centres has now been made permanent.

Questions from the public:

- Lorries are hitting the bridge because the signs are not working.
- Will the flooding work be completed by the summer?
- Roads and pavements are filled with silt from the flooding which needs to be cleaned up.
- The road needs to be completely resurfaced by the bridge as too many potholes right across the road.

2579 Public Forum for discussion on the Essex Minerals and Waste Plan

The public forum was opened for members of the public to give their views on the Essex Mineral & Waste Plan.

- Beautiful road of the A12 will become a corridor for the gravel pit.
- The vision of the countryside towards Tiptree will be lost.
- Will the transshipment site be open 24/7 because of the railway line.
- Rivenhall will be surrounded by the gravel pits and will lose its identity.
- Site investigations have been taking place over the last 3 years. Have the public been duped by the County Council that the new road will make the noise less, until the railway siding goes in which will create lots of noise.
- There is already a degradation to the air quality from A12 and the incinerator in Silver End, why would we want to have even worse air quality from the quarry.
- Worries about noise from the lorries.
- There is an area that abuts a residential area. Residents of that area are worried about health conditions with the dust. Prevailing wind will push dust across the village.
- Mineral plan rejected 5 years ago why now putting it through.
- The village has had the A12 widening over the last 8 years and now have the likelihood of the quarry expansion on our doorstep.
- With D7 and the development of a railway siding the investment necessary will not mean a temporary licence is issued.
- The company have not yet spoken to the National Railways about putting in the siding.
- What legal rights do the residents have over health concerns.
- The County Council have highlighted the areas from the call for sights in red. these will not all be chosen.
- Please take part in the consultation.
- Will the quarry be a cause for concern to Highways now they have built the new road.
- The report indicates that the site will be bringing minerals into Essex from the Midlands.
- Don't just object to the sites but object to the where the lorries are going to be traveling as this leaves dust and debris.
- Please make your own formal responses. Don't just rely on the Parish Council.
- Objections must be made on planning grounds not just that you don't want it.
- There are reasons to object in the Parish magazine and on a leaflet which was given out.
- On Thursday 7th Braintree will be discussing the sites and will be objecting to all sites along the A12.
- There should be no need for the conveyor belt as storage should be found on the existing site.
- Timing and light pollution are reasons to object.
- With high winds and higher temperatures in the summer due to the environment and global warming residents will find it impossible to have windows open because of the dust.
- Don't forget to mention detrimental effects to wildlife on the river blackwater.
- It was in 2006 the last time the site was rejected.

2579 Chairman's report:

This will leave no quality of life for residents.

The Chairman further reported that there was still flooding in Rickstones road and other areas in the village and the Parish Council had not received any response from Highways.

2580 Councillors to discuss the Essex Minerals Local Plan Review Consultation

Railway sidings are on the highest part of the field so visually won't be able to be screened. Light will be intrusive as it will be on the higher ground. Carriages wheels of the train trucks will be noisy especially on the points as the sidings are high and the noise will travel. As the rail siding and associated land will be designated as a brownfield site, will this bring more housing to the area?

Rock coming into the site is not any link for the Essex Minerals plan. Braintree district planning will not be able to block it on those grounds as it is still minerals and decisions will be made by County. This is only the initial consultation for landowners,

The Chairman suggested that Cllr Macrae should write the objection to go to the County Council after circulation to all councillors. Proposed by the chairman, seconded by Cllr Prime. All agreed.

2582 BDC Councillor Report

District Councillor report from Cllrs Abbott and Wright:

Braintree District Council will be agreeing its response to the Essex County Council draft Minerals Plan at a meeting of its Local Plan Committee, on Thursday 7th March. Cllr Abbott is a member of that committee and will be attending to raise the many issues that local residents have already expressed about the numerous proposed sites near Rivenhall End.

We asked Essex County Council Planning about the significant deposits of sand and gravel on the A12 slip road from Witham, that being part in Witham and part in Rivenhall parish. At first they said it was not for them to act on, but we asked again and they then advised that Essex Highways had contacted the quarry who have agreed to deploy a road sweeper to resolve the issue as a good will gesture. It is unclear if the Rivenhall quarry is responsible, but we did say to ECC that other deposits of sand and gravel on local roads at junctions had been seen to come from tipper HGVs. Brice Aggregates say they have instructed a company to undertake the works but will need traffic management.

With the ongoing appalling state of Oak Road at the railway bridge, we contacted Cllr Tom Cunningham, who is both Deputy Leader of BDC as well as the ECC Highways Cabinet Member, to ask for his assistance in resolving the repeated deep flooding and the dangerous state of the road where numerous vehicles have been damaged over the winter months through hitting deep potholes.

When attending Silver End Parish Council in February, we mentioned that Rivenhall PC was seeking to work with other local parishes on Speedwatch, in case they, as well as Cressing PC, might want to support any joint initiatives.

BDC agreed its Budget for 2024/5 at its meeting on 19th March. The budget amendment from our group to assist residents with assisted bin collections – to add them all to the system but without the extra green bin charges – was voted down. During discussions with officers prior to the budget meeting, it emerged that the previous quoted number of residents in the district with assisted collections had been stated in error by BDC, it is not 2500, but 1200.

The representative from Essex Wildlife Trust who came to see the various rewilding and tree planting projects soon after they were completed in early 2023 is visiting again next week to check on progress.

2583 Update of Speedwatch volunteers combining with Cressing PC

The Locum Clerk was asked to follow up with Cressing Parish Council to see if they want to join Rivenhall PC to form a Speedwatch group.

2584 2 New Notice Boards at Bluebells and at the Bus Shelter

No progress to report.

2285 Highway maintenance

Drain cover is sticking up again in Oak Road, between last house on left and the bridge.

Potholes on the zebra crossing are getting worse in church road, these are a tripping hazard to residents and children walking to school.

Finger post on the junction of Church Road, Oak Road and Rickstones Road needs to be replaced. No entry sign has been knocked down and been reported previously, still not dealt with. On Park Road chevrons have been knocked down.

2586 General maintenance

Nothing to report.

2587 Planning Applications

24/00229/HH - Glebe Farm Cottage Rectory Lane Rivenhall

Conversion of garage, raising of roof height and erection of front dormer. No objection.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2015

Application No: ESS/89/23/BTE

Proposal: Replacement of the existing two bridges over the River Blackwater on the private access road to Rivenhall IWMF and Bradwell Quarry, with a new single bridge and vertical realignment of the connecting access road and a temporary construction compound.

Location: Indaver Rivenhall IWMF, Coggeshall Road, Essex, Bradwell, CM77 8EF

No comments were necessary.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (as amended)

Application No: ESS/34/15/BTE/08/08 & ESS/34/15/BTE/08/09

Proposal: 1) Notification of planned abnormal load arriving on 14 February 2024 to the IWMF site.

Notification as required by condition 8 of ESS/34/15/BTE. ESS/34/15/BTE is planning permission for an Integrated Waste Management Facility

2) Notification of planned abnormal load leaving on 16 February 2024 to the IWMF site. Notification as required by condition 8 of ESS/34/15/BTE. ESS/34/15/BTE is planning permission for an Integrated Waste Management Facility

Location: Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road (A120), Braintree CO5 9DF

No comments were necessary.

2588 Planning Decisions made by BDC / ECC

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (as amended)

Application No: ESS/39/23/BTE/01/01

Proposal: Details pursuant to condition 1 (Notification of commencement) of ESS/39/23/BTE.

ESS/39/23/BTE was for "Continuation of development of the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) with deletion of condition 66, approved details thereunder and associated conditions (Plan of Action if development not taken forward within 5 years) of planning permission ESS/34/15/BTE.

ESS/34/15/BTE was amended planning permission for "The Integrated Waste Management Facility comprising: Anaerobic Digestion Plant treating mixed organic waste, producing biogas converted to electricity through biogas generators; Materials Recovery Facility for mixed dry recyclable waste to recover materials e.g. paper, plastic, metals; Mechanical Biological Treatment facility for the treatment of residual municipal and residual commercial and industrial wastes to produce a solid recovered fuel; Deinking and Pulping Paper Recycling Facility to reclaim paper; Combined Heat and Power Plant (CHP) utilising solid recovered fuel to produce electricity, heat and steam; extraction of minerals to enable buildings to be partially sunken below ground level within the resulting void; visitor/education centre; extension to existing access road; provision of offices and vehicle parking; and associated engineering works and storage tanks." a variation to the planning permission for the Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF) allowing deletion of condition 66, approved details thereunder and associated conditions of the planning permission ESS/34/15/BTE."

Location: Land at Rivenhall Airfield, Coggeshall Road, Braintree, CO5 9DF

It was noted that a planning application for the school has been put forward to Witham Town Council that should have come to Rivenhall Parish as the school in their parish and should not be considered by Witham Town Council. Clerk to enquire of Braintree District Council.

2589 Planning Appeals

Nothing to report.

2590 Ongoing Planning Issues

- 1) A12 to A120 widening.
- 2) BDC Local Plan.
- 3) Bradwell Quarry.
- 4) IWMF. 13th is the next meeting

- 5) Colemans Quarry. Liaison meeting 10 days time, sand gravel and cobbles on the highway. Cllr Macrae to attend
- 6) BDLHP.

2591 Finance matters

- a. Bank reconciliations as at 29th. February 2024, agreed.
- b. The comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2023/24, was noted.
- c. To approve the payment of Accounts for March 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements, agreed.
- d. Cheque number 101699 Kim Burton £105.00p. Cheque number 101700 Paul Scott £210.00p

Proposed by Cllr Macrae, seconded by Cllr Turner. All agreed.

2592 Information exchange and items for the next agenda

Maintenance contractor has not responded to request for work to be completed.

Parish Clerk – EALC to keep advert ongoing.

A reply was needed to the applicant who had responded to the post.

How many objections have BDC received and are showing on the planning portal.

2593 Ten minutes public feedback

A member of the public offered his services to find the water courses which were causing the flooding.

2594 Dates of future meetings

2nd. April 2024 in the Rivenhall Village Hall starting at 7pm.

2595 2024 Meeting dates

07.05.24 (APCM at VH): 04.06.24 (HDH): 02.07.24 (VH): 06.08.24 (VH): 03.09.24 (HDH): 01.10.24 (VH): 05.11.24 (VH): 03.12.24 (HDH): 17.12.24 (HDH Precept meeting)

2596 Closure of the Meeting

Meeting was closed having considered and determined all items of business at 21:05

Signed

Chairman, Bob Turner

2nd April 2024