

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2ND JUNE 2020
HELD ELECTRONICALLY DUE TO THE COVID-19 HEALTH RESTRICTIONS.**

All councillors took part via email.

1984. Disclosure of any Pecuniary Interests relating to this agenda.

Cllr. Abbott declared non-pecuniary interests in all matters relating to ECC, and the BDLHP.

1985. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 5th May 2020.

The minutes were **approved** to be signed later by the Chairman.

1986. Matters for Discussion:

i. Could RPC meetings be held via video conferencing.

It may be possible to hold the July meeting in the Village Hall, but it must be clarified by BDC that the hall can be used for public council meetings whilst observing and COVID 19 rules applicable at the time.

There is at least one councillor who would be unable to participate if the meeting was convened via Zoom or equivalent, so if the hall isn't available the meeting will be conducted via email.

ii. Boundary fence 40 Church Road & Albert Moss Playing Field.

It is anticipated that confirmation of the ownership of this fence lies with the property owners, therefore, any remedial/improvement works to the fence are their responsibility. Should they wish to raise the height of the fence above the maximum allowed under permitted development rules then this may require a planning application.

iii. BDC Spring & Autumn Rural Verge Cutting.

RPC welcome the new BDC policy on verges and the trial but request information from BDC as to why all parishes were not initially consulted. RPC will consult with residents over the summer period with a view to requesting that verges within Rivenhall Parish to go into the programme at the review of the trial.

iv. Highway Maintenance.

The Chairman, as the ECC Member has written to the Cabinet Member expressing disappointment regarding the Member-led footway programme; of the 7 schemes submitted, 1 was done in full, 1 was only partially done (Rickstones Road), 1 is yet to be done and 4 were refused without any notice and without the opportunity to supply alternatives.

Highways England has been requested to cut back the overgrowth along the A12 cycle track.

Highways England have taken enforcement action to prohibit the use of the unofficial entrance off the A12 at the rear of properties in Foxden; some materials remain on the verge.

BDC has not responded to the request for a TPO on the trees at the junction of Oak Road and Henry Dixon Road.

v. General Maintenance.

The maintenance contractor has been requested to trim back the overgrowth of the hedge along Oak Road from the houses along to the railway Bridge; to check

and cut back overgrowth along Henry Dixon Road from the notice board along to the A12 flyover and to cut back the overgrowth at the bottom of the slopes from Henry Dixon Road up to the A12.

1987. Planning Applications:

New Applications:

20/00765/FUL & 20/00766/LBC: Conversion of barn into 4 bed dwelling - Ford Farm

Planning Results:

Members raised no objections to this application but request that BDC includes the conditions applied to the original 2018 consent in respect of a lighting condition so that the development is sympathetic to its rural and sensitive environment. The Rivenhall Brook valley is a locally important habitat for bats, owls and birds of prey as evidenced by detailed ecological surveys for Ford farm itself as well as several other properties along the valley.

1988. Ongoing Planning Issues:

i. A12 & A120 Projects.

Nothing to report at this time.

ii. BDC Local Plan.

Following the Inspector's letter indicating that the NEA's joint Local Plan Section 1 can only be made sound by removing West of Braintree and West Tey garden Communities from the Plan with associated modifications, discussions are underway at BDC about the process to do this which will need to be done before Section 2, which contains the vast majority of development required in the Plan period to 2033, can be looked at. BDC indicate likely adjustment to Section 2 will be an additional 500 to 1000 dwellings across the District.

iii. Bradwell Quarry.

Nothing to report at this time.

iv. IWMF.

Nothing to report at this time.

v. Colemans Quarry.

Nothing to report at this time.

vi. BDLHP.

The next video meeting is scheduled for 25th June 2020.

Discussions regarding the new PRoW along Church Road are on-going but the RPC position is on hold until later in the year.

1989. Finance matters:

To agree accounts for payment

With **full agreement** the following cheques were drawn:

1374	£230.00	H. M. Revenue & Customs	1 st ¼ PAYE 2020/21
1375	£420.00	P. G. Groundcare Ltd.	General maintenance May '20
1376	£90.00	Karen Bridge	Litter picking May '20
1377	£336.70	K. P. Taylor	Salary/expenses May '20

1990. Items for the July agenda.

- * To consider an earlier start of the normal RPC meetings, e.g. 19.00 hours.
- * The Clerk's membership of the SLCC.
- * Purchase of flower bulbs for Autumn planting and to consider holding a residents bulb planting day in the Autumn.

1991. Dates of future meetings.

7th July and 4th August, but due to the COVID-19 health restrictions, both may be convened electronically, co-ordinated by the Clerk and Chairman.

Further items for the July agenda to the Clerk by 26th June at the latest.

Signed:

Date: 7th July 2020

CHAIRMAN

The Chairman could not sign the minutes at the July meeting due to the COVID-19 restrictions.