

**RIVENHALL PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1ST NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE
RIVENHALL VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Cllrs. Abbott, Wright, A'Lee, Cairns, Elliott, Prime and Turner.

Also present: Parish Clerk, ECC Cllr. Ross Playle (arrived late) and 1 member of the public.

2307. Chairman's Report.

The Development Consent Order (DCO) planning process for the A12 widening project is now well underway with the deadline for registering to take part being midnight, this Friday 4th November. The Parish Council has registered to take part and also recently organised a meeting for those local residents most closely affected by the current A12 and the proposed bypass route south of Rivenhall End. This was held on 24th October and we are grateful for representatives from the A12 Project Team attending to assist residents with information. There have also been briefing meetings for local councillors held recently by both the A12 Project Team and Essex County Council (ECC). At the ECC briefing, they put forward suggested "alternative" uses for the "old" de-trunked section of the A12 through Rivenhall End which are very different to the proposals that are going forward in the DCO application. These involve reducing the "old road" to 2 lanes and digging up the other 2 lanes to leave to rewild.

Clarification is being sought from ECC as to whether they are going to pursue their alternative plans through the DCO process and also requesting that they work with the local community on what is a highly important matter for the future of Rivenhall parish.

2308. To receive any apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2309. Disclosure of any Pecuniary Interests relating to this agenda.

Cllr. Abbott declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 2313 as a member of the BDC Planning Committee.

2310. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2022.

The minutes **were approved with one vote against** and then signed by the Chairman.

2311. Public Forum for 10 minutes.

- * Dysfunctional streetlights on Rickstones Road were reported.
- * When ECC Cllr. Playle arrived he reported upon various Highway issues relevant to Rivenhall, including, again, potholes and dysfunctional streetlights. He was also informed of the poor condition of the local footways, particularly along Rickstones Road and the poor road surface markings at the Railway Bridge on Oak Road.

2312. Matters for Discussion:

- i. Braxted Road Commodity Centre possible further expansion.
The Clerk will contact Maldon D.C. requesting to be kept informed should any new planning applications be received by then regarding the Commodity Centre, explaining RPC's concern regarding potential increase in HGV traffic from the A12 via Braxted Road and Appleford Bridge. Great Braxted P.C. also to be

requested to inform RPC should any such applications be referred to them for comment.

ii. A12 Development Consent Order/A12 Detrunking.

RPC is now registered to the A12 DCO process; and the following initial registration comments have been submitted. More details can be added as the process goes on and RPC will be asked if they wish to apply for Rule 6 status.

Initial comments submitted are:

For the new bypass section of the A12.

Compensatory planting for trees lost to the development.

Minimising impacts of new street lighting on residents and the local environment.

How traffic will respond to the new road and local links, particularly HGVs using Braxted Road and Little Braxted Lane (and related impacts on the narrow river bridges) and how signage and other measures can ensure existing problems with HGVs are not made worse.

What will happen after development with land taken by the project for construction compounds and borrow pits.

Impacts from noise from a widened A12.

The relationship between the new bypass section of the A12 and Coleman's Quarry.

The impacts on residents and the environment of the new much larger Witham North junction

In respect of the "old" A12 (de-trunked section).

Ensuring that Oak Road is stopped up to traffic.

Pedestrian and cycling access including PRow and the proposed controlled crossing.

The reinstatement of a local bus service (bus drivers currently will not stop on the A12 due to safety issues) and the provision of new bus stops and shelters.

The 'roundabout to nowhere' proposed near the Fire HQ.

The "alternative" plans for the de-trunked section as put forward by Essex County Council - the opportunities for greater biodiversity gain.

RPC can request a grant from the Designated Funds for projects related to matters arising from this major project.

The Clerk will contact both Witham TC and Kelvedon PC suggesting a joint meeting to discuss the ECC proposal for the A12 detrunking.

The matter to be further discussed at the December meeting.

iii. ECC Minerals Plan.

ECC has revised the end date of the Minerals Local Plan from 2029 to 2040 and a new call for sites will be required.

iv. RPC website updating.

Updating of the RPC website will be undertaken by Nebulas Website Design Ltd. as agreed with effect from December 2022.

v. Planting plaques.

It **was agreed** that the wording on the plaque should read "*This tree and wildflower area was established by Rivenhall Parish Council to mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of parish Councils (2019) and as part of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy initiative (2022)*", and that quotations be obtained.

vi. Three Parishes Meeting.

Cressing has opted out of the arrangement and Silver End, due to a lack of Councillors, are finding things very difficult at the moment.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to the two Braxted Parish Councils inviting future liaison upon important local issues.

- vii. Highway Maintenance.
- (a) Quotation for the brickwork repair on the footway connecting St. Mary's Road and Church Road are still awaited.
 - (b) A representative from NH is hopeful of attending the RPC December meeting.
 - (c) The footway along Rickstones Road is, in parts, in very poor condition. **
 - (d) The BT Openreach cover on Rickstones Road requires to be completely rebuilt.
 - (e) The road surface lines at the Railway bridge on Oak Road require repainting. **
- ** These were both reported to ECC Cllr. Playle upon his arrival. (See 2311)
- viii. General Maintenance.
- (a) Invoice forwarded to BDC in the agreed sum of £1,330.00 as grant towards refurbishment of Village Green posts.
 - (b) The Chairman has applied for 30 free trees from the Woodland Trust for the replacements needed.
 - (c) BDC has approved the RPC rewilding scheme and will liaise with RPC prior to full implementation.
 - (d) The ECC verge planting licence application process has commenced and will require the approval of ECC Cllr. Playle.

2313. Planning Applications:

- i. New Applications:
- 22/02086/HH: Single storey 4 bay cart lodge - Ford Farm House, Church Road. 'No comments' letter forwarded to BDC after consultation.
- 22/02672/HH: Single storey rear extension - Park Gate Farm House, Park Road. 'No comments' letter forwarded to BDC after consultation.
- ii. Results:
- 22/00390/HH: Erection of single storey three-bay garage, 321 Rickstones Road. Permission refused.
- 22/02006/FUL: Classroom extension etc. - Rivenhall School. Permission granted.
- iii. Appeals:
- A letter supporting BDC's decision to refuse the original application re Bellway Phase 4 has been submitted to the Planning Inspector.
- iv. Enforcement:
- There was nothing to report.

2314. Ongoing Planning Issues:

- i. A12 to A120 widening.
- Representatives for the Development Consent Order attended a meeting with local residents on 24th October in Henry Dixon Hall to address local issues relation to the A12 widening.
- For further comments see 2312(ii) above.*
- ii. BDC Local Plan.
- The BDC Housing Land Supply for housing remains below 5 years, therefore, planning applications will be subject to National Planning Regulations. This might well affect the Bellway Phase 4 Appeal.

- iii. Bradwell Quarry.
Nothing to report.
- iv. IWMF
Nothing new to report.
- v. Colemans Quarry.
Nothing new to report.
- vi. BDLHP.
The next meeting is scheduled for December 2022 with a date and time to yet be agreed.

2315. Finance matters:

To agree accounts for payment.

It **was agreed** that the following accounts be paid; cheques were then drawn accordingly.

1529	£600.00	Rivenhall & S. End P.C.C.	Magazine & Mower grants 2022/23
1530	£42.00	Nebulas Website Design Ltd.	Renewal of Domain site for 2 years
1531	£228.00	P.G. Groundcare Ltd.	Maintenance October '22
1532	£145.00	Paul Scott	Litter picking October '22
1533	£70.00	Kim Burton	Litter picking October '22
1534	£383.90	K. P. Taylor	Salary/expenses October '22

Members were reminded that the Budget/Precept meeting is scheduled for Friday 16th December 2022 in the Rivenhall Village Hall. Suggestions for 2023/24 expenditure to be forwarded to the Clerk by the end of November.

2316. Information exchange and items for the December agenda.

Nothing was raised.

2317. Ten minutes public feedback.

Not required.

2318. Dates of future meetings.

6th December in The Henry Dixon Hall and 3rd January 2023 in Rivenhall Village Hall, both starting promptly at 19.30 hours.

Further items for the December agenda to the Clerk by 25th November 2022 at the latest.

2319. Closure

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.33 hours.

Signed:

Date 6th December 2022.

CHAIRMAN