

## RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Battlesbridge Free Church Hall, Maltings Road, Battlesbridge, SS11 7RF at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Mark Fleming (Chair)

Cllr Chris Cheater

Cllr Denise Fleming

Cllr Roy Hart

Cllr Glenys Jones

Cllr Lance Millane

Cllr Ray Ride

The Clerk

There were 14 members of the public present.

**186-17/18      Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Chapman.

**187-17/18      Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

**188-17/18      Public Forum – strictly 5 minutes only per speaker**

A resident said he would like to thank the Parish Council for all they do, and in particular the ward councillors for their work.

A resident thanked Cllr Chapman for the manner in which the Parish Meeting was chaired. He said it was a pity other councillors could not attend, and he thanked Barbara Wright for taking the minutes. He asked Cllr Ride as a member of the Local Highways Panel if he would comment on highways issues. He referred to the issue of the village gateways and the involvement of Ringway Jacobs. He said the Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders meant that three quotes should have been obtained. He said the Parish Council was aware of volunteers who would do the same job and save the Council £18,000.

The Chairman said he had had a prior engagement for the night of the Parish Meeting and had sent his apologies. He said the gateways were not on the agenda for this meeting.

A resident referred to the draft budget and said he was concerned about the unallocated reserves. He asked for a copy of the Parish Meeting minutes as Cllr Chapman had gone ahead with arrangements for the Parish Poll. He asked why the public would be excluded when Items 203-17/18 and 204-17/18 were discussed.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

The Chairman said the budget would be discussed under that Item on the agenda.

The Clerk said she had taken advice from Graham White at Chelmsford City Council, and that all correct procedures were being followed with regard to the Parish Poll.

The Chairman said as Items 203 and 204 concern legal advice given to the Parish Council it was appropriate to exclude the Press and public from the discussion.

**189-17/18 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2017.**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Jones Seconded: Cllr D Fleming (5 For; 1 Abstention)

**190-17/18 To receive the Essex County Councillor and Ward Councillors' reports.**

Cllr Ride said he and Cllr Millane were dealing with various issues. The replacement procedure for the City Council's CEO would begin in January and was likely to take the best part of a year. He reminded residents that the Local Development Framework to take the City Council to 2035 was reaching an advanced stage and urged residents to attend the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to see where new houses would be built.

Cllr Hart referred to the bus service through the parish and said no tenders had been received for service 1. Service 3 with extra stops would begin from mid-January 2018.

Cllr Hart referred to Item 177-17/18 and said he had asked the question about blocking off the entrance to the Bell Fields. He said the Chairman had denied knowledge of this. He said he had an email from Cllr M Fleming regarding blocking off this access.

The Chairman said there was concern about travellers gaining access and said there was no intention to block pedestrian access.

Cllr Hart said he would like it minuted that the Chairman was a liar.

**191-17/18 To receive the Clerk's report**

The Clerk said she had nothing to report.

**192-17/18 Finance**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

To agree to authorise invoices for payment, receive copy Bank statements and details of expenditure to date.

Invoices were authorised for payment.

Proposed: Cllr D Fleming      Seconded: Cllr Jones      (unanimous)

Payee	Reason for Payment	Amount
Katherine Kane	December salary/expenses	£599.06
HMRC Q3 PAYE	Quarter 3 PAYE	£283.27
NWG Business	Water	£22.16
Rettendon Parish Hall	Meetings	£353.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,257.49</b>

**193-17/18      To agree the response to the following planning applications (all applications are available to view at [www.chelmsford.gov.uk](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk))**

17/01999/FUL – Site at Sorata Boarding Kennels, Woodham Road, Rettendon, Wickford, Essex – Demolition of existing dwelling and associated kennel structures. Construction of four bungalows with associated landscaping, hardstanding, and access improvement.

17/01846/FUL – Woodside, Woodham Road, Battlesbridge, Wickford, Essex, SS11 7QU – Proposed domestic equestrian 20m x 40m arena and stable block incorporating 3no. stables, hay store, feed store, tack room and covered wash bay.

17/01744/FUL – Rose Cottage, Main Road, Rettendon, Chelmsford CM3 8DJ – First floor side extension

The Parish Council were happy to support all applications.

**194-17/18      To agree the Parish Council Budget for 2018/19 (figures circulated prior to the meeting)**

The Parish Council Budget for 2018/19 was agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Millane      Seconded: Cllr D Fleming      (Unanimous)

**195-17/18      To agree the Precept demand for 2018/19**

The Precept demand for 2018/19 was agreed at £35,000, a decrease of 11% for a Band D property.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

Proposed: Cllr Millane      Seconded: Cllr D Fleming      (Unanimous)

**196-17/18      To agree to purchase a PA system for the Parish Council (details circulated prior to the meeting)**

It was **agreed** to purchase a PA system for the Parish Council from Pro Audio at a cost of £679.45.

Proposed: Cllr Millane      Seconded: Cllr Hart      (Unanimous)

**197-17/18      To receive a report about the Parish Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

The following report was received from Cllr Chapman:

*“The meeting went very well and I would like to thank all present for the patience and courtesy shown to the speakers.*

*There were a lot of pertinent questions asked which I think require answering in depth. I said to the meeting that I would present the minutes and questions to the Parish Council for discussion but in my opinion the questions require answering with too much detail to be discussed and answered in a standard Parish Council meeting. Therefore I would suggest a working group is set up to discuss and answer each question and how to present the answers to the parishioners.*

*I would suggest a second Parish Meeting or an extra ordinary meeting, where each question could be answered in depth, but not open for debate, with a written sheet containing the detailed answers with copies of supporting documentation as necessary available at the end of the meeting.”*

**198-17/18      Highways and Footpaths – to note Essex Highways Notices and receive reports from Councillors.**

Cllr Jones said FP21 had been reported. A dogbin request has been submitted to Streetscene and the telephone kiosk is still waiting to be removed.

Cllr Hart said South View Road and other pavements were in a terrible state.

Cllr Cheater reported that there was a blocked drain opposite Hoe Lane on the old A130.

**199-17/18      Street Lighting**

The streetlight on Maltings Road has been reported to UKPN.

The streetlights in Church Chase have been reported to the contractor for repair.

**200-17/18      Items from Councillors**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

Cllr Ride referred to ongoing initiatives regarding flooding on East Hanningfield Road which were supported by the Flood Management Team in Chelmsford.

**201-17/18**      **Date of the next Parish Council Meeting** – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 7.30pm at the Rettendon Memorial Hall, Main Road, Rettendon, CM3 8DP

**202-17/18**      **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**Having regard to the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted, to agree to exclude the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.**

Having regard to the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted, it was agreed to exclude the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Proposed: Cllr D Fleming      Seconded: Cllr Ride      (Unanimous)

Cllr Hart left the meeting due to a conflict of interest as a trustee of the Bell Fields charities.

It was agreed that the Parish Council's Standing Orders would be suspended due to the meeting lasting more than two hours.

Proposed: Cllr Cheater      Seconded: Cllr M Fleming      (Unanimous)

**203-17/18**      **To discuss correspondence received from Tees regarding the appointment of trustees to the Bell Fields charities 271479 and 271480 and to agree any action necessary**

Correspondence received from Tees regarding the appointment of trustees to the Bell Fields charities 271479 and 271480 was agreed and necessary action was agreed.

Proposed: Cllr M Fleming      Seconded: Cllr Millane      (6 For; 1 Against)

**204-17/18**      **To discuss correspondence received from Tees regarding South Woodham Ferrers Football Club's use of the Upper Bell Field and to agree any action necessary**

Correspondence received from Tees regarding South Woodham Ferrers Football Club's use of the Upper Bell Field was discussed and necessary action was agreed.

Proposed: Cllr M Fleming      Seconded: Cllr Millane      (5 For; 1 Against; 1 Abstention)

The meeting closed at 9.43pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman