

RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at the Rettendon Memorial Hall, Main Road,
Rettendon on Tuesday 21st December 2021 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr Sandie Cottee
Cllr Hazel Dale Evans
Cllr Roy Hart
Cllr James Knight
Cllr David Phillips (Chairman)
Cllr Ray Ride
Cllr Barbara Wright

Chelmsford City Councillor Paul Clark also attended.

There were two members of the public present.

110-21/22 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Mark Fleming (health) and the apologies were accepted by the Council.

111-21/22 Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

Cllr Hart said he would like it noted that councillors who were trustees of the Bell Fields charities could not vote on financial or other matters that affected the Bell Fields now or in the future.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

112-21/22 Public Forum – strictly 5 minutes only per speaker

A resident referred to the Council's Standing Orders and the requirements for display of the Notice of Meeting, which were three clear days prior to the day of the meeting.

The Chairman said details of the meeting had been displayed on the website three clear days although not on the noticeboard. He said he had discussed this with the Clerk and the decision had been taken to go ahead with the meeting. He said steps had been put in place to ensure all correct procedures were followed in the future.

The resident said the lack of public interest concerned him. He said the reaction of certain councillors and the way they voted was predictable and often appeared "cut and shut". He said matters should be discussed.

Signed _____
Councillor D. Phillips, Chairman

He said he was concerned about abstentions and a councillor abstaining was basically voting with the majority. He said he did not believe it was fair to residents for their councillors to abstain.

A resident wished everyone present a Merry Christmas.

Cllr Cottee said she would like to give her reason for abstaining on the vote on changing Standing Orders at the meeting held on 30 November 2021. She said she had originally opposed the changes but had reconsidered her position during the discussion at the meeting particularly having heard the Clerk's views. She said having therefore been left in a dilemma she had chosen to abstain although with hindsight she believed she should have stuck to her original decision.

Cllr Hart asked about progress on maintenance of the Council's streetlights.

The Chairman clarified the position.

113-21/22 Agreement of Minutes

a) To agree the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 30 November 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 30 November 2021 were **agreed** as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

114-21/22 Finance

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

Invoices for payment were **authorised** as listed below and copies of bank statements were **received**.

S-Type Security & Solutions	Security patrol	£455.00
HMRC	PAYE Q3	£314.19
K Kane	December salary	£730.76
K Kane	Mileage	£31.50
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	£19.00

115-21/22 To agree the response to the planning applications listed in Appendix 1 of the agenda

21/02276/FUL - 24 Maltings Road Battlesbridge Wickford Essex - Demolish conservatory and construct single storey rear/side extension.

The Council **agreed** to support this application but noted concerns about the size given that the application site was within a conservation area. The

Signed _____
Councillor D. Phillips, Chairman

Council noted the comments already submitted from Planning Listed Buildings and Conservation.

116-21/22 To consider and possibly agree the budget for the 2022/23 municipal year

The budget for the 2022/23 municipal year was **agreed** as circulated and is attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

It was noted that reserves would be agreed at a future meeting and consideration would be given to including a figure for maintenance of the Council's bus shelters.

117-21/22 To consider and possibly agree the precept demand on Chelmsford City Council for the 2022/23 municipal year

It was **agreed** that the total precept demand for 2022/23 would be £44,336.

The Band D charge for the 2022/23 year would be £54.50, an increase of 1.2% on the 2021/22 year.

The Council noted the use of existing reserves to limit the increase in the precept, but looked to ensure there was adequate funding for the planned budgeted spending.

118-21/22 To review and possibly agree that the Parish Council will submit the comments circulated prior to the meeting as their response to the proposed licence for Hayes Country Park.

Cllr Knight and Cllr Phillips declared an interest in this Item and took no part in the vote.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council would submit the comments circulated prior to the meeting as their response to the proposed licence for Hayes Country Park, subject to alterations suggested by Cllr Ride regarding flooding mitigation, which would be circulated to all Councillors prior to submission.

119-21/22 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 7.30pm, Tuesday 25 January 2022, Rettendon Memorial Hall, Main Road, Rettendon CM3 8DP

The meeting closed at 9.29pm.

Signed _____
Councillor D. Phillips, Chairman

Appendix 1

Rettendon Parish Council

Budget 2022/23

Code	2021/22	2022/23
Administration		
Hall hire	750	800
Insurance	2000	2000
Postage	25	50
Stationery	150	150
Audit	800	800
Subscriptions	900	900
Elections	500	500
Office Equipment	500	500
Bank Charges	24	36
Zoom	750	250
	6399	£5,986
Council Equipment		
Noticeboards	3000	2000*
	3000	£2,000
Grants		
Rettendon Primary School	1500	1500
Other	2000	4500
Platinum Jubilee	600	500*
	4100	£6,500
Legal Fees		
Bell Fields	-	1,000*
	-	£1,000
Media		
Newsletter	300	250
Publications	500	200
Website	1500	1200*
Printed Maps	500	250*
	2800	£1,900
Parish Maintenance		

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Councillor D. Phillips, Chairman

Streetlight electricity	2800	3600
Streetlight maintenance - bulbs	500	5000*
Streetlight maintenance - other	7000	7000
Churchyards	1750	1750
Bus shelters – cleaning	1000	500
Bus shelters – maintenance	1500	1000
Street furniture	1500	1500*
Teen Shelter	1000	1000*
Verge Maintenance	5000	5000
Planting	500	500
Bell Fields	-	5000*
Defibrillators	1000	1000
Security	7000	7500
Community Transport	5000	5000*
	35550	£45,350
Neighbourhood Plan	1000	1000*
	1000	£1000
Health and Well-Being		
Misc.	500	500
	500	£500
Staff Costs		
Salary payment	10000	11000
PCSO	2000	2000*
HMRC	1000	1200
Mileage	400	400
Provision of office	250	200
	13650	£14800
Training		
EALC	1500	1000
Other	100	250
	1600	£1250
	84599	£80,786

Signed _____
Councillor D. Phillips, Chairman