

RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 28th November 2017 at the Rettendon Memorial Hall, Main Road, Rettendon CM3 8DP at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Mark Fleming (Chair)

Cllr Tom Chapman

Cllr Chris Cheater

Cllr Jacky Copsey

Cllr Denise Fleming

Cllr Roy Hart

Cllr Glenys Jones

Cllr Ray Ride

The Clerk

There were 24 members of the public present.

164-17/18 Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Millane.

165-17/18 Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

Cllr Ride said a complaint had been made regarding his failure to declare a non-pecuniary interest in Item 81-17/18 at the meeting held on 27th June 2017. He said an investigation had concluded no action was warranted. He said he had not taken part in the discussion, and apologised for his failure to declare an interest.

166-17/18 Public Forum – strictly 5 minutes only per speaker

A resident referred to Item 174-17/18 and said he had not seen the report and asked what had been the original complaint. He referred to Item 175-17/18 and said this was something the police could do for no cost to the parish. He referred to Item 180-17/18 and asked of the Church was happy that the Parish Council meeting would be held there. He referred to item 181-17/18 and said he understood the exclusion of press and public when staffing issues were being discussed. He said he had voted for certain Cllrs on the understanding that everything would be discussed in public, and could not understand why this issue needed to be discussed behind closed doors.

A resident mentioned the streetlights in Church Chase and the state of South View Road which had been discussed at previous meetings.

The Clerk said the contractor had had a look at the Church Chase lights and was waiting for further information as there seemed to be some problem with the timing.

A resident referred to the problems on Hawk Hill including LGV1 drivers who could not get under the bridge. He said the signage was inadequate and this was also a problem for double decker buses.

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

Cllr Chapman referred to the Hayes Farm crossing and said he had received an email suggesting that nothing was likely to happen with regard to this for the foreseeable future.

167-17/18 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31 October 2017.

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31 October 2017 were **agreed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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

168-17/18 To receive the Essex County Councillor and Ward Councillors' reports.

Cllr Ride said he and Cllr Millane had dealt with some planning cases, finding solutions where necessary. He said the minutes and case papers of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Chelmsford City Council was available on the CCC website. He said key indicators showed that the Council had a strong performance against targets to ensure that it would be self-sufficient when Government grants faded away completely in 2019.

169-17/18 To receive the Clerk's report

The Clerk said she was continuing with normal parish work, and encouraged residents to contact her in-between meetings if they had any questions.

170-17/18 Finance

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

Invoices for payment were authorised. There were no updated bank statements to receive.

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

Payee	Reason for Payment	Amount
Katherine Kane	November salary	£433.13
Images	Newsletter	£500.00
RBL Poppy Appeal	Wreath	£17.00
W & H (Romac) Ltd	Streetlight repair	£62.10
W & H (Romac) Ltd	Streetlight repair	£118.83
Skippers Ground Maintenance	Sonters Down	£1,050.00
StanleyTee LLP	Bell Fields advice	£1,170.00
EALC	Charles Arnold Baker book	£63.00
Total		£3,414.06

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

171-17/18 To agree the response to the following planning applications (all applications are available to view at www.chelmsford.gov.uk)

17/01792/FUL – Land South West of Iphigenia, Woodham Road, Rettendon, Chelmsford SS11 7QW – Construction of two new four-bedroom houses and associated parking, a new access including crossover, and landscaping – **No objection**

17/01979/FUL – 12 Hoe Lane, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 8DH – Replace existing conservatory roof with a replica tile roof - **Support**

17/01997/FUL – Storage building North West of Haybarn Cottage, Hawk Hill, Rettendon, Wickford – Change of use from storage/Maintenance building (Class B8) to two commercial shop floor spaces (Class A1). Renovation to create new shop fronts. - **Support**

17/01998/FUL - Storage building North West of Haybarn Cottage, Hawk Hill, Rettendon, Wickford – Change of use from storage/Maintenance building (Class B8) to two commercial shop floor spaces (Class A1). Renovation to create new shop fronts. - **Support**

17/01982/FUL – Croft House, Coalhill, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford – Demolition of rear facing existing conservatory and replacement with single storey orangery. Widening of existing first floor rear dormer window. – **Support**

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

The Chairman said Item 172-17/18 would be deferred until Cllr Hart was able to join the meeting.

173-17/18 To discuss the budget for 2018/19 (initial figures circulated prior to the meeting)

Cllr Ride said any comments should be made to the Clerk prior to the December meeting.

174-17/18 To discuss and agree to accept the report and recommendations from the working party regarding manorial rights in the parish

The Chairman said this Item would be deferred and the more detailed report would be circulated.

175-17/18 To agree to fund a speed survey on Hawk Hill - cost £324 + VAT

It was **agreed** to fund a speed survey on Hawk Hill at a cost of £324 + VAT.

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

176-17/18 To agree to support a request to the Local Highways Panel for new signage on Hawk Hill roundabout (details to be circulated prior to the meeting)

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

It was **agreed** to support a request to the Local Highways Panel for new signage on Hawk Hill roundabout.

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

Cllr Hart joined the meeting at 8.25pm.

177-17/18 Highways and Footpaths – to note Essex Highways Notices and receive reports from Councillors.

Cllr Cheater said water was pumped regularly outside 47 East Hanningfield Road washing shingle into the drain. The Clerk said she would write to Essex Highways. He said the broken gateways have been reported, and if they belong to Essex Highways they are their responsibility. He said it would be possible to have a working party to clean the gateways and a licence could be applied for. He said he was waiting for further information.

Cllr Hart said he would sort out the gateways free of charge with all necessary insurance.

Cllr Cheater asked if the Council could wait for the response from Essex Highways before taking further action.

Cllr D Fleming said it would be likely to be a five year wait for the work to be done.

Cllr M Fleming referred to Cllr Hart's offer and said the Council would need full information and research into rescinding the previous resolution. The Clerk said she would look into this.

Cllr Hart asked for clarification of whether there were plans to block off the entrance to the Bell Fields.

Cllr M Fleming said he had no knowledge of this.

Cllr Jones gave an update on footpaths and said a request for a dog bin on Main Road had been submitted.

Cllr Jones confirmed she would keep chasing regarding removal of the unused phone box.

178-17/18 Street Lighting

The Clerk referred to problems with lights in Maltings Road and said she had been in contact with the contractor.

Cllr Hart asked if the Council could consider installing two lights in Hawk Hill.

The Chairman said Item 172017/18 would be taken next.

172-17/18 To discuss the cancellation of bus services through the parish and to agree any action to be taken by the Parish Council

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

Cllr Hart said a public meeting would be held on Thursday 7th December 2017 at the Village Hall. He said a number of potential solutions could be considered including condensing services, using smaller vehicles and utilising school bus runs. He said the young and the old were the most vulnerable and it was essential the parish did not lose the service.

Cllr Jones said contact details for herself and Cllr D Fleming had been included on the latest newsletter for those who wanted to write to ECC.

Cllr Hart said the more letters written the better.

179-17/18 Items from Councillors

Cllr Jones asked for progress on the benches. The Clerk said she was in the process of gathering the necessary information and would bring it back to the Council once all was in place.

Cllr Hart asked why the next meeting was being held in Battlesbridge Church.

The Chairman said the parish was large and the Council had met in Battlesbridge before.

Cllr Cheater mentioned the Local Plan consultation and the Clerk said she would put details on the website.

Cllr Hart referred to the issue of the Bell Field charities and said he felt strongly about the Council spending a lot of money against something that was working well.

The Chairman said the Council was duty-bound to pursue the best interest of the Council.

180-17/18 To agree to change the venue of the next Parish Council meeting to Battlebridge Free Church, 10 Maltings Road, Battlesbridge, Wickford, SS11 7RS, to be held on Tuesday 19 December 2017, 7.30pm.

It was **agreed** to change the venue of the next Parish Council meeting to Battlebridge Free Church, 10 Maltings Road, Battlesbridge, Wickford, SS11 7RS, to be held on Tuesday 19 December 2017, 7.30pm.

Proposed: Cllr Chapman Seconded: Cllr Ride (5 For; 1 Against; 1 Abstention)

181-17/18 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.

It was **agreed** to exclude the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman

Proposed: Cllr M Fleming Seconded: Cllr Ride (5 For; 3 Abstentions)

182-17/18 To discuss staffing issues and to agree any action necessary

It was **agreed** that with effect from 1st December 2017 the Clerk's hours would increase to 15 per week and pay would be at SCP 23 of the NALC pay scale.

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

183-17/18 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

Deferred

184-17/18 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

Deferred

185-17/18 To agree to arrange a meeting with Tees as recommended in the letter received from Mr David Perry dated 22 November 2017.

Deferred

The meeting closed at 10.09pm

Signed _____
Cllr Mark Fleming, Chairman