



Minutes of a Meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held in Hamilton House, Station Road, Parkeston on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs Elmer (Chair), L Donn, M Donn, S Howe, P Singh, D Smith, S Stertz, T Colbourne, E Ramsay

**Also Present:** Mrs L Keating (Clerk)  
ECC Andrew Erskine

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Cllr Ferguson
2. **To receive a report from Essex Police: information only**

The report received for October 2013 was circulated and discussed: stats for the month showed 75 incidents and 18 crimes recorded against 56 incidents and 7 crimes for the same period of the previous year.

A request for similar stats to be made for the Harwich area to compare was made by the clerk with a negative response from PC T Abrahams, Harwich Neighbourhood Constable, due to the time in taking to compile the stats, however he has offered to highlight particular areas of concern over the local areas: e.g. during October there were several thefts from motor vehicles and non-dwelling burglary incidents in both Ramsey and Upper Dovercourt.

It is believed that an Open meeting is soon to be held by Essex Police; full details of venue and date to be confirmed.

**Action: Clerk**

**Street Lights:** Tending urban areas will suffer loss of street lighting overnight from January 2014. ECC Erskine has put forward a request to ECC Highways for some to stay on in Parkeston, however no response has been received to date. The proposal of adopting lighting from ECC in some areas was discussed and will be given further consideration after a period of time from the proposal being imposed and monitored.

3. **Members Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda: Members joining the meeting part way through should wait for the next agenda item before joining any discussion/debate and declare any interest on any of the remaining agenda items.**
4. **To receive a report from Essex County Councillor Andrew Erskine:**

Cllr Erskine reported:

- a) **Bus Stop seating:** following a request from a resident of High Oaks, Ramsey Road for the provision of a seat near the bus stops in both directions outside Michaelstowe Drive, will have been addressed; the route towards Harwich will not be suitable with not enough space available; the opposite route, if proved that the bus shelter was designed to include seating, then TDC should install a replacement seat. Confirmation to be sought via Adrian Summers at Essex County Council. Details of the Community Bus run by Connexions was passed to Cllr Howe for promulgation in the next RWMH newsletter.

**Action: Cllr Ramsay/Cllr Howe**

- b) **Village Agents:** following a recent meeting with RCCE, Cllr Erskine has made a request for each Parish Council to receive an information pack to consider and further understand the benefits of the services offered. Cllr Erskine handed such a pack to Cllr Smith to summarise at the next meeting of the RPPC and stated that the RCCE are willing to deliver a presentation to any interested group; such to be considered with an invite to neighbouring councils to attend, hosted by RWMH.

**Action: Cllr Smith**

- c) **Salt Bag Scheme:** a discussion concluded that the RPPC have had another tonne of salt delivered for distribution over both wards: Cllr M Donn and Cllr Singh volunteered to make the distributions and advice on manual handling and the use of salt through flyers received from ECC Highways.
- d) **A12 Flytipping:** Cllr Elmer raised the issue with Cllr Erskine who then explained that the responsibility lay with the Highways Agency and has reported the problem to them.



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- e) A120 Road Surface: Cllr Elmer raised concerns of cracks appearing in the road between Parkeston and Ramsey Roundabout and further damage from the bad weather expected. It was concluded that in contacting Harwich Town Council, to gain their support to submit a petition to Councillor Bass and Ivan Henderson for immediate repairs to be undertaken.

**Action: Clerk**

**5. To receive a report from TDC Councillor Tony Colbourne:**

- a) Land East of Pond Hall Farm: the proposed development put forward to include housing/industrial/retail and leisure facilities will be demonstrated at a public meeting to be held at the Waterfront, Dovercourt. Cllr Elmer and Cllr M Donn intend to attend and will report back at the next meeting.

**6. To hear questions from members of the public: 15 minutes allowed. None Present**

Following the public questions relating to Parkeston House at a previous meeting the clerk reported that TDC had been made aware of the hoarding in the car park of the building being damaged in the recent high winds, together with the suspicion of people accessing the building. The request for a temporary litter bin to be placed by the bus shelter in Station Road has been declined due to there being no secure fastening of the bin available.

**7. To confirm the minutes of the RPPC meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

Cllr Stertz proposed and Cllr Smith seconded a motion that the minutes to be signed as a true record with the motion carried. The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true record.

**8. To receive any announcement by the Chairman:**

- a) RPPC representation on external bodies: with the recent verbal resignation of Natalie Prior a full review of representatives was discussed with the following changes made and to be advised by the clerk:

HIP Liaison (Parkeston): Cllr Sing was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Howe, Cllr Singh accepted the position.

RWMH – Deputy to Cllr L Donn: in recognition that the post needs to be filled by a Councillor of RPPC, although not a committee member of the RWMH, Cllr Elmer was proposed by Cllr Stertz, seconded by Cllr Singh, Cllr Elmer accepted the position.

**Action: Clerk**

**9. To hear a report on actions taken by the clerk and members as agreed at the last meeting:**

- a) Item 16 (b) Parkeston Roundabout: Cllr Smith reported that the concerns of pedestrians crossing the roundabout at Station Road/A120 has been raised with the Harwich School Student Leaders, asking for the message to be passed onto all students.

**10. To consider any Planning issues received to the meeting date:**

- a) **To confirm the minutes of the Ramsey School Site Public Meeting:**

Application No: **13/01064/OUT**

**Location:** Former Ramsey County Primary School Wix Road Ramsey

**Proposal:** Construction of 8no. new dwellings on former school site

A public meeting was held at the Ramsey War Memorial Hall on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October, with a disappointing turnout of just 7 members of the public.

The minutes of the meeting were agreed, proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr L Donn with all in favour; the view of the RPPC submitted is to object to the outline application due to the fact that it encroaches on the Settlement Development Boundary as set out in the TDC Local Plan, and as detailed in the Local Plan, Policy SD5 'Managing Growth' where it states that the District Council will 'seek to protect and enhance the character and openness of the country side', the RPPC requests that they do such in this case in the village or Ramsey.

- b) To approve the delegate powers for the Char/Vice Chair and Clerk to make decisions on any application received that are considered appropriate to be done without a full meeting being called: resolved as proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr L Donn with all in favour.

- c) Application No: 13/01297/TCA

Proposal: 1 No Willow – pollard back to previous points

Location: Kasadora The Street Ramsey



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The view of the RPPC is No Objection, proposed by Cllr Ramsay, seconded by Cllr Smith.

Revised data of TPOs is to be requested from Clive Dawson for Ramsey and Parkeston.

**Action: Clerk**

d) Application No: 13/01249/FUL

Proposal: Carination of condition 02 attached to planning permission 13/00072/FUL – re position of rear projection and internal alterations

Location: Noyna |The Street Ramsey

The view of the RPPC is that the proposal is an overdevelopment of the site and have major concerns of the vehicular access onto the highway that is considered a safety issue for pedestrians and road users, both vehicles and horses; proposed by Cllr M Donn, seconded by Cllr L Donn with all in favour.

**11. To receive a report regarding the Parkeston Cemetery:**

a) Fir tree; located in front of the chapel has been examined by Clive Dawson on 16/10 following concerns of the tree being either dead or diseased who was unable to confirm either way. John Glover (Landscape Services) a qualified Tree Surgeon recommended that the tree should be cut down and was asked to undertake the work including the submission of necessary planning application.

b) Work to infill the roadway within the cemetery with chippings was agreed necessary, proposed by Cllr L Donn, seconded by Cllr Smith with all in favour.

c) The hole that was secured previously in the fencing on the boundary of the Hangings has been reported as being opened up again, needing investigation.

**Action: Cllr M Donn, Cllr Singh**

d) A risk assessment of all headstones is to be carried out once better weather settles in

e) The tenant of the Cemetery Lodge is to be approached with a request to cut the hedge on the boundary of the property.

**Ongoing Action: Cllr Elmer**

**12. To receive a report regarding the Ramsey War Memorial Hall/Playing Field:**

Cllr L Donn reported:

a) The Remembrance Day service held on 10/11 was well attended with over 50 people

b) A car though to be dumped on site at the playing field has been reported as broken down.

**13. To receive a report regarding the Welfare Park:**

Cllr Stertz reported:

a) Litter is a constant problem although volunteer, Mr Priestnell, regularly litter picks and reports any problems he comes across. A committee meeting is to be arranged to address the problem.

**14. To receive a report regarding Parkeston Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing further**

**15. To receive a report from the Transport Representatives:**

a) Ramsey: Nothing not covered elsewhere

b) Parkeston:

- **Litchgate at St Pauls Church:** Thanks were given to Cllr M Donn for arranging the copy memorials to be in place in time for Remembrance Sunday. The originals are to be placed behind the secure fencing at the chapel in Parkeston Cemetery for safe keeping with the ability for public to view; this action has been taken following evidence of vandalism of the originals prior to being removed by the RPPC.



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**16. To receive reports from Councillors attending other meetings:**

- a) Cllr M Donn attended a meeting of the Locality Board which he found a forum useful to raise topics on all issues and invited any to be brought forward for him to take to the next meeting.
- b) Cllr M Donn represented the RPPC at the Harwich Sausage Throwing Contest that he reported to be an enjoyable event.

**17. To receive any correspondence for action/information not covered elsewhere: None**

**18. Councillors report and items for future agendas: each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report on minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making unless otherwise agreed by the Chairman.**

- a) Ramsey Transport: Mayes Lane, poor condition of the road surface

**19. To agree accounts for payment:**

L Keating Clerk's salary	983.93	Landscape Services	900.00
Acumen Wages	22.20	A&J Lighting	55.80
Accent Stationers	37.45	Royal British Legion (Poppy Wreaths)	41.00

Due to late data available from TDC (currently 10<sup>th</sup> December) in relation to the impact on RPPC tax base and it's precept by the newly introduced Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) it was agreed to introduce an annual Budget meeting to be held mid-late December as a separate meeting of the RPPC for future years.

**Action: Clerk**

**20. To confirm that the next meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 in Hamilton House, Parkeston at 7.00 p.m.**

**The Chairman wished all the best for the Christmas Season and a Happy New Year to all, the meeting closed at 21.30hrs**