



Minutes of the Assembly meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held in the Parkeston Community Centre, Hamilton Street, Parkeston on Thursday 16th May 2019 at 6.45pm

Present: Cllrs Bird, Colbourne, Davidson (also TDC Parkeston & The Vines), Kadlec, Lungley, Passmore (Chair), Ramsay

Also Present: ECC Cllr Erskine, TDC Cllr Zoe Fairley (Stour Valley)

Clerk: Lin Keating

Absent: None

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Cllrs Ferguson, Stertz
2. **To confirm the minutes of the Assembly of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held on 19th April 2018:** Cllr Davidson proposed and Cllr Colbourne 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.

3. Chairman's welcome and report:

The Chairman asked for all to join in a minutes' silence in memory of George Elmer, past Chairman and Councillor of the Parish Council.

It's now been 9 months since George's passing and I can only hope we as a Council have done him proud. I am really chuffed to have served as Chairman following George's passing having been his Vice-Chair on and off for quite a few years. I hope I have been able to do him proud.

Ramsey

There has been the construction of 3 residential dwellings on the South Side of Ramsey Hill with a further application for an addition 5 dwellings behind Roborough; the current position for this application is Outline Application Refused.

Transport:

Problems still exist with HGVs travelling through Ramsey even though new signage has been erected advising of the restrictions. Similar issues have decreased slightly in Parkeston, however signage to prevent further issues is being researched.

Recreation:

The Ramsey playing field is kept tidy by contractors under the Council's landscaping contract and an investment for verti drainage, together with the devotion of the groundsman (Rob Passmore) and the trustees. The area is very popular and used well by children and families, the football teams including ladies and as a dog walking area.

Village:

Ramsey Village is kept reasonably clean and tidy with no main issues recently of fly tipping.

Parkeston

No progress on development sites in village therefore sites are still being used on occasion for fly-tipping.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Keating', enclosed in a circular scribble.



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Back alleys continue to be slight problem however thanks to this Council they have once more been cleared.

Streets are in an untidy condition with rubbish mainly due to residents continuing to put refuse bags out too early.

Emperor House: Problems still exist, Cllr Bill Davidson and former District Cllr Tanya Ferguson have been battling with the owners to have the site cleared and secured.

Transport:

HGVs on occasion are still driving down Garland Road causing some problems, routed wrongly by inadequate Satnavs.

Recreation:

The Welfare Park is a popular area being used by many children, plus regular football matches and training. Congratulations again to Cllr Davidson for all his devotion and hard work.

As for the Ramsey playing field, the area is kept tidy by contractors under the Council's landscaping contract and an investment for verti drainage

Community Centre:

Cllr Davidson has made a wonderful job of the Community Centre that is well supported.

Projects

St Paul's Church Parkeston Lychgate: in saving the War Memorial that the Parish Council are registered as custodians, the project to move the lychgate from the closed church to the cemetery has proved to be a superb enhancement to the Parkeston Cemetery and thanks must go to our former Chair George Elmer and Cllr Bill Davidson in leading the project and this Councils' vision.

Parkeston Cemetery – The renovation of the Chapel is coming along wonderfully and once more being the project is being led by Cllr Davidson. The grounds continue to be kept in good tidy condition with many compliments received from families visiting.

Finance

The Parish Council is in a stable financial condition with a small balance to carry forward to the new financial year.

I convey my thanks to all Councillors for their work throughout the year

Finally my thanks to our Clerk Lin for her devotion, time and hard work throughout the past year.



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4. Finance Report for the year ending 31st March 2019

The Clerk/RFO delivered a report of finances to year end:

Budget Overall:

The outcome of the adopted budget 2019/2020 an overall increase on last year of 3.5%.

The reduction of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) has been confirmed by Tendring District Council has been phased out and consideration of this should be given in setting next year's budget

The income from the Cemetery Lodge continues to be secured by monthly payments being made by standing order direct into the Council's bank account. However I highly recommend that a full review of the tenant's rent and charges for memorials and burials are undertaken during Q2.

Vat Return: £6,677.60 has been received in the bank February 2019.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2018/19 timetable
Internal Audit – Trevor Brown (CPFA) Internal Audit Services, Woodbridge Suffolk between 12th & 18th May 2019

External Audit – PKF Littlejohn LPP, London as appointed by the Audit Commission: Audit plan received is to set a submission date for the return of the completed AGAR Part 3, consisting of 3 parts: (1) The annual internal audit report, (2) Annual Governance statement and Accounting statements completed and approved by the Parish Council (3) External audit report and associated documentation to be no earlier than Monday 10th June 2019 following the internal audit, with a deadline 1st July 2019.

Precept 2019/20

Councillors' allowance remain in line with recommendations set by **the Tendring District Council Parish Independent Remuneration Panel:**

Maximum Band 2 Parish Basic Allowance: Member = £516

Maximum Band 2 Parish Basic Allowance: Chairman = £648

Elected Councillors are only at liberty to claim the allowance that has this year been revised to reflect attendance to meetings.

These allowances are in accordance with the Local Government legislation for any member to claim during the current budget year, 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

Contracts:

Ramsey Street Lighting: the current 5 year contract held with A&J Lighting Solutions for maintenance was renewed to run from 1st August 2018 to 31st July 2023 with an annual value circa £1208.

Landscape Services: following a tender process the current 5 year contract has been won by Marvan's Tree & Landscape Services, Ray Lane Ramsey to run from 1st May 2018 to 30th April 2023. The annual value of the contract is circa £11,880.



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Projects:

St Paul's Lychgate: the long wait of 2 years to have permission from the new owners was received and the lychgate, a War Memorial that we are registered custodians with the War Memorial Commission, has now been moved to Parkeston Cemetery as budgeted for £18k.

Cemetery Chapel: concerns of the declining condition of the chapel, it was agreed to bring the project in budget forward £20k. Councillor Davidson took lead of the project that is due to be complete by the end of May 2019 and houses artefacts received following the closure of St Paul's Church, Parkeston in 2014.

2018/19 Objectives: the bank balance to be carried forward for 2019/20 is £75,675 together with income expected from the cemetery of £7,720 and the precept of £69,202 gives a healthy income over the year, however it must be used as set in the budget; ensuring the public purse is protected and our parishioners see value for money in the precept they pay.

5. To allow public participation: 15 minutes:

- a) **Tendring District Councillor (Stour Valley)** – Zoe Fairley introduced herself in her new role that encompasses Wrabness, Bradfield and Ramsey. She is happy to support both words and is intending to bring all chairs together to address common issued, and to support individuals both Councillors and residents.

Cllr Lungley is to include Zoe's contact details on the Parish Council's website:
Zoe Fairley, New Hall, Clacton Road, Horsley Cross, Manningtree, CO11 2NU
Telephone: 07957 860820
Email: cllr.zfairley@tendringdc.gov.uk

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Bill Davidson in his new role as Tendring District Councillor (Parkeston and the Vines) who is looking forward to working with Zoe on all issues in the area.

- b) **PSCO Pat Smith** was welcomed from the new policing team at Harwich.

Pat gave an overview of reports of crime in the last month for Ramsey and Parkeston.

- Shed burglaries on Parkeston have been an issue following a similar trend in March and April with items targeted to be electric bikes.
- Ramsey Manor, lead stolen

The policing team are taking details of items that can be sold, this information is shared with cash to buy outlets to assist in reclaiming the property; details of any such items can be included by contacting the policing team: (contact details to be emailed by Pat – not received to date)

Pat reported that over the coming weekend the community policing team will be out in plain cloths until the early hours over their area.

In her role her 'patch' includes 16 villages together with attending schools outside of Harwich. The intention is to compile a monthly report of any relevant issues and hopes to attend future meetings, duties permitting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.10 p.m.