

# RAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2021 VIA ZOOM

**Present:** Faith Backhouse (FB)  
Stephen Coe (SC)  
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)  
Keith Lovering (KL)  
Jim Lowe (JL)  
Sue Newton - Chairman (SN)  
Amanda Pyall - Vice Chairman (AP)  
Trevor Sayer (TS)  
Sigi Steer (SS)  
Jayne Tann (JT)

**In attendance:** Gordon Jones - Suffolk CC (GJ)  
John Ward - Babergh DC (JW)  
3 Parishioners

**Apologies:** None

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### 21.1.1 APOLOGIES

None

### 21.1.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

### 21.1.3 PUBLIC FORUM

The Parishioners present did not wish to speak.

### 21.1.4 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

#### 21.1.4.1 PC meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2020

It was proposed by KL, seconded by SC and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2020 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

#### 21.1.4.2 Planning meeting held on Tuesday 17 December 2020

It was proposed by AP, seconded by KL and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the Planning meeting held on Tuesday 17 December 2020 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

### 21.1.5 ACTIONS FROM THE NOVEMBER 2020 PC MEETING

Most of the actions were either ongoing, or were on the agenda; there were updates on the following:

#### 21.1.5.1 Internal audit report recommendations

JC would update the February meeting.

#### 21.1.5.2 Litter from Notley Enterprise Park

AP said the situation had improved. However, she had noticed an increase in the amount of litter at the junction of Wades Lane and the B1070; JW said he would follow this up.

#### 21.1.5.3 Communications / items for Quartet

This would be discussed at a future meeting.

#### **21.1.5.4 Grass verges / parking**

This would be an item for the February meeting.

#### **21.1.5.5 Locality Grant**

The application for funding to refurbish the telephone box in Lower Raydon had been successful; a grant of £750 had been made by Babergh DC.

#### **21.1.5.6 Quiet Lanes Suffolk**

The working group had submitted lanes for approval; a spreadsheet showing the signage requirements and indicative costs had been circulated. QLS would be an item for the February meeting when the public consultation would be discussed.

### **21.1.6 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

#### **21.1.6.1 Babergh DC**

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. JW said it was likely that the elections scheduled for May 2021 would be postponed. The draft budget for 2021/22 would go back to Cabinet in February. JW said the medium term outlook was challenging; apart from the effects of the pandemic, central funding had decreased and councils were having to make some unpopular decisions. With regard to the proposals for charging for car parking, this was a discretionary service and currently running at a deficit; it needed to be cost-neutral, but it was hoped to keep the charges at a modest level. SN commented that there was an ageing population in Raydon and no bus service meant people had no option but to drive into Hadleigh. In response to her question concerning the proposed 30-minutes free parking, JW said the time limit could change. He also said the planned start date of 1 July 2021, which had been based on an assumption that the pandemic would be over by then, was likely to be postponed. In response to a question from AP about the impact on High Street businesses, JW said some research had been carried out which had showed the impact was more about the type of shops, rather than parking charges; Hadleigh had a good variety of shops. He emphasised that the council had little choice as it would not be possible to increase Council Tax any more without a referendum. He recognised that the whole issue of car parking charges was controversial, and had led to a demonstration outside his home; the police had been called and an arrest made. In response to a question from KL, JW said the intention was to roll out the Sudbury 'virtual High Street' initiative throughout Babergh.

#### **21.1.6.2 Suffolk CC**

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. GJ commented on the high number of cases of Covid-19 within the county. The draft budget for 2021/22 would go to Cabinet on 26 January and then to full Council on 11 February - the proposal was for a 1.9% increase in Council Tax. The tax base for next year would be lower than the current year; the first time in living memory. Reserves would be used to fund some of the transformation programmes and the council would be looking at ways of changing the way services were delivered. With regard to the planning application from Brett Vale Golf Club (see also minute 21.1.9.2, below), GJ said the application had been withdrawn from Babergh and would be re-submitted to Suffolk CC. He had talked to the planning team at SCC and was keeping in touch with both Raydon and Holton PCs. In response to a question from JL, GJ said the matter would be resolved as soon as possible.

### **21.1.7 SPEEDING - ANPR**

GJ had confirmed that a bid to the Suffolk 2020 Fund had been successful, and a two-year trial would start during 2021. ANPR devices would be installed at the roadside and would be periodically moved between sites of concern. The data would be forwarded to the police to assist in targeted enforcement. It was proposed by TS, seconded by JL and agreed unanimously that Raydon should be included in the trial; it would complement the Community Speed Watch initiative. Each village would be asked to advise the best locations for the cameras (up to 3 locations per village), and whether poles / posts would be required; councillors would email their suggestions to JC as soon as possible.

## **21.1.8 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **21.1.8.1 RFO's report**

It was proposed by TS, seconded by AP and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 12 January 2021 should be approved; payments of £1,674.08 were authorised, together with a direct debit of £167.87 to E.ON in respect of the electricity supply to the Pavilion (however, it was noted that this had subsequently been refunded as E.ON had taken the payment too early). It was also noted that a VAT refund of £11,427.75 had been received from HMRC.

## **21.1.9 PLANNING**

### **21.1.9.1 DC/20/05404 - 2,4,5 & 6 The Gardens IP7 5LU**

It was noted that the reduction in house sizes, amendments to external materials, and phased construction had been approved.

### **21.1.9.2 DC/20/05024 - Brett Vale Golf Club**

As noted in minute 21.1.6.2 above, this application had been withdrawn from Babergh and would be re-submitted to Suffolk CC. SC noted that SCC's Waste Plan had been signed off for the next four years. It had been noted that the waste material would be required to be tested three times to meet Environment Agency criteria; however, SN queried where the testing would take place. She and KL would draw up a list of questions to be sent to GJ. Although the application was no longer to be considered by Babergh, councillors felt the PC's comments should still be submitted for the record - this was proposed by SN, seconded by SS and agreed unanimously. Some minor amendments were suggested which JC would incorporate; she would then send the document to Babergh and re-circulate it with the minutes.

## **21.1.10 RAYDON BETTER BROADBAND**

Following a discussion about the Openreach initiative 'Full Fibre to the Premises' initiative, it was agreed to circulate the information to parishioners to assess the level of interest. The response would be reviewed at a future meeting and any application for funding support would be identified. KL had already received twelve expressions of interest via the Facebook page; councillors would circulate information to any other groups they were in touch with, and JC would send out information on the community email. She would also produce a flyer to go out with the next issue of Quartet.

## **21.1.11 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE**

### **21.1.11.1 KGF**

A report had been received from the Tidy up Team summarising the work that had been carried out by volunteers. It was noted that some funding would be required before any further work could be undertaken.

### **21.1.11.2 War Memorial**

James Cartlidge MP had written to all parishes whose War Memorials had been listed, inviting them to share any additional information and/or photos with Historic England. AP volunteered to take this forward.

## **21.1.12 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

None.

## **21.1.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be 7.30pm on Tuesday 9 February, via Zoom.

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