

RAYDON PARISH COUNCIL
APPROVED MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON THURSDAY 20 MAY 2021

Present: Faith Backhouse (FB)
Steven Coe (SC)
Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
Keith Lovering (KL)
Jim Lowe (JL)
Sue Newton - Chairman (SN)
Amanda Pyall - Vice Chairman (AP)
Trevor Sayers (TS)

In attendance: Georgia Hall, Suffolk CC (GH)
John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)
2 Parishioners

Apologies: Sigi Steer (SS)
Jayne Tann (JT)

21.5.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

It was proposed by KL, seconded by SC and agreed unanimously that Sue Newton be re-elected Chairman. JL proposed KL for the role of Vice Chairman; however, KL did not wish to stand. It was further proposed by FB, seconded by TS and agreed unanimously that AP be re-appointed Vice Chairman. SN and AP both signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

21.5.2 APOLOGIES

See above - apologies were accepted from SS and JT.

21.5.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21.5.4 PUBLIC FORUM

A parishioner expressed concern about the proposed development in Woodlands Road (see minute 21.5.10.2, below). The number of proposed houses had increased, but he said nothing had changed in the village since the original application in 2019; eg no amenities, speeding still a problem, over-development. He would be writing to object and would copy his letter to the Clerk.

In response to a question from another parishioner, JC confirmed that a discussion about Neighbourhood Plans would be on the agenda for the June meeting.

21.5.5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2021

It was proposed by TS, seconded by KL and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

21.5.6 ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

21.5.6.1 Damaged signs

KL reported that the footpath signs near the church would be replaced. The damaged or missing 30mph signs had been reported.

21.5.7 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

21.5.7.1 Babergh DC

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. BDC had approved community grants totalling £621,939 during the past financial year, providing vital funding for organisations during the pandemic. Babergh and Mid Suffolk had also launched a new grant fund to support the recovery of local businesses unable to access the Government's Restart scheme. Babergh had received funding of £400,000 towards temporary accommodation for rough sleepers and additional support staff. JW said that, following the end of the power to hold remote meetings, Babergh's annual meeting on 25 May would be held at Wherstead Park as the Council Chamber was not large enough to allow for social distancing.

21.5.7.2 Suffolk CC

Georgia Hall, the new Suffolk County Councillor, introduced herself and said she would be happy to help take forward any outstanding matters.

21.5.8 FINANCIAL MATTERS

21.5.8.1 RFO's report for 31.3.21

It was proposed by TS, seconded by SC and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 31 March 2021 should be approved; payments of £11,894.91 had been authorised.

21.5.8.2 RFO's report for 20.5.21

It was proposed by SN, seconded by KL and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 20 May 2021 should be approved; payments of £3,110.83 and direct debits to E.ON and Anglian Water totalling £680.23 were authorised. It was noted that the first tranche of the precept had been received from Babergh DC, together with CIL payments totalling £5,717.17 and a parish grant of £224 (calculated in proportion to the reductions in the calculated tax base for the parish). In response to a comment from JL, SN agreed that the direct debit to E.ON in respect of the Pavilion did appear to be high.

21.5.9 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

21.5.9.1 Quiet Lanes Suffolk

The report from the working party was noted. Wades Lane and Noakes Road had been included, as agreed at the March meeting; however, traffic surveys needed to be carried out before final approval. Thanks to increased subsidies from Suffolk CC, it now appeared that the cost to RPC would be £150, less than originally budgeted for. AP proposed a vote of thanks to JT for her hard work, which was endorsed by councillors.

21.5.9.2 Community Speed Watch

JL gave a verbal update. Training dates had now been agreed, and the volunteers had been provided with a speed gun. However, JL said this was quite old and he would like the PC to purchase a new, lighter gun; he would bring a formal proposal to the June meeting. With regard to the timetable for the ANPR trial, JC would ask SCC for an update.

21.5.10 PLANNING

21.5.10.1 DC/21/02482 - Netherhall, Lower Raydon

Councillors had no objections to the application for the erection of a detached garage and games room ancillary to main dwelling, and demolition of the existing garage.

21.5.10.2 DC/21/02426 - Land east of Wayside, Woodlands Road

Councillors voted to object to the application for the erection of 5 dwellings, ancillary buildings and associated works, including new vehicular access. The original application, approved in 2019, had been for 4 dwellings; councillors could not see a need for 5, especially as Raydon had already had more than 20% new development - they did not think this development would add value to the village. There was no pedestrian footpath along Woodlands Road and councillors felt strongly that, should Babergh approve this development, a footpath should be built at the developer's expense. Speeding was already an issue and the problem would be exacerbated by more vehicles using the road, especially given the high number of farm vehicles already using it.

21.5.10.3 DC/21/01655 - Oak Lodge, The Street
Councillors noted the approval of reserved matters.

21.5.11 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Raydon Parish Council continued to meet the criteria, having a qualified Clerk and two-thirds elected members. It was proposed by AP, seconded by TS and agreed unanimously to renew the General Power of Competence for the year 2021-22.

21.5.12 STANDING ORDERS

It was proposed by KL, seconded by TS and agreed unanimously to approve the draft amendments to the Standing Orders. JC would take advice from SALC on a proposed new clause concerning notification of questions to be raised in the Public Forum.

21.5.13 LITTER PICK

It was agreed that this should take place on either the 17th or 18th July; AP would confirm the date as soon as possible, and would draft a paragraph for Quartet.

21.5.14 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

21.5.14.1 Village groups and organisations

There had been a suggestion from a parishioner that the PC might facilitate a meeting to discuss planning for the future - KL would bring a paper to the June meeting.

21.5.4.2 Bramford to Twinstead overhead line

Following the National Grid consultation, the Planning Inspectorate was carrying out an online scoping consultation; JC would circulate details of how to respond.

21.5.4.3 Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan

The Examination Hearing would be held on Monday 21 June at Ipswich Town Football Club; members of the public who did not wish to attend in person would be able to attend a virtual session. Details could be found at www.babergh.gov.uk/jointlocalplan.

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