

Present: Cllrs Collis, Davidson, Howe, Passmore (Chair), Smith, Stertz

Also Present:

Clerk: Lin Keating

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Cllrs Donn, Elmer, Ferguson, Singh, ECC Cllr Erskine
Cllr Passmore reported that due to not having received the agenda for today's meeting as sent in the post, Cllr Ramsay was not in attendance.
2. **To receive a report from Essex Police: information only:** the report received for December 2015 was circulated and discussed: 67 incidents and 6 crimes had been reported against 68 incidents and 11 crimes recorded for the same period of the previous year:
 - Attempt Dwelling Burglary - Clayton Road, Ramsey
 - Non-Dwelling Burglary - Garland Road, Parkeston
 - Theft of motor vehicle - Hamilton Street, Parkeston
 - Theft of phone – Parkeston
 - Sexual assault – Parkeston
 - Assault - Parkeston
3. **Declaration of Interest: Councillors are invited to declare any disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other interest and nature of it, in relation to any item on the agenda. None received**
4. **To receive a report regarding Two Village School parking issues:** Cllr Howe reported that following an incident of the blocked access to the Windmill Centre through inconsiderate parking of parents delayed the Fire Service reaching the building; although not a serious incident it again has highlighted the issues. Cllrs Ferguson and ECC Cllr Erskine joined Cllr Howe for a site visit with photographs taken to submit to the Highways Panel via ECC Cllr Erskine a request for at least single yellow lines to be put in place at the site.
PCSO Ladkin was called to the school due an incident of abuse towards a member of staff by a parent when the issue of parking was raised with them. A request is to be put for the Road Safety Officer to visit formally to produce a full report to assist in addressing the situation.
5. **To receive a report from Essex County Councillor Andrew Erskine: nothing received.**
6. **To receive a report from TDC Councillor Tanya Ferguson:** Cllr Ferguson is unable to be present due to her attending the Local Plan Committee meeting on behalf of the RPPC.
A report received asked for the support of the council in her being able to dig over the flower bed outside Parkeston House that has been earmarked for the planting of the Captain Fryatt Memorial Rose. Concerns were discussed of the site potentially returning to building works at the property that could cause damage to the plant; a suggestion for the plants to be temporary housed in pots at the cemetery was agreed to be taken forward to the next meeting for Cllr Ferguson to comment. It was appreciated that it is the centenary anniversary of Captain Fryatt's death in July 2016 and the desire to have them in place for such time.
7. **To confirm the minutes of the RPPC meeting held on 19th November 2015:** Cllr Smith proposed and Cllr Stertz 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 confirm the RPPC Budget 2016/17:** Cllr Davidson proposed and Cllr Collis seconded a motion that the Precept request of £37,679 for 2016/17 be submitted to Tendring District Council by the deadline of Friday 22nd January 2016. The Chairman then signed the Financial Report 2015/16 and Proposed Budget 2016/17.

Action: Clerk
9. **To receive a presentation regarding the proposal of the use of Social Media by RPPC:** Cllr Howe circulated statistics to show the potential audience and usage growth of Facebook over the years and the benefits of communicating with the community. Both Facebook and Twitter accounts for the council have been set up, with more knowledge of Facebook it was proposed that following going live for a period of time the Twitter account would then be activated.
The Clerk will take responsibility of posting the councils activities and relevant news from external bodies, Cllrs Howe and Stertz will monitor the usage and address any issues of abuse.

The draft Social Media Policy was tabled and discussed; Cllr Davidson proposed and Cllr Collis seconded a motion that the policy is adopted by the RPPC. The Chairman then signed the policy as adopted by the RPPC as from 21st January 2016.

A report will be given of the progress of project at the forthcoming meetings as a regular agenda item.

10. To receive any announcement by the Chairman:

- a) Dovercourt Fire Station: notice of a consultation for the options for the future shape of Essex County Fire and Rescue Service has been received. The changes will prove that Harwich, Dovercourt, Parkeston and the surrounding villages will be covered by on call firefighters who work in the local area and respond to a pager if there is a fire call. They have 4 minutes to respond and turn out. Les Nicoll, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Community Connector Lead, has reported a problem of being able to recruit on call firefighters in the area that can give cover during the day. The public consultation will run for 12 weeks from 1st February to 25th April 2016 with comments being able to be submitted by email, in writing or completing an online questionnaire at www.opinionresearch.co.uk/essex
- b) St Paul's Church: contact has been made by Rosie Tallwin from the church to request that the RPPC re-site the Lychgate to Parkeston Cemetery, and has taken forward our register of interest for the pews in St Paul's to be donated to the Chapel as part of the proposed restoration and opening of the Chapel as a place to undertake services. Cllr Passmore proposed and Cllr Stertz seconded a motion that a business plan is to be put in place to support an application for funding for the project under the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Action: Cllrs Davidson, Elmer and Clerk

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

Nothing not covered elsewhere.

12. To consider any Planning issues and receive any decisions submitted to the meeting date:

None received

Decisions:

- a) Application No: 15/01882/TCA
Proposal: 1 No Cupressus leylandii – reduce in height by 50%
Location: The Lodge, Wix Road, Ramsey
Decision: Approval Full – Delegated Decision
- b) Application No: 15/00964/OUT
Proposal: Erection of seventy-one dwellings and associated garages
Location: Land adjacent Two Villages School, Mayes Lane, Ramsey
Decision: Refusal – Outline – Committee Decision
The request for this site to be removed from the Local Plan, that has not been acknowledged to date, is being raised by Cllr Ferguson at the Local Plan Committee meeting this evening.

13. To allow public participation: 15 minutes allowed: None Present

14. To receive any report from Members on Community Activities:

- a) **Welfare Park:** Cllr Davidson reported that £1,000 has been awarded to support education of children in the Nature Park.

15. To receive a report regarding the Parkeston Cemetery:

- a) Additional Maintenance:
 - Lifting of trees: a quotation has been received from the contractor to lift lower branches on all trees within the cemetery, together the overgrown hedging to top to fence height to form a hedgerow and dispose of all waste - £750.00 + VAT
 - Cemetery Track: a quotation has been received from the contractor to remove the hump between the gravel tracks and spread road chippings across the entire width of the track from the entrance of the cemetery to the chapel; based on using 10ton of road chippings - £800 + VAT
Cllr Smith proposed and Cllr Davidson seconded a motion with all in favour that the quotations are to be accepted to allow the works to commence.
- b) Removal of Ivy: Cllr Davidson reported that the Payback Team have been working on removing the ivy from the chapel and gravestones. He has also been carrying out work to secure some headstones.
- c) Bike: the bike found in November remains in the Chapel for safe keeping; the police are aware and have circulated the information locally.

- d) Lodge Tenants: a letter has been sent to the tenants to advise them of the rent increase as from 1st April 2016 to £570 per calendar month. A fire check and inspection of the property are in hand.
- e) Rubbish: the issue of rubbish being strewn from black bags left at the entrance of the cemetery has been addressed with Jonathan Hamlet, TDC, who is to send formal letters to all properties on the boundary of the cemetery/access road.
- 16. To receive a report regarding the Community Pay Back Team:** Cllr Passmore reported that the team have been carrying out work in the ditches in Ramsey and work in the Welfare Park. I has been reported that funding is becoming an issue and a daily charge for works is being considered.
- 17. To receive a report regarding Spring Meadows CP School and the Two Village School:**
- a) Spring Meadows: Cllr Smith reported on the school's activities:
- A new Clerk to the Governors has been appointed following the retirement of her predecessor.
 - Cllr Smith is to join a classroom during lesson as an observer.
- b) Two Village School: Cllr Howe reported on the school's activities:
- Governor's first meeting of 2016 is scheduled for next week.
 - The winter salt donated by RPPC has been used on the pavements.
 - The issues of parking are ongoing.
- Cllr Passmore added that at the TDALC meeting he attended all primary schools throughout Tendring have done well in the recent SATS although the schools are at high capacity.
- 18. To receive a report from the Transport Representatives:**
- a) Ramsey:
- Ramsey Roundabout: the damaged barrier is now laying on the pathway and concerns of the hazard to pedestrians has been reported. The overgrown vegetation on the roundabout has received complaints of safety to both road users and pedestrians; the press are to be invited to raise awareness.
- Action: Cllr Smith**
- A12 By-pass lighting: no progress has been made on the street lamps along the by-pass from Ramsey to Harwich; ECC Cllr Erskine has taken the matter forward.
- b) Parkeston:
- Port Traffic: residents assisted a driver of an HGV that was directed through Garland Road by his Sat Nav to the port who had difficulty in reversing along the road. Additional signage could assist in raising awareness of it being a no through road.
- Action: ECC Cllr Erskine**
- 19. To receive reports from Councillors attending other meetings:**
- a) **Haltermann Careless:** Cllrs Smith, Stertz and Davidson attended the meeting where it was noted that other than Harwich Town Council, no other external body representatives were present.
- Security on the perimeter has been improved although there is no current concern of threat.
 - A full scale security exercise is scheduled for February to test all procedures in place.
 - The proposed solar farm on their land is on hold. Plans are in place for a secure compound near Morrison's store which should ease congestion on the approach road to the refinery.
 - Business has been adversely affected by global activities including the fall price of oil and warm weather.
 - Reports of a successful year is expected to continue into 2016.
- b) Cllr Davidson reported on a meeting he attended at TDC Weeley where the issues of people trafficking was raised as a major concern. The police representation asked for all to be vigilant and report any suspicions of such action.
- c) **TDALC:** Cllr Passmore reporting on attending the meeting held 20/01
- The letter to Neil Stock from RPPC raising issues of diminishing services was discussed together with the decision to withdraw the supply of black bin bags to residents within TDC in the aim to save £156k. The delivery of food liners for the waste bins has been

funded by Defra at a cost of £128k for one year to encourage the recycling of food waste.

- ByeLaws: legislation to allow guide dogs and companion dogs access to all areas for the disabled must be reflected in any Byelaws in place, RPPC does not have any byelaws.
- St Oysyth Parish Council: in funding legal aid in an unsuccessful objection to a planning application has left the parish council with a demand to pay £56k in costs alongside the community group who also fought the application having a demand to pay £110k costs.

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

21. 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.

22. To agree accounts for payment.

The Clerk confirmed that finally the issues with bank signatories in making the payment to the contractor for works carried out on the water leak at the cemetery supply has been resolved. As a gesture of goodwill the £75 credited to the RPPC bank account for errors made has been passed onto the contractor for his patience in the late payment of over 3 months. The update of the bank mandate has given rise for all new and existing signatories to have input on the form as brought forward by the Clerk at this meeting.

| | | | |
|---|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| A C Dickson Cpt Fryatt memorial rose | 2020.00 | L Keating Salary Expenses | 923.40 92.74 |
| W G Elmer Chairs Telephone Allowance | 69.00 | A&J Lighting | 125.40 |
| E-on | 108.94 | Landscape Services | 840.00 |
| Accent Stationers | 131.96 | | |

23. To confirm the date of the next meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council to be held on Thursday 18th February 2016 at 7.15p.m. in Hamilton House, Foster Road, Parkeston

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.