

**Present:** Cllrs Davidson, Ferguson, Howe, Passmore (Chair), Ramsay, Singh, Smith, Stertz

**Also Present:**

**Clerk:** Lin Keating

**2 members of the public**

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** Cllr Elmer, Donn, Collis
2. **To receive a report from Essex Police: information only:** nothing received; website not updated from 13<sup>th</sup> January therefore nothing to report since the last meeting.  
Cllr Passmore reported on a spate of attempted vehicle break in over the weekend in the area: a white van was involved in a road traffic accident that is suspected to be connected to the crimes. The police were contacted with a response of no units being available, they chose to contact the landlord of the Castle Inn PH to inform him that suspicious activities were reported in the car park which led to concerns of the police potentially putting the landlord in harm's way should he have taken the decision to investigate himself.
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.**
  - Cllr Davidson declare an interest in item 10b, relating to the planning application for 121 Garland Road, on the agenda.
  - Cllr Howe declared an interest in item 18a, relating to the funding request received from Two Village Primary School, on the agenda.
4. **To receive a report from Essex County Councillor Andrew Erskine:**  
**Cllr Erskine reported:**
  - a) Fire & Rescue Service Consultation: Cllr Erskine declared an interest in this item as a member of the Fire & Rescue Service and asked all to be encourage to take part in the consultation available online: [www.opinionresearch.co.uk/essex](http://www.opinionresearch.co.uk/essex) with a deadline of 25<sup>th</sup> April.
  - b) Local Highways Panel (LHP): Cllr Erskine brought forward a scheme request form to be submitted for signage for Garland Road to assist/ban HGVs. The form is to be completed for submission for the first meeting of the LHP for the new financial year – April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Action: Clerk**
5. **To receive a report from TDC Councillor Tanya Ferguson:**  
Cllr Ferguson's request for time under part B was approved.
  - a) **Captain Fryatt Memorial Rose:** the plants (15) have been received and currently are in pots.  
A discussion of the proposed area to establish the plants at Parkeston House is to be taken further by Cllr Ferguson and Cllr Davidson, proposed by Cllr Stertz, seconded by Cllr Howe with all in favour; additionally contact with the owners of Parkeston House is to be made to establish any plans for work to be undertaken that could impact on the proposed site for the plants. A quotation and samples for a lectern notice to compliment the rose were passed to Cllr Ferguson for consideration and further investigation.

**Action: Cllrs Ferguson, Davidson, Clerk**
  - b) **Refuse Bags:** following the withdrawal of the supply of black sacks by TDC a request received from a resident to be able to use a metal bin rather than bags has been refused by TDC.
  - c) **Station Road Vegetation:** the ongoing issue of the responsibility to cut the vegetation along Station Road will be further address by Jonathan Hamlet, TDC in contacting the landowners. At present the vegetation is not encroaching on road traffic and is to be monitored, works in other areas in hedge cutting and drainage clearing at Wix Road/Wash Corner junction were reported to have recently been carried out by TDC.
  - d) **Street Lighting:** the £160k savings in turning lights off overnight has been returned to the Big Lottery fund that is now open for applications via TDC website. Opposition against the current reduction of street lighting continues to be imposed on TDC.
  - e) **Council Tax 2016:** Tendring residents will have an increase of £5 per year, on an average Band D properties, imposed by TDC. The intention to increase the tax by 1.99%, keeping in line with the 2% capping by government, has meant a true increase of 3.39% triggering a

referendum. TDC have approved the budget with a guarantee that front line services will be kept for the year although concerns of reduced subsidiaries from ECC in the future could have a major impact.

**6. To confirm the minutes of the RPPC meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016:**

Cllr Davidson 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.

**7. To receive a report regarding the use of Social Media by RPPC:**

Cllr Howe reported that the facebook page went live on 9th February with 80 likes received to date; the statistics show that women between 35-44 have been more active on the page. Together with Cllr Stertz and the Clerk the page is being managed with posts shared of local interest and items on the agenda being advertised. An email to introduce all Tendring Clerks and Chairs to visit the page has been sent. Consideration is being given to introducing the use of Twitter to reach a wider audience. Cllr Erskine suggested that blogging has advantages over twitter in being able to post larger articles.

All are welcomed to send in pictures to use in refreshing the page and any items for inclusion. Cllr Davidson asked for the Creative Writing Club meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March to be advertised.

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

Best wishes from all for a speedy recovery of George Elmer.

- a) **Ramsey Roundabout:** The Chairman thanked Cllr Smith for his media report that seems to have assisted in the current temporary repair to the barrier. 9 out of the 11 lights reported along the by-pass are now working.
- b) **Electronic Council Summons and Agendas:** those present in agreement signed a consent form to receive the Council Summons and agenda electronically. A request to continue to receive hard copies from Cllr Stertz and Cllr Ferguson until further notice was noted by the Clerk.

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

Nothing not covered elsewhere.

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

- a) **Application No:** 16/00132/OUT

**Proposal:** Demolition of bungalow and replacement with one 3 x bed house and one x 4 bed house

**Location:** 121 Garland Road, Parkeston

The view of the RPPC, taking into consideration the comments raised by a member of public at this meeting, is to support the application with a request for consideration of the proposal to move the house back from Garland Road to make provision for additional parking and free access for the turning of vehicles at the location that is a T junction. A further request to ensure consideration of access through the village is restricted to small vehicles to the site with Garland Road not being able to accommodate HGVs. Due to the current deficit in the area of equipped play areas and open space, a contribution towards play and open space in Parkeston is deemed justified and relevant to the planning application.

- b) **Application No:** 16/00084/FUL

**Proposal:** Erection of 7 dwellings and associated access, parking, landscaping and ancillary works.

**Location:** Land at Makins Road, Parkeston

The view of the RPPC, taking into consideration the comments raised by a member of public at this meeting, is to support the application with a request to ensure that the proposal will not hinder access to the footpath and vehicular access to garages at the rear of properties in Tyler Street. Consideration of access of site traffic to be restricted via the Port Road is recommended to avoid added congestion in the village with roads that cannot accommodate HGVs. Due to the current deficit in the area of equipped play areas and open space, a contribution towards play and open space in Parkeston is deemed justified and relevant to the planning application.

- c) **Decisions:** None Received

**11. To allow public participation: 15 minutes allowed:**

Concerns raised on the planning applications received have been included in the comments submitted on both applications as detailed above in item 10. Cllr Ferguson encouraged for individual comments from residents to be submitted via the TDC planning portal, and to invite planning officers to attend a site visit where residents are able to attend to raise concerns personally.

Mr De Roy thanked the RPPC for their support in raising no objection on his proposed development on his property, Ashridge that has now been approved following an appeal.

He encouraged the council to reinforce their request to remove the proposed development on land adjacent to Mayes Lane from the new Local Plan, it was confirmed that representation at LPC committee meeting will be made by the RPPC , the next meeting is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**12. To receive any report from Members on Community Activities:**

- a) Welfare Park: Cllr Davidson reported
  - Vandalism has caused damage that is being addressed.
  - A club house has been built for the Green Fingers Gardening Club that has proved popular with 20 members and assistance from residents in cooking the vegetables grown with the young members.
  - Fruit trees received from the Suffolk Cost and Heaths AONB project have been planted.

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

- a) **Lifting of trees:** the contractor has started the work, expected to complete end of next week.
- b) **Cemetery Track:** the contractor has advised that this work will commence following completion of lifting of the trees.
- c) **Removal of ivy:** Cllr Davidson reported that the Payback Team have worked hard removing the ivy from the chapel and gravestones; the rubbish was accepted at the local recycling centre.
- d) **Rubbish:** following letters sent by TDC to raise the issue of rubbish being strewn from black bags left at the entrance of the cemetery has proved successful with no sight of rubbish in the area.
- e) **Fruit Trees:** 5 trees received under the Suffolk Coastal and Heaths AONB project are now planted.
- f) **Tenancy:** the increase of the monthly rent for the Cemetery Lodge to £570 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 has been accepted by the tenants; a fire check has also been agreed by the tenants to be arranged directly with the Fire Service.
- g) **Chapel restoration:** to progress the project a survey has been carried out on the building; a quote to replace all windows has been received circa £10k and a site meeting has been made with a contractor for costings of the proposed re-siting of the Lychgate from St Paul's Church that is to be confirmed by the PCC following their meeting due to be held later this month.

**14. To receive a report regarding the Community Pay Back Team:**

Cllr Passmore reported that the team have continued work in the ditches in Ramsey and supporting work in the Welfare Park. Changes in employing the team could impose charges with will be considered at such time if it is viable to continue. Currently the use of the facilities at the RWMH is given to the team with no charge,

**15. 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:
  - Problems of lateness and attendance is being addressed with the parents of the individual pupils.
  - The nursery has increased with 20 new spaces available
  - Pressure is on the Head teacher who is also temporary Head of the All Saints Primary School
  - An invite is being sent to offer Bernard Jenkins MP to attend the school
- b) **Two Village School:** Cllr Howe reported on the school's activities:
  - The next full governor's meeting is scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> March
  - The school is hosting a Mother's Day lunch on March 6<sup>th</sup>, inviting Mums and Grandmothers that has been well supported.

Minutes of the a meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held in Hamilton House, Foster Road, Parkeston on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.15 p.m.

- Parking issues are on-going; support from ECC Cllr Erskine with the LHP is to be taken to the next meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April to apply for funding from the new budget.
- Concerns of the proposed closure of the Windmill Children's Centre impacting on families having to travel to Walton or Clacton was discussed; ECC Cllr Erskine will forward details of the Surestart press release to the clerk for circulation.

Action: ECC Cllr Erskine

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

a) **Ramsey:**

- Ramsey Roundabout: vegetation causing clear visibility on the roundabout has been reported to Highways England with no positive response to date; the issue is to be highlighted via the RPPC Facebook asking for residents to add their concerns to ECC using the ECC website.

**Action: Clerk**

b) **Parkeston:**

- The travellers on the old Garage Site at Makins Road junction at Harwich International Port have now left the area with additional bolsters put in place to secure the entrance to the site.

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

- a) **Harwich Arts Council:** Cllr Davidson reported on the Creative Writing Club being held in the Parkeston Railway Club with the aim to create a book on the history of Parkeston; meeting scheduled Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm

**18. To consider applications for donations in 2015/16 budget:**

- a) Two Village Primary School: a request to assist in the installation of new play equipment for use of the 200 pupils during breaks was considered; the school have £6k towards the project with an additional £7k raised by the PTA; 3 quotes have been considered with a cost of £15k being the preferred suppliers quote. The RPPC have a balance of £1,209.50 in the 2015/16 budget available with no other applications received. Cllr Davidson proposed a donation of £1,000.00 to be made towards the project, seconded by Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Ramsay abstained with all others in favour. The suggestion for the school to approach Oakley and Harwich Councils for support is to be taken forward by Cllr Howe.

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

**20. 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) Captain Fryatt Memorial Rose – Councillor Ferguson

**21. To agree accounts for payment.**

- The precept request of £41,925 has been confirmed by TDC to be paid in 2 instalments, 7<sup>th</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> October.
- A non-receipt of £96 paid into the bank in October; the payee confirmed that the cheque had been cleared on 21<sup>st</sup> October, the bank has been advised and a claim submitted.
- The change of signatories on the bank is progressing slowly.
- VAT Claim; a claim for £3,297.50 has been submitted for 2015/16.
- The internal audit process has begun with the same auditor, Ken Abraham, South & West Internal Audit.

Affinity Water	430.95	L Keating Salary /holiday pay Expenses	1251.72 70.99
B Davidson Expenses	32.98	A&J Lighting	55.80
E-on	108.94	Landscape Services	60
Two Village CP School (Donation)	1000.00		

**22. To confirm the date of the next meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council to be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7.15p.m. in Hamilton House, Foster Road, Parkeston**  
The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.



Minutes of the a meeting of the Ramsey & Parkeston Parish Council held in Hamilton House,  
Foster Road, Parkeston on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.15 p.m.

## **Part B**

Cllr Ferguson reported that due to personal circumstances she has had to move from Parkeston therefore felt she was not longer connected as well with the community.

Her aim is to hold surgeries in the RWMH and Parkeston, once a venue has been secured starting in April.

The request for her to join the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk at their meetings held a week in advance of the council meetings to be more in touch was accepted.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.**