RAWRETH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAWRETH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 2nd September 2026 7.30pm AT JOHN FISHER PAVILLION JOHN FISHER RECREATION GROUND, LITTLE WHEATLEY CHASE RAYLEIGH ESSEX SS6 9TB

Present:

Cllr. S Belton
Cllr. Mrs S Wiltshire
Cllr. P Mitchell
Cllr. S Jack

In Attendance: The Clerk, Visiting County Councillor Stu Belton and 10 Members of the Public

85. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr Peters, Cllr Jayachandran and Cllr Matthews.

86. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Cllr Belton declared his County Councillor Status should it apply.

87. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING. Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st July 2026 were approved by the Members without alteration and accordingly the Chairman signed them as a true copy.

88. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY. None.

89. MATTERS TO NOTE ONLY (FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS) THESE MATTERS WILL BE PLACED ON FORTHCOMING AGENDA'S FOR DISCUSSION WHEN RELEVANT UPDATES, INFORMATION AND REPLIES ARE RECEIVED FROM THE REQUIRED SOURCES.

a. Members to discuss renew and adopt where necessary Council statements, Policies and Regulations. (Clerk to circulate to Members prior to Meetings) including, Strategic Plan and Community Engagement. Noted.

b. Beeches Road/Watery Lane Road Safety Concerns. (All Members, the Clerk and other LGA and Agencies to report) Noted.

c. Special Planning Guidance (SPG). (Clerk circulated to Members, Cllr Belton to take the lead on this matter and all Members to report to the Cllr Belton) Noted.

d. Council Information Leaflet. (Cllr Belton circulated to Members, all Members to report to Cllr Belton) Noted.

e. Updates regarding flooding in the Parish. (Update regarding Rawreth Brook circulated to Members and posted on FB) Noted.

f. Essex Police, Parking/Abandoned Vehicles and Road safety issues and concerns in the Parish. Noted.

g. Community Events and Engagement. Noted.

90. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- TO INCLUDE RESIDENTS FROM WOLSEY PARK WHO WISH TO SPEAK REGARDING MAINTENANCE ISSUES ON THE DEVELOPMENT The following matters around the Parish were mentioned, where necessary the Clerk will investigate.

Wolsey Park.

a.Maintenance issues, maintenance isn't being carried out in some areas of the development, some areas are receiving substandard maintenance, there are clear differences in service levels especially between the different phases of the site and different developers.

b. Full Council Tax is being paid by residents on top of the service charge they pay.

c. Speeding along the spine road.

d. Dangerous junctions, London Road A129 and Rawreth Lane.

e. The Wolsey Park junction with Rawreth Lane joins the road at the 50mph Speed limit section, how is this allowed?

f. Andrewes Way being used as cut through to and from the industrial estate, large vehicles are using it despite weight limit signs and assurances this wouldn't happen.

g. Anti social behaviour.
h. Crime stats don't appear to be representative.
i. Allotments
j. Section 106 payments.
k. Community Orchard.
l. Kick about area and playground.
m. Broken road signs.
n. Badly advertised Land Trust Meetings.
o. Land Trust Meetings are not informative, questions aren't answered, never seen accounts, held at stupid times of the day,
p. No communication from developers or Land Trust.
q. Does everyone pay Service Charge?
r. Pathways around the open spaces parts of the development are awful.
s. Land around the balancing ponds looks awful.
t. Residents on the development are paying to maintain the open spaces and parks, which are then used by non-development residents.
u. Roads still not adopted.
v. Bus stops are in the wrong place for traffic safety.
w. Two bus stops don't have any covers.
x. The speed calming measures are positioned wrongly.
y. Bollard on the junction of A129 London Road and Wolsey Park obscures the view of oncoming traffic when heading west and turning right.
z. Resale of properties is now being affected because the lack of open spaces maintenance is very evident.
aa. SEND School,
ab. Re-routing bus services.

91. VILLAGE REPORT- The following matters around the Parish were mentioned, where necessary the Clerk will investigate.
a. Cherry Hill A1245 has continued to be developed with more static caravans arriving, brick walls and fencing being erected and residents walking along the verges of the A1245.
b. Footpath, Rawreth Lane from the Cricket Club to the Recreation Ground is very uneven.
c. Are there any plans to update the playground at Rawreth Recreation Ground?
d. Will the removal of land slippage from the pavement between Madrid Avenue and Trenders be done by RPC Maintenance Team?
e. Dropped kerb on the entrance to Rawreth Industrial Estate still hasn't been repaired.
f. Church Road has road closures for water main work until the 3rd of September.
g. The Slow signs in Old London Road have still not be reinstated.
h. The Football season has restarted so matches will start to be played on the Chichester pitches again.

92. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS
Cllr Belton gave an update on his first 6 weeks as a County Councillor. Cllr Belton advised he was asked to submit nominations for three roads within his division to be considered for repairs. Cllr Belton advised he had submitted the following roads, A1245 between Carpenters Arms and the Fairglen Interchange (both directions) Watery Lane and Bardfield Way. Cllr Belton advised that he had reported to the Cabinet Member for Highways at ECC resident's concerns with regards to the access to and from the A1245 to Clovelly Works and neighbouring properties which is now being monitored.

93. FINANCE.
a. Online payments approved since the last meeting.
J APinkerton (Aug) £2100.00 Noted.
J A Pinkerton (Aug) £1020.00 Noted.
Storage (Aug) £100.00 Noted.
Unity Bank Charge (July) £7.00 Noted.
Battlesbridge Free Church £30.00 (July) Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement of BT Broadband £56.74 (July) Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck diesel £117.50 Noted.
SLCC Membership £63.00 Noted.

H L Bloomfield reimbursement Poppy Display Materials £224.92 Noted.
Unity Bank Charge (Aug) £7.00 Noted.
Battlesbridge Free Church £30.00 (Aug) Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement of BT Broadband £56.74 (Aug) Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck diesel £97.01 Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck diesel £103.01 Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck wash £20.00 Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement of payment made under Chairman's allowance for Fire Fighter support £150.00 Noted.
WAVE Community Garden Water £47.27 Noted.
MAD Nick Autos Truck repairs and maintenance £490.00 Noted.
J APinkerton (Sept) £2100.00 Noted.
J A Pinkerton (Sept) £1020.00 Noted.
Storage (Sept) £100.00 Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck diesel £127.01 Noted.
H L Bloomfield reimbursement printer ink £78.19 Noted.

94. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE None.

95. EMERGENCY RESPONSE Members discussed the role of the Parish Council in response to emergencies in the Parish and it was agreed that the Parish Council will always be led by the Emergency Services and other lead agencies if an emergency happens. Cllr Belton advised that himself and the Clerk had met with the crews at Wickford Fire Station following the explosion in Rettendon and they had provided very useful information and insight into the emergency services response to large scale emergencies. It was agreed there is no legal requirement for the Parish Council to have an emergency plan, because you cannot plan for an emergency until it happens, however it was unanimously agreed that the Council should hold a list of rescue centres, evacuation points, respite centres and contact numbers for each. These centres need to be spread around the Parish, and outside of the Parish so that if the need should arise residents could be moved to safe areas under the guidance of the Emergency Services, these centres need to take into consideration access via road, for example can a centre be accessed if certain roads are shut and the size of the centre should also be considered. Members agreed that several centres would be needed and they discussed the locations, and subject to owner/landlord consent the following centres were agreed
a.Rayleigh Cricket Club Rawreth Lane (Prior Agreement given by the Club)
b.Battlesbridge Free Church, Hawk Hill (Prior Agreement given)
c. Rawreth Village Hall/St Nicholas Church, Church Road
d. John Fisher Pavilion, Little Wheatley Chase (Prior Agreement given by Rayleigh FC)
e. Sweyne School, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive
f. St Nicholas School, Priory Chase
g. Downhall School, Brooklyn Drive
h. Rayleigh Leisure Centre, Priory Chase
i. Chichester Hotel, Old London Road

It was agreed the Clerk would draft an Emergency Evacuation Document, which would include contact numbers, the document to be agreed by Members, but not publicised due to Data Protection as it will contain personal information.

96. ROAD SAFETY CONCERNS Members discussed road safety concerns, in particular Beeches Road/Watery Lane Road, A1245 in the vicinity of Clovelly Works and Church Road. Cllr Belton confirmed these matters have been raised previously by Cllr James Newport when he held the County Councillor seat and have now been raised again by him in his County Councillor capacity.

97. DEVOLUTION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW. No update to report.

98. PROPOSED NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND HOUSING TARGETS. No update to report.

99. EXISTING PARISH DEVELOPMENT UPDATES. This matter was covered under Agenda item 90, public participation.

100. TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED OR MATTERS TO RAISE AT FORTHCOMING MEETINGS INCLUDING RHALC. None.

101. COMMUNITY GARDEN, PARISH OWNED LAND AND MAINTENANCE- The Clerk provided an update, she advised the maintenance team have worked incredibly hard, they worked throughout the heatwave, the Community Garden is now complete, all the benches have been installed, all that remains to be done is some planting once the weather changes. Work will now begin on the Public Rights of Way, we'll be working with PROW and their volunteers to widen Bridleway 61, clearance of the vegetation and land slippage on Rawreth Lane pavements will be completed, this work will also be carried out in Chelmsford Road between Newlands and Beeches Road.

102. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS. The Clerk updated Members on the Rawreth Remembers Poppy Cascade and reported that lots of poppies have been crocheted and knitted with lots of different groups and individuals joining in and attending the Wednesday coffee and cake mornings at the John Fisher Pavilion which had been made possible by Rayleigh FC hosting the weekly event.

103. TRAINING- No updates to report, Members agreed for this matter to be brought back to the October Agenda.

104. REINSTATEMENT OF FOOTPATHS/BRIDLE WAYS IN THE PARISH. See item 101. The Clerk also confirmed Bridleway 59 has been reported to PROW as it's been blocked.

105. PLANNING MATTERS- None.

106. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA. Blue Plaque, Special Planning Guidance Policy, Community Engagement and Events. Safety concerns Beeches Road/Watery Lane, Church Road, A1245 and Wolsey Park London Road Junction.

107. DATE &VENUE OF NEXT MEETING- Members agreed the date and time of Wednesday 7th October 2026 7.30pm, at John Fisher Pavilion, John Fisher Recreation Ground, Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh SS6 9TB.

The Meeting closed at 21.58 pm

Signed Chairman: