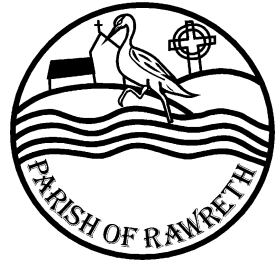


RAWRETH PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAWRETH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 1st July 2026 AT 7.30pm AT AT 7.30pm AT JOHN FISHER PAVILLION JOHN FISHER RECREATION GROUND, LITTLE WHEATLEY CHASE RAYLEIGH ESSEX SS6 9TB

Present:

Cllr. S Belton

Cllr. A Matthews

Cllr. Mrs S Wiltshire

Cllr. P Mitchell

In Attendance: The Clerk, visiting District Councillors Rob Ince, Angelina Marriott, visiting County Councillor Stu Belton and 2 Members of the Public

52. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jayachandran, Cllr Jack and Cllr Peters.

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

54. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd June 2026 were approved by the Members without alteration and accordingly the Chairman signed them as a true copy.

55. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY. None.

56. 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.

57. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- None.

58. VILLAGE REPORT- The following matters around the Parish were mentioned, where necessary the Clerk will investigate.

a. Rayleigh FC have now finished for the current season, the grounds will be maintained over the summer months.

b. What permission has been given for all the works on the A1245. The Clerk advised there is a Section 51 License in place which permits utility companies to lay and maintain pipes, cable etc.

c. The works to remove the land slippage along Rawreth Lane have been noted, and how much of a difference it's made.

d. What is happening with the site known as Cherry Hill on the A1245? The Clerk advised this is matter is in the hands of RDC.

e. Parking on the spine road through Wolsey Park is causing a danger.

59. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS. Members and the Clerk welcomed newly Elected District Councillor Rob Ince. The Clerk recorded that Cllr Ince had already taken forward a number of matters to RDC on behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Ince was thanked by Members for his help. Cllr Belton invited Cllr Ince to attend all future Parish Council Meetings.

County Councillor Belton gave an update on his short term in office since June. Cllr Belton advised he had attended his County Hall to sign his Declaration of Office and meet fellow Councillors. Cllr Belton touched on LGR and the uncertainties that still surround it and that there are still no definitive answers as to what is happening, especially given the impending new Prime Minister.

60. FINANCE.

a. Online payments approved since the last meeting.

J APinkerton (July) £2100.00 Noted.

J A Pinkerton (July) £1020.00 Noted.

Storage (July) £100.00 Noted.

Unity Bank Charge (June) £7.00 Noted.

H L Bloomfield reimbursement of BT Broadband (June) £56.74 Noted.

H L Bloomfield Quarterly payment for home office use £53.50 Noted.

H L Bloomfield reimbursement DSE eye test and glasses £192.50 Noted.

H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck diesel £89.51 Noted.

H L Bloomfield reimbursement truck cleaning £20.00 Noted.

J A Pinkerton Parish Garden Improvement Works £6102.00 Noted.

Glasdon UK Limited Picnic Benches £1656.00 Noted.

H L Bloomfield Reimbursement of Diesel £108.01 Noted.

b. Standing orders due.

Battlesbridge Free Church (July) £30.00 Noted.

Unity Bank (July) £7.00 Noted.

c. Council to consider any Grant Application requests that have been received. None

70. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (to note). None.

71. ADOPTION OF POLICIES AND REGULATIONS.

a. Social Media Policy was reviewed and unanimously agreed without alteration.

b. IT Policy was reviewed and unanimously agreed without alteration.

72. ROAD SAFETY CONCERNS Members to discussed the road safety concerns, in particular Beeches Road/Watery Lane Road, A1245 in the vicinity of Clovelly Works and Church Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward all the relevant information and emails to Cllr Belton in his capacity as the newly Elected County Councillor for Rayleigh West Division.

Agreed Action: Clerk to forward emails and information to County Cllr Stu Belton.

73. DEVOLUTION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW. Cllr Belton advised there were no updates to report. Cllr Belton asked the Clerk to give an update on the Community Asset Transfer. The Clerk advised that in June 2025 the Parish Council submitted an Expression of Interest to take over the RDC asset known as Rawreth Recreation Ground and Pavilion, initially looking for the asset to be transferred in ownership to the Parish Council, which would then be held in trust for the community. The Clerk advised that the EOI process went live on the 12th of June 2026 inviting all organisations and community groups to register their interest, the Clerk advised that the Parish Councils EOI was re-registered the same day and that subsequently an information pack was issued to all interested parties inviting them to submit further information to support their EOI application for a lease of the Pavilion and Playing field. The Clerk advised that several questions were raised with RDC by RPC with regards to the information pack, specifically around the Heads of Terms for the Lease. The Clerk advised at the current time RPC are unable to submit the further information to support their EOI based on the issued Heads of Terms. The Clerk advised that the EOI process closes on the 24th of July 2026.

Cllr Ince spoke to Members and suggested he took the EOI matter forward to Cllr Malviya with a view to arranging a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the proposals the Parish Council had submitted and the questions they raised. Members unanimously agreed and asked for Cllr Ince to speak to Cllr Malviya.

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

75. EXISTING PARISH DEVELOPMENT UPDATES. Cllr Belton advised there was no update to report. The Clerk advised there is still an issue with regards to maintenance on Wolsey Park and the different service levels being delivered. The Clerk advised she has taken this matter up with Countryside and will be attending a meeting to discuss this and the development as a whole.

76. TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES WRITTEN REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED OR MATTERS TO RAISE AT FORTHCOMING MEETINGS INCLUDING RHALC. Members noted that Cllr Jayachandran was due to give a report on the Passenger Transport Meeting she'd attended and it was agreed this would be deferred to the September Meeting.

77. COMMUNITY GARDEN, PARISH OWNED LAND AND MAINTENANCE- The Clerk advised that a number of projects have been completed, a substantial amount of the pavement in Rawreth Lane has now been cleared, sections of Old London Road have been identified as needing strimming, as have Chelmsford Road and London Road A129. The Clerk advised there will be some remedial work to trees in the autumn months. The Clerk advised that the maintenance schedule is constantly reviewed and areas are prioritised if there is an urgent safety need.

78. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS. Members noted the Community Event "picnic in the park" due to take place on Saturday the 18th of July on the Wolsey Park Development.

79. TRAINING- The Clerk updated Members with regards to in house training, Members agreed a tentative date of 15th August and it was agreed the Clerk would circulate the date to all absent Members for them to confirm if they were available, with the Clerk instructed to book the training upon confirmation of Member availability.

Agreed Action: Clerk to book in house training dependant on Member availability.

80. REINSTATEMENT OF FOOTPATHS/BRIDLE WAYS IN THE PARISH. The Clerk confirmed that the footpaths in the Parish remain on the maintenance schedule. Cllr Matthews advised that part of the coastal path has not been cut, the Clerk advised she has advised the ECC PROW.

81. PLANNING MATTERS- None.

82. BLUE PLAQUE HERITAGE SCHEME- Members agreed to defer this matter to the September Agenda.

83. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA. Including if necessary matters noted in item 56. Blue Plaque, Special Planning Guidance Policy, Community Engagement and Events. Safety concerns Beeches Road/Watery Lane, Church Road, A1245 Road and Wolsey Park London Road Junction.

84. DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING- Members agreed the date and time of Wednesday 2nd September 2026 7.30pm, at John Fisher Pavilion, John Fisher Recreation Ground, Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh SS6 9TB.

The Meeting closed at 21.10 pm

Signed Chairman: