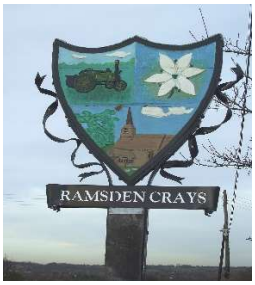
Ramsden Crays Parish Council



Minutes of the Ramsden Crays Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 12th October 2026
Cllrs. Kirby, Jenkins & Hockton
Emma Beadle – Clerk

1 member of the public

86/2026 Apologies for Absence
Cllrs. Cook, Pusey & Myers

87/2026 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11th September 2026
All agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Jenkins, seconded by Cllr. Hockton **RESOLVED** Signed by Cllr. Kirby.

88/2026 Declaration of Members Interests
To receive pecuniary or non pecuniary declarations of interest on items on the Agenda.

Cllr. Hockton declared an Interest in her capacity as a Borough and County Councillor.

89/2026 Reports from County and Borough Councillors
Cllr. Myers provided a written report prior to the meeting:

Local Plan

Regulation 19 has ended. Responses are being collated to summarise, we are deeply disappointed that the Ministry sent a direction to go to Reg 19 two days before cabinet was due to sent it to full Council for a vote. On October 15th cabinet will discuss a judicial review of how this has come about, taking away local decision making from local representatives.

I think it is worthwhile to point out that council must act within the law and any lawful direction given. One of the most telling points is that MHCLG has made it currently unlawful for the Council to attempt to withdraw the local plan in its entirety, and I wish to state the risks that comes with, the possibility of Basildon's planning function being taken away and all applications being determined on appeal with Basildon being a consultee only.

That is a real risk, and not one to go lightly into. This is why a judicial review of the process rather than the decision is so important to fight to keep local decision making exactly that – LOCAL.

There are many planning applications coming forward, including Barnsfield, land south of Southlands Road and Oaks Farm. These will be on the agenda as normal and the Planning Committee will determine these in the usual way. I hope to see you there when they are heard.

In Wickford, which some residents use, the old Co-op supermarket site has an important update. Myself and the MP for Rayleigh and Wickford Mark Francois, after approaching numerous supermarkets have secured Lidl as the interested party to buy the site and develop the supermarket.

Wickford Police Station has long remained empty, and I nearly have a solution for it that will benefit the residents borough wide. I will update when possible.

I have been liaising with Chief Inspector Hogben regarding speeding on London Road, Ramsden Bellhouse and Castledon Road. He has liaised with the traffic police who have undertaken a survey in Castledon Road over the last 2 weeks. I am waiting to hear back on the others.

The last time the Crunch was in Ramsden Crays it was very well attended, further dates to follow.

90/2026 Members of the Public
None

91/2026 Planning

26/01040/FULL
Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and the erection of a new dwelling with a double garage and associated landscaping – **Regalew, Southlands Road, Crays Hill, Billericay**

The Parish Council agreed they had NO OBJECTION to this application.

26/00966/FULL
The construction of 4 new dwellings following removal of a caravan and other existing structures – **The Lillies, Gardiners Lane North, Billericay, Essex**

The Parish Council agreed to OBJECT to this application for the following reasons:

Inappropriate development of Green Belt Land
The application site lies within the Green Belt. The proposal would introduce four permanent dwellings, together with their associated domestic activity, parking, access, hardstanding and other residential features. This would materially increase the amount of development on the site, diminish its openness and contribute to urban encroachment into the countryside. These effects conflict with the fundamental purposes of Green Belt policy.

Failure to demonstrate that the land is grey belt
The application does not provide a sufficiently robust, site-specific assessment demonstrating that the land meets the policy definition and criteria for grey belt.

Overdevelopment of the site
Four dwellings would represent an excessive development for this site. The amount of dwellings and associated infrastructure would give the site a cramped, suburban character that is inconsistent with its Green Belt setting. The amount of dwellings would also increase vehicle movements, parking, lighting and general residential activity. The cumulative effect would be an unacceptable overdevelopment of the site rather not in keeping with the surrounding area**.**

26/01022/FULL
Proposed single-storey rear extension, change of use of adjacent grassed land to residential curtilage, formation of new replacement off-street parking area, associated hardstanding, boundary treatment and landscaping – **2 Bel House, Belvedere Close, Billericay, Essex**

The Parish Council agreed they had NO OBJECTION to this application.

26/00979/FULL
Retrospective planning application for the retention of an existing single-storey summerhouse within the residential curtilage of the bungalow – **2 Bromfelde Road, Billericay, Essex, CM11 2XT**

The Parish Council agreed they had NO OBJECTION to this application.

26/00980/FULL
Two storey front and rear and side extensions and alterations to roof including front and rear dormers – **Pipps Hill Farm, Pipps**

The Parish Council requested an extension of time for comment on this application.

92/2026 SID/VAS Units
Clerk provided quotes received for inspection of the units. Cllr. Kirby to investigate further options for inspection and repair of the units. **RESOLVED**

93/2026 Remembrance Sunday Preparations
Clerk has purchased wreath and arranged with Mr Bowman tidying of the area and cutting back of shrubbery on route to the Memorial. The Shepherd & Dog will provide refreshments after the service, the budget has been increased to £200. Clerk has prepared risk assessment to be reviewed and signed by Cllr. Kirby. The Order of Service has now been printed. Cllr. Kirby has arranged the Lay Minister and will prepare signage to be placed near the Memorial to alert road users that the service is taking place. **RESOLVED**

94/2026 Clerk Training – Financial Regulations Course
Clerk to attend Financial Regulations Course provided by EALC on October 21st, 2026 at the cost of £84 plus VAT. A 75% bursary can be claimed. **RESOLVED**

95/2026 Online Banking Mandate Changes
Cllr. Hockton has signed the mandate forms and Cllr. Kirby has completed the form for Cllr. Bailey to be removed. **RESOLVED**

96/2026 Subscription to Councilwise
The Parish Council agreed to subscribe to Councilwise for training and council support, at a midyear rate of £37.50 plus VAT to be reviewed in April. **RESOLVED**

97/2026 Jon Austin – Willow Green Travellers
The Parish Council was invited to comment on the Willow Green Travellers case, which raised the question of whether suppliers of materials used in unauthorised developments could be held accountable. Cllr. Kirby to contact Mr Austin. **RESOLVED**

98/2026 Finance

(a) Expenditure to Consider

Parish Clerk	Salary for September 2026 - £459.22 Purchase of Wreath - £31.50	Online Payment	£490.72
Prime Klenz	Cleaning of bus shelters - October	Online Payment	£90.00
EALC	Clerk Training – Financial Regulations Course	Online Payment	£100.80
Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	Annual Donation	Online Payment	£100.00

(b) Bank Reconciliation as 30th September 2026 - £28,221.91

Proposed by Cllr.Kirby, seconded by Cllr. Jenkins **ALL AGREED**

99/2026 Date of next meeting
Monday 9th November 2026

Any Other Business
The Chairman expressed disappointment at the lack of interest in establishing a Community Speedwatch group, particularly in light of the numerous complaints from residents about speeding through the village.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman …… Date …….