



Rayleigh Town Council

The Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Rayleigh, SS6 8JD
www.rayleightowncouncil.gov.uk

**Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting
held on Monday 16th March 2026 at 7:30pm
at The Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Rayleigh, SS6 8JD**

Members Present:

Cllr M Sutton
Cllr D Sperring
Cllr M O Leary
Cllr M Vernon
Cllr N Knell
Cllr L Knell
Cllr J Newport
Cllr E Brewer
Cllr N Gallop
Cllr C Stanley

In Attendance:

S Fishenden – Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
K Hardy – Deputy Town Clerk
Nine members of the public

AGENDA

- Item 1: Apologies for Absence: To receive and accept apologies**
- Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Lumley, Cllr Lambourne, Cllr B Newport, Cllr Balding, Cllr Roe, Cllr Linden, Cllr Page, Cllr I Wilson, Cllr V Wilson, Cllr L Newport and Cllr Ward
- Item 2: Declaration of Members' Interests: To receive declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests for this meeting**
- Usual declarations
- Item 3: Public Session: To receive representations and questions from members of the public**
- Members of the public raised –
- The number of councillors who attended this meeting was disappointing.
 - It was suggested the Town Council revisit the 2021 Spatial Options response it submitted and just update it

- Hambro Hill – Discrepancy between Hollybrook and Lib Dem maps
- Suggestion of a New Town, with infrastructure and services built first
- Seeking clarification around the timescales and process on the draft Local Plan
- A cardiac arrest occurred in Rayleigh High Street on Saturday. The MOP raised concerns around registered defibs not being available

The Town Council would review recommended distance for defibs and work with The Circuit to address unregistered defibs in the parish.

Item 4: Local Plan Consultation: To agree the Town Council’s response to the draft Rochford District Council Local Plan

The Town Council discussed the following points –

- The 2021 spatial options document could be used as a basis for the response. The new Local Plan now provides evidence to support what is in the document.
- Impact on schools, what is the new education provision arising from the developments?
- Overdevelopment of Rayleigh town
- Emphasis on post-2021 – transport links (buses). Cycleways aren’t insufficiently covered.
- Housing mix is not suitable, want to see 1 and 2 bedroom houses. Should also include social housing
- Garden Village option?
- John Fisher Playing Field – correct District Council that it is an open space
- Brownfield First – how does District Council intend to enforce that?
- Gypsy and Traveller site provision
- Town Centre area action plan is now outdated

The Town Council agreed to delegate to the Clerk to compile the majority view to respond to the fifty-four questions posed in the Local Plan consultation.

PROPOSED: Cllr Vernon. SECONDED: Cllr Stanley. All in favour.

The meeting closed at 8:25pm