

# RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

1. **Present:** Cllrs S. Bailey (in the Chair), R. Humphreys, N. Brinner and H. Anderson. 1 resident. Ward Cllrs P. Geary, K. McLean, D Hosking.  
Clerk J Vischer
2. **Apologies** - Cllr Humphreys. These were accepted.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the June Meeting and any Matters Arising** – previously circulated for comment  
The minutes were accepted as an accurate record. Proposer Cllr Brinner, Seconder Cllr Anderson. Unanimous.
  - 3.1. **Quote for re-painting/varnishing two finger posts and two noticeboards:** Cllr Anderson had obtained a quote. It was agreed to research two more quotes. As there would be no meeting until September it was formally agreed to decide the winning price via email circulation. Proposer Cllr Brinner, Seconder Cllr Anderson.  
Unanimous. **CLLR ANDERSON**
4. **Village Appearance**
  - 4.1. Annual Inspection Action Plan –
    - 4.1.1. Crumbling wall by School House – Cllr Bailey to contact Merchant Venturers Society. **CLLR BAILEY**
    - 4.1.2. Crumbling wall by Old Dovecote – Cllr Bailey to contact Merchant Venturers Society **CLLR BAILEY**
    - 4.1.3. Village drains – it was agreed to report all seemingly blocked drains via the environmental portal. To check: Cllr Anderson the upper end of village, Cllr Brinner the lower end, Cllr Bailey central zone. **CLLRS**
    - 4.1.4. Phonebox removal (*carry forward*)
  - 4.2. MKC cessation of in-season weed control – Ward Cllrs were planning to speak at the upcoming Budget Scrutiny Committee meeting complaining about the lack of warning. Lead-time for parishes wishing to take this work on had apparently not been considered.
5. **Flood Mitigation** Ward Cllr P Geary reported that Milton Keynes Council (MKC) had still not appointed a new Flood Prevention officer. Moreover there had been no briefing as to what progress was being made with recruitment. Therefore nothing had moved on.
6. **Recreation Field**
  - 6.1. Raised beds – these had been tidied up.
  - 6.2. Land Deeds - the Clerk had been passed an email from Mrs Rook dated 23 June, from the solicitors stating that “The Land Registry would probably grant a Registered Title to the Parish Council on the basis of the Memorandum endorsed on the Root Conveyance”. Clerk to respond to the solicitors as to the next stage. **CLK**
7. **Allotments**
  - 7.1. Rabbit-proof fence timber warranty still outstanding, **CLLR ANDERSON**
  - 7.2. Cllr Anderson relayed that she had been made an offer of free horse manure from a local farm. It was agreed to investigate the possibilities of storage on the allotment site. **CLLR ANDERSON**
  - 7.3. Remaining planting of the hedgerow whips in the autumn (*carry forward*)
8. **Finance - Cheques for approval & Balances** – The following payments were approved:  
Clerk’s salary - £175.87; Clerk’s expenses £16.00; Society of Merchant Venturers (annual allotment site rent) - £100.00; Landscape maintenance contract (50%) - £1,810.10; picnic bench installation - £540.00; data protection subscription (annual) - £35.00; Church venue hire - £10.00; Neighbourhood Plan consultancy - £1,140.00; Open Day catering - £34.43.  
Proposer Cllr Anderson, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous.  
Available balance at 27 June 2017: £10,694 (plus Section 106 fund).
9. **Neighbourhood Plan**

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- 9.1. Subcommittee report back** – Robin Cooper Chair of the Steering Group reported that the neighbourhood area consultation had been issued on 29 June. This first formal stage in the process would be open for responses until 28<sup>th</sup> July. Posters had been circulated around the village and an email circular to parish clerks and ward councillors had been sent around the Milton Keynes authority area by MKC. The first OPEN DAY had been held on 1<sup>st</sup> July at the village hall and was repeated on the Monday at the Church Coffee Morning. Over 60 residents attended. Another Open Day was planned for this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July at the village hall. The next stage would be questionnaires-cum-survey of the parish with returns by the end of August. This would be done by hand door-to-door, to ensure every household has sufficient copies. The first grant had been awarded subject to 'due diligence' confirmation. The latter had been submitted.
- 9.2. Formal instruction for TPS** – the Clerk reported that this had been posted out on 27<sup>th</sup> June.
- 9.3. Review Terms of Reference** – Mr Cooper relayed that they had acquired four more members of the Steering Group following the recent publicity giving them a total of ten representatives. This provided a greater breadth of input and was welcomed by the Group and councillors but it ran counter to the Terms of Reference (ToR) which stipulate 7 members. It was agreed that the ToR be altered accordingly following ratification by the steering group at its upcoming meeting. Proposer Cllr Anderson, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous. Cllr Anderson moved a Vote of Thanks, which all councillors supported, to Robin Cooper for all the work he had done so far.
- 9.4. New website** – Cllr Brinner reported that the Parish Partnership Fund application had been submitted by the deadline and receipt acknowledged. Three quotations had been received, the highest being approximately £3,000. More details on the quotes had been asked for in order to make a final decision. As there was a need for urgency regarding Neighbourhood Plan information circulation, and as there would be no meeting until September it was formally agreed to decide the winning bid via email circulation. Proposer Cllr Brinner, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous.

## **10. Planning Applications**

- 10.1. Previous applications** - 17/01127/CLUP 5 Abbey Way Ravenstone, Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed single storey rear extension for full width of existing dwelling, (excluding garage), and to block door to front of existing side extension. *Considered lawful development.*
- 10.2. NEW applications** - None
- 10.3. OTHER - to monitor** – *Bluebell cottage* – alterations to conditions; *Northend* - Building activity. None at present.
- 10.4. New to monitor** - Yew Tree Farm development – it had been reported that structures had been seen in the adjoining agricultural land for which there was no authorisation and variations from the plans seemed apparent. It was believed that MKC conservation enforcement had visited recently. Clerk to write to enforcement expressing concern. **CLK**

## **11. Councillors/Residents Items**

- 11.1.** Councillor Vacancy – A Notice of Vacancy had been posted up on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Should a request for an election not be received by MKC within 14 days RPC will be free to co-opt. Clerk to inform councillors at this point. **CLK**
- 11.2.** 'Clean MK' scheme – Ward Cllr P. Geary stated that an officer needed to be assigned to the project for it to be developed.
- 11.3.** Outstanding highways – collapsed road sign at bend of Weston Road – Clerk to re-report; better warning signage (junction Mill Road/Gayhurst Road)
- 11.4.** Ward Cllrs reported that Tom Blackburne-Maze has finally agreed to come on a walkabout although a date had not been set. Councillors were asked to update the list of the indicative things that needed looking at. **CLLRS**

- 12. Date of Next Meeting** - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall  
Meeting closed 8.10pm

*signed*

*date*