

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 12th October 2017 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs S. Bailey (in the Chair), H. Anderson, N. Brinner. Prospective parish councillor Les Postawa. Robin Cooper (Neighbourhood Plan); Ward Cllrs P. Geary, D Hosking.

Clerk J Vischer

1. **Apologies** – Cllr R. Humphreys; Ward Cllr K. McLean. These were accepted.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – Cllr Brinner regarding *item 9.2.3* - a friend within one of the bidders for the new website contract (Interdirect).
3. **Councillor Co-option** – Mr Les Postawa was duly elected a member of the parish council and signed his declaration of office. Proposer Cllr Anderson, seconder Cllr Brinner; unanimous.
4. **Election of Chairman** – Cllr Brinner proposed Cllr Anderson who refused the nomination. Cllr Anderson proposed Cllr Bailey who accepted the nomination on condition that the various Chair's tasks were delegated as much as possible. Proposer Cllr Anderson, seconder Cllr Brinner; unanimous.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the September Meeting and any Matters Arising** – previously circulated for comment
The minutes were accepted as an accurate record subject to the reversal of items 6.3.1 & 6.3.2 headings *vis a vis* their contents. Proposer Cllr Anderson, Seconder Cllr Brinner. Unanimous.
6. **Village Appearance**
 - 6.1. Varnishing noticeboards and re-painting two finger posts - Cllr Anderson reported that these were largely complete. New lettering still to be affixed. **CLLR ANDERSON**
 - 6.2. Main village ditch overgrown weeds – Cllr Humphreys had left word that he had not managed to arrange this. To be arranged immediately before the season had passed. **CLLR BAILEY**
 - 6.3. Annual Inspection Action Plan –
 - 6.3.1. Crumbling wall by School House – The Society of Merchant Venturers (SMV) had confirmed ownership. Works were planned to be carried out 'before Christmas'.
 - 6.3.2. Crumbling wall by Old Dovecote – SMV had still not confirmed land ownership. There was no member of staff directly in the know about the likelihood of repair. Robin Cooper offered to bring the matter up with SMV as he would be meeting representatives this coming week regarding Neighbourhood Plan (NP).
 - 6.3.3. Phonebox removal – [*carry forward - Cllr Bailey had established that the phonebox should be removed 'before Christmas'*]
5. **Flood Mitigation**
Flood Prevention officer still not appointed. Planned 'walkabout' with Tom Blackburne-Maze, Director of Public Realm not taken place. **WD CLLRS**
6. **Recreation Field**
Land Deeds – no update. Clerk to follow-up. **CLK**
7. **Allotments**
Remaining planting of the hedgerow whips in the autumn (*carry forward*). Half the plots were let but the Clerk had recently been informed that one plotholder was going to give up their plot.
8. **Finance - Cheques for approval & Balances** – The following payments were approved:
Clerk's salary - £140.70; Clerk's expenses £16.00; Allotment deposit return - £50.00.
Proposer Cllr Anderson, Seconder Cllr Brinner. Unanimous.
Available balance at 25 September 2017: £15,828 (plus Section 106 fund). The second tranche of the precept had been received - £4,253.

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9. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

- 9.1. **Subcommittee report back** – Robin Cooper Chair of the Steering Group reported that the Steering Group had met twice since the last meeting.
- 9.1.1. Formal confirmation of the completion of the neighbourhood plan area consultation had still not been received. The Clerk was requested to follow-up. **CLK**
- 9.1.2. Detailed scrutiny of the Questionnaires had been drawn-up for the consultant to analyse.
- 9.1.3. The need for settlement boundary alterations *vis a vis* housing needs had been broached with MKC officer in charge, Diane Webber – response awaited.
- 9.1.4. Further and additional comments analysis to be decided.
- 9.1.5. Next steps – meetings with major landowners and interested parties e.g. PCC, leading to planning vision to be arranged. 2nd tranche of the grant to be applied for in November.
- 9.2. **New website** –
- 9.2.1. Cllr Brinner reported that the Parish Partnership Fund (PPF) awards had still not been announced.
- 9.2.2. It was agreed that in the light of this delay that work on the new website should be commenced as it was central to the feedback of questionnaire results and further information regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. **To spend reserves up to £3,500 on the new website as necessary** Proposer Cllr Anderson, seconder Cllr Postawa, unanimous.
- 9.2.3. It was further resolved: **To award the contract to Interdirect**. Proposer Cllr Bailey, seconder Cllr Anderson, unanimous. **CLLR BRINNER**
- 9.2.4. Branding – discussion followed regarding the branding of the new website. The working group would present councillors with proposals between meetings.

10. Planning Applications

- 10.1. **Previous applications** - None
- 10.2. **NEW applications** - 17/02327/TCA Abbey House Common Street, Notification of intention to remove as close to ground as possible 1 x cherry tree (T1). No objections.
- 10.3. **OTHER - to monitor** – *Bluebell cottage* – alterations to conditions: no changes; *Northend* - Building activity. None. It was agreed to remove the standing item.
- 10.4. Yew Tree Farm possible unauthorised development – the Clerk had reported concerns via the new enforcement portal (July): no response as yet. ref FS56682279.

11. **Correspondence** (*other than email*) – None.

12. **Councillors/Residents Items**

- 12.1. Outstanding highways matters – better warning signage at junction Mill Road/Gayhurst Road – no change; collapsed road sign at bend of Weston Road – Re-reported and appeared to have been propped up to be more visible against the hedge - ref FS56006543 Ward Cllr D Hosking to follow-up. **WD CLLR HOSKING**
- 12.2. intermittent streetlight at lower end of village. Cllr Brinner noted that this had been repaired.

13. **Date of Next Meeting** - Thursday 9th November 2017 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Meeting closed 8.55pm

signed

date