

# RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs R. Humphreys (in the Chair), H. Anderson, N. Brinner, L. Postawa; Ward Cllrs P. Geary, D Hosking; 4 residents.

Clerk J Vischer

1. **Apologies** – Cllr S. Bailey, Ward Cllrs K. McLean, Robin Cooper (Neighbourhood Plan). These were accepted.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – None.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the December Meeting and any Matters Arising** – previously circulated for comment. Accepted as an accurate record. Proposer Cllr Brinner, Seconder Cllr Anderson. Unanimous.
4. **Village Appearance**
  - 4.1. Annual Inspection Action Plan –
    - 4.1.1. Crumbling wall by Old Dovecote – Resident Mr Howkins confirmed that he had been contracted to carry out the repair for the Society of Merchant Venturers (SMV). He explained that the roots of a nearby tree needed to be considered carefully with regard to the longevity of the wall.
    - 4.1.2. Crumbling wall by School House – awaiting repair.
    - 4.1.3. Phonebox removal – not yet removed.
  - 4.2. Helicopter Landing Pad – Planning enforcement had replied that ‘*using the yard to land a helicopter is incidental to the use of the property, unless it’s used for business purposes*’. Councillors agreed that it appeared to be used for personal use only. Cllr Postawa had been in contact with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which had informed him that in their opinion the site was ‘adequate’, and that any health and safety issues were the responsibility of the pilot. There had been no flights since November. It was agreed to put the matter on hold.
5. **Flood Mitigation**

Ward Cllr Geary reported that there had been no developments since the last meeting.
6. **Recreation Field**

Land Deeds – the solicitors had informed the Clerk that they were awaiting payment for the allotments Transfer Deed work as the invoice had been submitted in the late summer, and until they received payment for this they would not finalise the Recreation Field Land Deeds. The Clerk had requested a copy of the invoice be sent to him. This had been received and a cheque made out for payment. CLK
7. **Allotments**
  - 7.1. Pump – no developments since the last meeting.
  - 7.2. Remaining planting of the hedgerow whips in the autumn - the planting had been carried out. Cllr Anderson confirmed that £150 had been held back on the original contract sum for this work. The contractor had pointed out that an extra run of hedging plants had been requested on the side of the site and asked for a further £50 to cover this. This was agreed. CLK
8. **Finance** –
  - 8.1. **Cheques for approval & Balances** – The following payments were approved:  
Clerk’s salary £175.87; Clerk’s expenses £22.72; Solicitors (Allotments Lease) - £400.00.  
Available balance at 27<sup>th</sup> December 2017: £10,132 (plus Section 106 funds & Allotment deposits).
  - 8.2. Clerk’s hours, proposal to increase by one hour per week (from 3.5 to 4.5hrs) – this item had been previously discussed. Approved - proposer Cllr Bailey, seconder Cllr Humphreys. Unanimous.
  - 8.3. Budget 2018-19 – the draft budget was approved. Final Budget document to be issued to all. Proposer Cllr Postawa, seconder Cllr Brinner. Unanimous. CLK

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- 8.4. Precept 2018-19 approval – a precept of £8,800 was approved. Cllr Postawa, seconder Cllr Brinner. Unanimous. Clerk to submit to MKC. **CLK**

## 9. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

- 9.1. **Steering Group report back** – Robin Cooper (RC) Chair of the Steering Group had submitted a written report. The Steering Group had not met since the last meeting.
- 9.1.1. The adjusted 'red-line' boundary map had been submitted to MKC on 19<sup>th</sup> December.
- 9.1.2. Regarding the conveyance document and plan re Old Dovecote land ownership – this had been sent to SMV on 20<sup>th</sup> December to demonstrate their ownership of the adjacent field entrance and wall.
- 9.1.3. Meetings had been held with representatives the Parochial Church Council and Village Hall Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December.
- 9.1.4. Second grant application had been submitted on 8<sup>th</sup> December and, after a further exercise in due diligence, awarded on 5<sup>th</sup> January.
- 9.1.5. The Draft framework for the NP is being prepared in time for the next Steering Group meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January.
- 9.2. **New website** – Cllr Brinner reported that he had completed the various adjustments to the 'draft' website. Cllr Brinner to circulate access to the website. **CLLR BRINNER**

## 10. Planning Applications

- 10.1. **Previous applications** – 17/03221/FUL Land Adjacent Small Farm Ravenstone Mill Road, New 2 bedroom dwelling. *Pending*
- 10.2. **NEW applications** - 17/03350/TCA Hobbes Cottage North End, Notification of intention to crown reduce by 3m to 1 x False Acacia and 1 x Crab Apple (T1,T9). Crown reduce by 1m to 1x Damson and 1 x Cherry (T2, T3), remove 1 x Plum, 1 x Apple and 1 x Cherry (T4, T6, T8). Crown reduce by 2m to 1 x Quince (T5). and pollard to 4m 1 x Willow (T7). No objections – a comment: 'to support the tree officer's decision'. **CLK**
- 10.3. **Any Other Planning Matters** - None

11. **Correspondence (other than email)** – A letter of thanks from the local senior citizens SRW Club for the grant.

## 12. Councillors/Residents Items

- 12.1. **Outstanding highways matters** – Collapsed road sign at bend of Weston Road – no date yet given for the scheduled repair.
- 12.2. **NEW Items** –
- 12.2.1. Cllr Humphreys reported that the moles had returned at the recreation field. Clerk to call in the pest controller. **CLK**
- 12.2.2. Ward Cllr P. Geary reminded members that the MKC Budget consultation was open. Proposed cuts of significance included a reduction in the Highways re-surfacing budget by 25%; the removal of the time limit for pothole repairs in conjunction with a 15% budget cut; a reduction in the availability of recycling rubbish 'pink' sacks. Members were invited to make comments.
- 12.2.3. Mr Howkins reported fly-tipping of possibly hazardous waste off the Weston road at a field entrance, this had been reported to MKC.

13. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 8.35pm

*signed*

*date*