

# RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs S. Bailey (in the Chair), H. Anderson, L. Postawa; Robin Cooper (Neighbourhood Plan). Ward Cllr P. Geary. Clerk J Vischer

1. **Apologies** – Cllrs R. Humphreys, N. Brinner; Ward Cllrs K. McLean, D Hosking. These were accepted.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – Cllr Anderson on planning item 10.2 (18/00453/LBC). It was agreed to move a motion of indemnity should the meeting become inquorate. Agreed: Proposer Cllr Bailey, Seconder Cllr Postawa. Unanimous.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the February Meeting and any Matters Arising** – previously circulated for comment. Accepted as an accurate record. Proposer Cllr Anderson, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous.
4. **Village Appearance**
  - 4.1. Annual Inspection Action Plan –
    - 4.1.1. Crumbling wall by Old Dovecote – No change (poor weather)
    - 4.1.2. Crumbling wall by School House – No change (poor weather). Chair to contact Mr Howkins still outstanding. CHR
    - 4.1.3. Phonebox removal – the Chair reported that he had succeeded in contacting BT who had told him that they were having difficulties with the sub-contractor which was causing delays. They stated that the phonebox would have to be removed by September 2018 at the latest.
5. **Flood Mitigation** (*carry forward*)  
No further developments.
6. **Recreation Field**  
Land Deeds – the solicitors had sent the Statement of Truth for checking and signing. Cllrs Anderson and Postawa duly obliged. Clerk to return. CLK
7. **Allotments**
  - 7.1. Pump – Cllr Anderson proposed that as the expected quotation was still outstanding she research other contractors. This was agreed. CLLR ANDERSON
8. **Finance** –
  - 8.1. **Cheques for approval & Balances** – It was noted that the Clerk had had to re-issue the two payments to the landscaping contractor as the contractor had changed address and not received the cheques. Bank charges had been levied to stop the cheques. The following payments were approved:  
Clerk's salary £180.75; Clerk's expenses £43.32; Landscape maintenance (2<sup>nd</sup> and final tranche) – £2,181.55; allotments hedgerow planting - £200.00; Allotments ground rent (annual) - £100.00; Interdirect (website and domain name hosting) - £120.00.  
Available balance at 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018: £6,600 (plus allocated Reserves).
9. **Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**
  - 9.1. **Steering Group report back** – Robin Cooper, Chair of the Steering Group, had submitted a written report. The Steering Group had met three times since the last RPC meeting.
    - 9.1.1. The Plan itself is being finalised, and will be ready for the imminent start of the 6-week public consultation period.
    - 9.1.2. Open Days are being planned for 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> April. It was agreed that councillors should be present to support the Draft Plan.
    - 9.1.3. Some grant monies will have to be returned by the end of the financial year – amount to be confirmed.
    - 9.1.4. A report on the effectiveness of the first phase of grant funding had been submitted and accepted.

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9.1.5. Additional printing costs will be incurred due to the website delays – councillors agreed to top up the NP budget from reserves if required.

## 9.2. New website –

9.2.1. Training deferred to the next meeting.

9.2.2. The Clerk was requested to ascertain from Cllr Brinner clarifications regarding the contract with the website provider. **CLLR BRINNER/CLK**

9.2.3. It was noted that RPC had been awarded the Parish Partnership Funding it had requested last summer - £1,500. Clerk to draw down funds. **CLK**

## 10. Planning Applications

10.1. **Previous applications – 17/03221/FUL** Land Adjacent Small Farm Ravenstone Mill Road, New 2 bedroom dwelling. *Pending*

**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’. *No Objections to TCA*

**18/00122/TCA** 1 Abbey Way Ravenstone, Felling of ornamental sycamore. Tree is too large for its location in middle of the patio and is in close proximity to house. *No Objections to TCA*

10.2. **NEW applications – 18/00432/FUL** 18A Common Street, Alterations to the first floor box dormer windows, with the addition of a new gable end on rear of house and new windows and doors. *No Objections*

**18/00453/LBC** Swallows Barn Stoke Goldington Road Ravenstone, Listed building consent for the proposed two small roof light windows to the main roof. *No Objections*

10.3. **Any Other Planning Matters** – Ward Cllr P Geary reported that MKC had lost the challenge to the validity of its current Five-year Land Supply. This meant the NP was more important than ever for the Parish. Developers would have free rein to build more or less where they chose without MKC being able to prevent them.

11. **Correspondence (other than email)** – Local Council’s Direct quarterly; poster from Rt. Hon. Mark Lancaster MP.

## 12. Councillors/Residents Items

12.1. **Outstanding highways matters** – Collapsed road sign at bend of Weston Road – this may have been repaired – Chair to check. **CHR**

12.2. **Moles on the Recreation Field** – it was not clear if the moles had been cleared out.

12.3. **Fly-tipping** of possibly hazardous waste off the Weston road - Cllr Bailey reported that this had been removed.

### NEW Items –

12.4. **Potholes** to be reported up and down the village – a village inspection walkabout was agreed as per last year. Date to be agreed.

12.5. **Helicopter** - Cllr Postawa reported that he helicopter had been making flights again, however neither residents nor councillors appeared to be concerned about the noise. He was concerned and he also believed the aircraft landed too close to nearby buildings. **CLLR POSTAWA**

13. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

*signed*

*date*