

# RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs S. Bailey (in the Chair), H. Anderson; Robin Cooper (Neighbourhood Plan). Ward Cllrs P. Geary, D. Hosking. Six members of the public. Clerk J Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – Cllrs R. Humphreys, L Postawa and N. Brinner, Ward Cllr K. McLean. These were accepted. As the meeting was non-quorate no decisions could be made.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – None.
3. **Approval of previous Minutes and any Matters Arising** - October and November minutes. Deferred to the next meeting. No Matters Arising.
4. **Village Appearance**
  - 4.1. New Village Inspection (2018) Report –
    - 4.1.1. “Pop-up” garden at entrance to almshouses. Discussions have taken place. Resolved.
    - 4.1.2. Crumbling wall by School House – Savills informed the Chair that no funds had been set aside by Merchant Venturers (MV) for this work. No action date had been offered. Savills would contact MV.
    - 4.1.3. Replace (fallen) sleepers on the playing fields/commemorative bench. Detailed quotation had been received from the landscaping contractor.
    - 4.1.4. Stream other side of the road (from new barns development) to be scraped and cleared – The Chair agreed to meet the contractor on site next Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – to be confirmed.
    - 4.1.5. Phonebox removal – This has now been removed.
  - 4.2. Walk round with new Head of Highways (to include collapsed road sign and buried drain covers) – Ward Cllr Geary reported that this had taken place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The buried drains are being investigated and the collapsed road sign would be replaced.
  - 4.3. Rubbish & litter-picking – notification of the proposed litter-picking group to be included in the next Gate Group News report. **SB/HA**
5. **Flood Mitigation** - The flood report collecting residents’ experiences to inform Milton Keynes Council was still being prepared. **SB/HA**
6. **Recreation Field** – Nothing to report.
7. **Allotments** - Weed-suppressing matting – the Chair reported that two vacant plots had been covered. He submitted expenses for a refund of expenses incurred.
8. **Finance**
  - 8.1. **Cheques for approval & Balances** – the following payments were accepted; to be approved at the next meeting:  
Clerk’s salary £226.09; Clerk’s admin expenses £23.60; HMRC (PAYE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr.) £147.10.  
Available balance at 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018: £8,434 (plus allocated Reserves).
  - 8.2. **Capital Budget Items** - deferred.
9. **Neighbourhood Plan (NP) - Steering Group report back** – Robin Cooper, Chair of the Steering Group, reported that:
  - 9.1. One meeting had been held since the last RPC meeting, on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the response to the Regulation 16 consultation comments.
  - 9.2. On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December the Examiner, Mrs Kidd, advised of the Commencement of Examination Procedure and asked for two additional documents: Habitats Regulations and Impact on Human Rights, Assessments. These have since been submitted.
  - 9.3. The Examiner anticipates publication of the final report by mid February.
  - 9.4. No further meetings of the Steering Group are planned.

# RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

- 9.5. The advised alteration of Terms of Reference ratification and request for additional financial provision remain outstanding issues for approval by RPC.

## 10. Planning Applications

### 10.1. *Previous applications-*

**18/02645/FUL** Horseshoe Farm, North End; Demolition of existing stables and aviary and the erection of three dwellings. *Pending*. A resident present, who had submitted the application under the rubric of Abbey Mill Homes, set out his disagreements with RPC's objections which had been lodged between meetings under Chairman's delegated powers.

10.1.1. An extra RPC meeting, as proposed in the (non-quorate) minutes, had not been held so he had not been given the opportunity to express his views and this therefore invalidated RPC's conclusions. It was pointed out that RPC's submission merely expressed the collective opinion of councillors and was in no way binding on the planning authority's (MKC's) decision.

10.1.2. The inclusion of comments regarding a previous development, (Yew Tree Farm) by the same developer, had no relevance and should not have been included. Ward Cllr Geary informed the meeting that although not germane to the planning decision such considerations might form part of the conditions MKC attached to ultimate approval.

10.1.3. He expressed the view that the proposal was consistent with the draft Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair of the Steering Group commented that the proposed development lay outside the village boundary line and as such was deemed 'open countryside' which ran counter to the NP consultation responses (preferring no development in 'open countryside').

10.1.4. Various minor points were also raised. It was agreed that the proposal be re-considered in depth at the next RPC meeting.

### 10.2. **NEW applications –**

**18/02795/TCA** Bluebell Cottage Bay Lane, Notification of intention to crown reduce a willow (T1) overall by approximately 4.0 - 5.0 metres in height and laterally to balance pruning to suitable growth points. Crown clean removing all dead, diseased, dying, crossing, rubbing and duplicate branches. It was suggested that the tree officer be contacted to consider the health of the tree and the need for such extreme pruning. **CLK**

11. **Correspondence** (*other than email*) – MKC Christmas Card from the Mayor and Mayoress.

## 12. **Councillors/Residents New Items**

12.1. Cllr Anderson requested that the Safer MK survey link, circulated by email, be posted on the website. **CLK**

12.2. The Clerk reported that most website issues had been resolved but the 'News' and 'Events' pages still posed problems. To be pursued. **CLK**

13. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 8.30pm

*signed*

*date*