

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 14th March 2019 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs S. Bailey (in the Chair), H. Anderson, R. Humphreys; Robin Cooper (Neighbourhood Plan). Ward Cllr P. Geary, Four members of the public. Clerk J Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – Cllrs L. Postawa; Ward Cllrs D. Hosking, K. McLean. These were accepted.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – None.
3. **Approval of February Minutes and any Matters Arising** - Approved. No Matters Arising.
4. **Village Appearance**
 - 4.1. Village Inspection (2018) Report –
 - 4.1.1. “Pop-up” garden at entrance to almshouses. Being followed up by two Trustees.
 - 4.1.2. Crumbling wall by School House – the Chair reported that further communications from Savills indicated that this project was probably a low priority for Merchant Venturers. To be held on agenda simply as a carry/forward.
 - 4.2. Collapsed road sign (*on MKC repair schedule – carry forward*) and buried drain covers – No update from MKC on the buried drain covers – the painted ‘repair’ markings were wearing off.
 - 4.3. Rubbish & litter-picking –
 - 4.3.1. The litter-picking kits had been delivered and were being stored in the shed outside the Village Hall.
 - 4.3.2. Cllr Anderson volunteered to organise a litter-pick day and register the event as part of the national ‘Great British Spring Clean’. Clerk to notify MKC. Proposed date April 14th. HA/CLK
 - 4.4. Dog Fouling – None to report. The issue will be mentioned in the next Gate Group News article. HA
 - 4.5. Website issues – no changes since the last meeting - the redundant ‘Events’ tab on the Home page, had not been removed as subsequently requested. Clerk to pursue. CLK
 - 4.6. Village Inspection 2019 – date agreed: April 7th at 10am.
5. **Flood Mitigation**
 - 5.1. Flood Report collecting residents’ experiences in preparation (*carry forward*) SB/HA
 - 5.2. Ward Cllr Geary explained that MKC would be posting letters to over 5,000 residents who were affected by, or live near to the flooding in MK in May 2018 to seek their views. Feedback due in by April 8th. Clerk to check with MKC who in the parish would be on such a mailing list. CLK
6. **Recreation Field**
 - 6.1. Noise – the playground maintenance team had sent a quotation for the replacement of the metal backboard with a plastic one at £300. It was agreed to look for alternative solutions.
 - 6.2. Cllr Anderson agreed with the playgrounds team that the slightly wobbly netball post did need inspecting. Chair to investigate. SB
 - 6.3. Commemorative bench – thanks were expressed to the Ward Cllr grant of £480, which had been received. Approximate prices and installation costs amounted to about double this figure. The Clerk was asked to get information from Weston Underwood PC on one of their benches. The Chair would be meeting a local contractor on site this week to establish a possible timetable. SB/CLK
7. **Allotments** – Cllr Anderson would advertise the four vacant plots in the upcoming Gate Group News. HA
8. **Finance** - Cheques for approval & Balances – the following payments were approved.
Clerk’s salary £186.75; Clerk’s admin & expenses £29.03; allotment site annual rental £100.00.
Available balance at 27th February 2019: £4,406 (plus allocated Reserves).
Budget spending was on target for the imminent end of financial year. Project spending was low as the main item of expenditure (gated signage) had not been achievable this year.

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

9. **Neighbourhood Plan (NP) - Steering Group report back** – Robin Cooper, Chair of the Steering Group, reported that:

- 9.1. The Plan had successfully passed the Examination stage. As a consequence the referendum would be held on May 2nd to coincide with the local elections. Members congratulated the Team.
- 9.2. The Group had pushed for the inclusion of the Community Projects under each relevant section as opposed to a separate section added on the end of the document. This had been agreed by MKC.
- 9.3. There had been no meetings since the last RPC meeting but in the light of the above a new meeting would be called to arrange the steps needed to promote the Plan prior to the vote.
- 9.4. “Referendum versions” of the Plan would be circulated to residents along with timely fliers and additional website information.
- 9.5. Mr Cooper asked councillors to approve a further contingency fund of £500 to cover extra payments to the consultant and for printing. This was agreed.
- 9.6. Mr Cooper was applauded and thanked by RPC for all his hard work and commitment over the last year.

10. **Planning Applications**

10.1. **Previous applications** -

19/00204/LBC Alms Houses North End, Listed building consent for repairs and improvements to external elevations and associated drainage. *Awaiting Decision [post-meeting note: application granted 15th March]*

10.2. **NEW applications** –

Horseshoe Farm Appeal – In spite of request by the NP Steering Group, the consultant and the Clerk the Statement of Case had not been made available until last night. RPC to request an extension to the deadline for comments. Draft submission to be circulated amongst councillors.

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

12. **Councillors/Residents New Items**

- 12.1. Ward Cllr Geary updated councillors on developments in the Milton Keynes East Local Stakeholder Group – the urban extension of MK to the east of the M1, south of Newport Pagnell.
- 12.2. To approve the draft Information Policy – this was approved. Proposer Cllr Humphries, seconder Cllr Anderson. Unanimous.

13. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 11th April 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 8.35pm

signed

date