RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the MEETING OF THE RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL held on 10 June 2021, at 7:30pm.**

**PRESENT: CLLR R. HUMPHREYS, CLLR H. ANDERSON, CLLR F. GODBER, CLLR L. POSTAWA**

**RESIDENTS: R MACGOWAN, MR AND MRS BAKER, MR AND MRS ROLFE**

**CLERK: C MACGREGOR**

## **Apologies.** Ward Councillors D Hosking and K McLean.

1. **Declaration of Members Interests.** Cllr H. Anderson in so far as Yew Tree Farm is concerned.
2. **Approval of Minutes.**  Cllr L Postawa proposed the approval of both sets of minutes for the Annual Parish meeting on 20 May 2021 and the Ravenstone Parish Council Meeting of 6 May 2021. Cllr F Godber seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.
3. **Planning Applications:**
	1. Previous & Pending applications:
4. 19/03348/LBC & 19/03347/FUL Yew Tree Farm Stoke Goldington Road, Retrospective applications for internal and external alterations (resubmission of 19/00699/LBC & 19/00698/FUL). Follow up with MKC regarding inspection of works post 21 June 2021 and discuss with Ward Councillors regarding assisting with ensuring MKC monitors works and enforces compliance.

Despite two follow up mails to the relevant functionaries at MKC, no response had been received as to when enforcement would investigate compliance with the anticipated completion date for works to be completed, being 21 June 2021. Ward Cllr P Geary advised that Gary Dunne of MKC had left and suggested follow up emails be sent to Mr. Myles Joyce and Mr. Paul Thomas. It was also suggested that an invitation be extended for them to meet with Parish Councillor/s to discuss the various issues relating to planning in the village.

**CM**

**HA / RH**

1. 21/01470/FUL: Replace garage door, Forncett House, 49 Weston Road.

It was noted that this was in fact a retrospective notification as the work has been completed already although the notice does not state as such. There were no comments noted in respect of the works.

## **Village Appearance:**

* 1. Inspection Action Plan 2019:
		1. Old Schoolhouse verge: well cover. To discuss planting of void below grid. The problems with altering the existing repairs to the well cover were discussed and the only alternative appeared to be planting the well. The wildflower area was looking better around the well and was becoming more established. The progress would be monitored.
	2. Verge by almshouses (wildﬂowers). The Wildflowers were flowering. Their progress would be monitored. Residents and Cllr L Postawa raised concerns regarding the cutting in the village by the landscaping contactor and the failure to clear up cuttings. Residents were requested to forward their concerns to the clerk and Chair in order that the RPC could discuss the issue with the contractor and investigate what was in fact covered by the landscaping contract and what costs would be involved for services not covered by the contract, but which would improve matters if the areas of concern fell outside the contracted services.

**RH**

* 1. Flooding, including ditching of stream below Stoke Goldington Road and report back on meeting with consultants on 13 May 2021. No further communication regarding the ditching had been had with Simon Hill. Cllr H Anderson agreed to contact the owner in order to enquire whether he had been contacted by Mr. Hill as he had indicated he would make contact to arrange the ditching, especially seeing June was the preferred time as indicated by the landowner.

The meeting with the consultant representative was not particularly fruitful. Ward Cllr P Geary suggested writing to MKC to advise that the RPC would like to comment on the relevant flood report prior to finalization. Resident Macgowan pointed out that MKC official, Mr. A Patel had indicated that many of the solutions for RPC would come down to self-help items and simpler quicker measures should be investigated which the village could undertake on their own to address the situation. Flooding would remain on the agenda.

* 1. Report back on Village inspection for annual action plan 2021.

Cllr H Anderson presented the results of the annual village inspection and the draft plan she had prepared. It was agreed that the RPC would work to the plan to ensure the issues identified thereon were regularly revisited and addressed.

## **Recreation Field.**

The residents raised the issue of increased use of the Rec by non-residents and their concerns relating to parking, noise and access to the field across the stream instead of through the entrance. It was agreed that things had abated for the moment and that the issues were to be monitored over summer and revisited in Autumn. This item was to be kept on the agenda.

## **Allotments.**

Residents raised the use of slug pellets being used on some of the allotments and the impact on wildlife as a result, which was not in keeping with the bio-diversity goals of the Neighbourhood plan.

1. **Finance:**
	1. Annual Audit:
2. Receive and note Annual Internal Report
3. Approve Annual Governance Statement (section 1 Part 2 of AGAR)
4. Approve Accounting Statements (section 2 of Part 2 of AGAR)
5. Approve Certificate of Exemption
6. Chairman to sign the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements,
7. Chairman to set the commencement date for the exercise of public rights
8. Chairman to sign the Certificate of Exemption

The Annual Internal audit report was tabled and noted. The Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Statements as well we Certificate of Exemption were formally received, having also been circulated prior to the meeting. Items 8.1 (ii), (iii) and (iv) were unanimously approved by the RPC after the motion to do so was proposed by Cllr H Anderson and seconded by Cllr L Postawa. The Chairman duly signed all three documents.

The Chairman set the date for the commencement of the exercise of public rights as 14 June to 23 July 2021.

The Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption.

 8.2 Payments for approval & balances.

The following payments were tabled for approval

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Salary May - June 2021 |  |   | £275.40 |
| Printing disbursement |   | £36.00 | £36.00 |
|   |   |   |   |
| **TOTAL:**  |   |   | **£311.40** |
| **Payment approved for internal auditor** |   |   | **£85.00** |
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Cllr L Postawa proposed the payments be approved. Cllr H Anderson seconded the motion. It was unanimously resolved to approve the above payments.

## **Correspondence – other than email.**

The only physical correspondence received was the clerks’ magazine and the correspondence from the Valuation Agency Office regarding the deletion of the vacant lot for storage adjacent to 14 Common Street for rating purposes.

1. **Councillors/Residents New Items.**

10.1 Community Infrastructure Grant application. The deadline for this application was August 2021. Cllr H Anderson would formulate an application to cover the costs of the hydrogel bags. Ward Cllr P Geary would try and arrange for RPC to loan the SIDS for a short while for the RPC to investigate the efficacy of using the signs periodically as a traffic calming measure.

10.2 Bins. Pictures of the bins were shown to replace the bin at Mill Cottage and the bin at the Rec. Cllrs F Godber and L Postawa would investigate possible alternatives and advise Cllr H Anderson within a few days as to options before the final type of bin was communicated to MKC for installation.

10.3 Updating the website. Cllr H Anderson requested if this could be done. It was communicated that most aspects had already been done but that the template updates could not be done without assistance from the service provider who did not response. CM to follow up.

10.4 Parking and community enquiry regarding possible resident permit parking in specified areas. This item would be put on hold until Autumn once the use of the Rec was observed over summer. Item to remain on the agenda.

1. **Date of Next Meeting.** 8 July 2021.

Signed: