



RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE RAVENSTONE VILLAGE HALL ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2021, 07:30PM.

PRESENT: CLLR R. HUMPHREYS, CLLR H. ANDERSON, CLLR L. POSTAWA
WARD CLLRS P. GEARY & K McLEAN

RESIDENTS: MRS V ADAMSON, MR. R MACGOWAN, MRS. L. BELL, MRS. B. ROOK, MR. P. WEBSTER

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: MKC CABINET MEMBER J. WILSON-MARKLEW

CLERK: C MACGREGOR

1. **Apologies.** Cllr F. Godber, Ward Cllr D. Hosking.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests.** Cllr H. Anderson in respect of Yew Tree Farm planning item.
3. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes for Parish meeting 8 July 2021 were unanimously approved. Cllr Postawa proposing and Cllr Anderson seconding the motion.
4. **MK Connect:** Feedback and engagement with Cabinet member Mrs. J. Wilson-Marklew.

Cllr Wilson-Marklew received comments and concerns directly from residents present and from Cllr Anderson on behalf of those who could not attend, in addition to those sent prior to the RPC meeting regarding the MK Connect service to the village and responded thereto.

Cllr Wilson-Marklew indicated demand for services was high, but MKC is constrained in regard to the provision of services by the reduction in funding for public transport in MK as a result of the parking income in MK being seriously impacted by Covid. She advised public transport generally was not an obligation, but that MKC was doing the best it could within budgetary constraints available to provide a general public transport service. More vehicles had been acquired but there was currently a driver shortage which was in the process of being addressed. She advised that she had initially given the incorrect impression that a return journey would be able to be booked in due course as this was not part of the KPIs agreed in the contract awarded, but would seek to address this situation, if at all possible, given children and people with limited access to technology were finding it difficult to book the return journey when needed or timeously. The residents' concerns would be taken up by Cllr Wilson-Marklew but there was also a consultation session scheduled for 6 October 2021 where these and other issues raised by the various communities would be discussed. Cllr Wilson-Marklew re-iterated that they were working hard to address the current service levels including to rural areas. Her input on alternatives available in the meantime were sought and she undertook to revert in that regard. Presently, the service is unable to transport 16-18 year olds to school as it does not respond to requests at that time of day. There are no alternatives at the moment and families are having to make alternative arrangements. RPC indicated it wished Cllr Wilson-Marklew to attend the RPC meeting in December 2021 in order to report back on how issues were being addressed.

5. **Planning Applications:**

5.1 **Previous & Pending applications:**

- (i) 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).

It was communicated to the RPC that a planning application was allegedly going to be made in respect of the illegal opening as opposed to the owner attending to the remedial work to be undertaken and which MKC had instructed the owner to complete – this despite repeated undertakings to complete the work to bring the structure into compliance with the initial planning authorisation granted. It was recorded that as at the date of the meeting no application had been received but that if it were it would be placed on the agenda for actioning.

6. **Village Appearance:**

6.1. Inspection Action Plan 2021:

6.1.1. Old Schoolhouse verge: well cover. The wildflowers would be cut down having gone to seed. The possible planting of the void over the well would remain on the item to receive advice from Cllr. F Godber in this regard.

6.1.2. Neighbourhood Plan Implementation/Review. Nothing new to report on this aspect.

6.2. Verge by almshouses (wildflowers) and landscaping contract and performance discussions. Report back on any discussions regarding the planting of the verge by the almshouses would be left over to the October 2021 meeting.

6.3. Flooding, including ditching of stream below Stoke Goldington Road. Nothing further had been heard regarding the availability of machinery to attend to the ditching. Cllr R Humphreys undertook to chat to Mr. Howkins regarding timing and logistics involved in attending to the ditching and clerk to contact Mr. Cartwright to enquire regarding his availability, if any.

RH & CM

7. **Recreation Field.** No further comments were received regarding the use of the Recreation area. Cllr H. Anderson confirmed new balls and a crate were purchased and placed at the Rec.

8. **Allotments.** One new allotment was leased. The Clerk to communicate to allotment holders regarding renewals and increase in rental which had been held in abeyance last year due to Covid.

CM

9. **Finance:**

9.1. Payments for approval & balances. The following payments were unanimously approved. Cllr R. Humphreys proposed the payment and Cllr L. Postawa seconded the payments.

	<u>Salaries</u>	-	£220.32
	<u>Re-imbusement Cllr Anderson, balls and crate</u>	-	£71.16

10. **Correspondence – other than email.** David Huckle (from MK Neighbourhood Police Team) had sent his report to Cllr H Anderson and would be attending the October 2021 RPC meeting. The recommendation of joining Neighbourhood watch would be placed on the October 2021 agenda. The poster on preventing Theft from cars to be placed on the Noticeboard and Facebook.

CM

11. Councillors/Residents New Items/ Public Participation.

- 10.1 Cemetery maintenance. Cllr H. Anderson reported back on the Cemetery maintenance. Sunken in areas of soil were making the grass mowing more difficult. It had been recommended that 1 or 2 cubic metres of topsoil be acquired for the purposes of leveling the ground and the landscaping contractor had offered to spread it free of charge. This suggestion was accepted. Funds were available to acquire the soil. Cllr P. Geary recommended a supplier who delivers soil close to the area requiring filling. **HA**
- 10.2 Parish Councils Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and request by BP for a meeting to discuss applications for funding for On-Street electric vehicle residential charging points. The Clerk to extend an invitation to the BP representative to attend the October 2021 meeting. **CM**
- 10.3 Progress on securing use of SIDS on temporary basis. Ward Cllr K. McLean advised SIDS were allocated to groups of villages and at the next Parishes forum he would request for his group of Parishes. Speed Watch was a good initiative / place to start and to discuss this with David Huckle at the October meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting. 14 October 2021.

Signed: