

The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13 July 2023 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by Chairman, Councillor N Pearson.

Present: Councillors K Jay, M Jones, T Leach, N Pearson, D Rowley and G O'Carroll (Clerk).

In attendance: Thirteen members of the public.

142/23 **APOLOGIES** –Councillor Callear was not present.

143/23 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECULINARY AND OTHER INTERESTS** – none declared.

144/23 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS.** Agenda item 11 (a) Caretakers Contracted Hours – to review, 11 (b) Caretakers Cleaning Schedule – to receive and adopt, and 11 (d) Relief Caretaker Zero Hour Contract.

145/23 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – see attached report.

146/23 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** - The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8 June 2023 be a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

147/23 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

Public Participation – a request was made for the Council to consider implementing an Old Wall Policy, as adopted by Wickerlsey Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that this policy is in conjunction with Wickerlsey Neighbourhood Plan which provides Wickersley Parish Council with additional powers in respect of planning. Ravenfield Parish Council does not have a Neighbourhood Plan and unable to apply the same power to implement this policy.

Minute reference 125/23 (a) - Marc Hill, Senior Engagement & Communications Officer at Rotherham MBC has responded directly to MP John Healey who is responding to the parishioner's request of a pedestrian crossing on Hollings Lane.

Minute reference 126/23 (a). A meeting of Ravenfield Youth Charity will be held at the end of this meeting, with a view the charity will look to cover the costs to purchase and install goal posts on Hollings Lane recreational grounds.

148/23 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Ravenfield Art group have submitted a request to hold an Art Exhibition 2024, the same weekend of Bramley Sunnyside Football Presentation. The Council asked that the Clerk make both parties aware of the dates and ask if one would consider altering their event date.
- (b) Silverwood Colliery have booked hire of Ravenfield Parish Hall on Saturday 16 September 2023 to hold a Pop-up Heritage Day, and asked if the Council would consider providing hire free of charge? The Council **RESOLVED** to grant free of charge Hall hire.
- (c) A resident of St James Drive, Old Ravenfield, has approval from Marc Hill, Senior Engagement & Communications Officer at Rotherham MBC, permitting advisory signs requesting traffic slowdown may, be placed on street furniture on this road, and would like to request the Council consider purchasing these. The

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Council **RESOLVED** it is unable to fund this request, and suggested the resident approach Ward Councillors.

149/23 MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS

- (a) Ravenfield Community Plan Group (RCPG) have been involved in communications with Redrow homes. Redrow have suggested that they may be able to assist with the landscaping of Jubilee field and the ecology of the area. RCPG will next meet on 1 August 2023, and discuss the costs associated with preparing a project plan, and design of an all weather path, required to submit a planning application.
- (b) Due to low booking numbers of children attending Ravenfield Primary Academy school, the Titan Summer Camp multi activity camp day, Friday 4 August 2023 has been opened up to all children in Rotherham – capped at 20 places. Ravenfield Youth Charity had agreed to subsidise 50% of the costs up to 20 children.
- (c) The Ravenfield Arms pub has requested a new A Frame gate be placed at the side of the pub car park to stop pedestrians climbing over the boulders. The Council **RESOLVED** not to consider placing an additional pedestrian access point onto Hollings Lane recreational ground.
- (d) Proposed Winter Wonderland Event, Hollings Lane. Ten parishioners present at the meeting raised objection to the event. Comments made; music being played will impact mental health of residents and the event spread over three weeks is too long a period, and parking will be an issue. The Clerk confirmed that no events or licensing event licence has been submitted to Rotherham MBC. Councillor Pearson and the Clerk will meet with Ravenfield Arms on Friday 14 July 2023 and will ask if the event is still being considered.
- (e) The Ravenfield Arms have submitted a complaint to the Council regarding overhanging trees from Silverwood Woodland, and asked for permission to cut these back. The Clerk has arranged a site meeting with a Rotherham MBC Tree Officer on Friday 14 July 2023, to discuss the complaint. A parishioner present at the meeting added a number of dead trees have fallen in the woodland. **Action:** Clerk to bring this to the attention of the Tree Officer.

150/23 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH

- (a) The Clerk has contacted Woollen Signs to obtain a quotation to repaint the millennium sign. The quotation has not yet arrived. To review at the next meeting.
- (b) Notes made from the informal meeting with 3 x Neighbourhood Police Officers, 2 x Parishioners and Councillor Rowley and the Clerk to discuss anti-social behaviour in Ravenfield on Monday 3 July 2023 – 12:30pm were circulated, and noted.
- (c) The Cavalier Pub has requested loan of tables and chairs for the Air Ambulance Charity event on Saturday 15 July 2023. The Council **RESOLVED** to permit use of the tables and plastic chairs only.
- (d) Funding from Rotherham MBC Ward Councillors has been received, and the order will be placed to purchase the 30mph bin stickers. **Action:** Clerk to prepare 3 separate covering letters marked for black, pink and green bins. Distributors will coordinate so that properties receive one of the three letters instructing which colour bin their sticker should be placed on.
- (e) Ravenfield Community Gardening group have offered to expose the quarry memorial stone by clearing away vegetation, on Wednesday 3 August 2023, 6:30pm. **Action:** Clerk to publicise and ask help of new volunteers.
- (f) Neighbourhood Watch require a scheme coordinator for the Ravenfield area. **Action:** Councillor Leach will make contact with Parishioners who may be interested in volunteering.
- (g) Closure of the NatWest bank, Wickerlsey. **Action:** The Council asked the Clerk write to MP John Healey to ask his assistance in fighting to keep this open.
- (h) Additional Item: Letwell Parish Council have nailed a poster onto the noticeboard on Main Street, Old Ravenfield, using very old nails. The Clerk has removed the unauthorised poster but cannot remove the nails which protrude the noticeboard. A Parishioner in attendance offered to remove these.

151/23 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL

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- (a) The Clerk reminded the Council and public that the Hall will close at 3:00pm on Sunday 13 August for re-decoration works.
The Clerk presented a second notice board sample. The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with the Vis-Pro boards (colour – Mushroom), £446.67 exc vat.
The Clerk provided quotation costs for roller blinds to match the curtain fabric to cover the fire doors. The Council **RESOLVED** that blinds would only be required for the fire doors facing on to the garages. Cost £103.30 exc vat.
Councillor Pearson confirmed that he will arrange a joiner fit the new noticeboards, week commencing 21 August 2023.
The Clerk has obtained two verbal quotations from “odd job” trade people to repair the cracked/lifted paving slabs. Neither would provide a written quote, one said it would cost approximately £500, but only accepts cash payment. The other said in excess of £1000. The Council granted the Clerk consent to approve any works within £500, as per the financial and standing order regulations.

152/23 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

- (a) The Council **RESOLVED** to reduce the Caretakers contracted hours to 13 hours per week, with effect from 24 July 2023.
(b) The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Caretakers Cleaning Schedule.
(c) The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Lone Workers Policy.
(d) The Council **RESOLVED** to recruit a Relief Caretaker, on a zero-hour contract.
(e) The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with the Unity Bank Multi Pay Card, and completed the application form. This will enable the Clerk to purchase items within the limits set in the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
(f) The Council **RESOLVED** that only local business adverts be included in the Annual Parish Newsletter. The Clerk has requested all articles be submitted by 11 August 2023. The newsletter is scheduled to go to print week commencing 28 August 2023, and to be ready for distribution at the next Council meeting, on Thursday 14 September 2023.

153/23 REPORTS FROM RAVENFIELD ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE

- (a) Ravenfield Allotment Committee provided a quotation cost of £5592.71 exc vat, for the supply and installation of secure fencing around the perimeter of Ravenfield allotments, and asked for financial assistance. The Council explained that no allowance has been made in the 2023-2024 budget, but would look to consider granting funds in the next financial year budget. The Clerk suggested the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner grants maybe able to assist. **Action:** Clerk to forward information onto the Chairman of Ravenfield Allotment Committee.

154/23 MATTERS RELATING TO REDROW DEVELOPMENT

- (a) A meeting has been scheduled by Rotherham MBC Neighbourhood Teams, on Monday 24 July 2023, inviting Ravenfield and Bramley Parish Council to attend, to discuss the Redrow development and increase in traffic. Councillor Pearson, Councillor Rowley and the Clerk to attend.

155/23 MATTERS RELATING TO GREEN ITEMS

156/23 PLANNING

RB2023/0788 – 1 Braithwell Road, Ravenfield. Discharge of conditions 1-20 imposed by planning application RB2022/1255.
Information Noted. No objections raised.

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157/23 EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Councillor Pearson has attended the YLCA Chairman Webinars.

Councillor Rowley and the Clerk attended the Anti-Social Behaviour meeting, 3 July 2023.

Councillor Rowley attended the YLCA Branch Meeting and training session on 21 June 2023.

158/23 YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS' ASSOCIATIONS

- (a) YLCA Training Courses have been circulated. It was noted that no Councillor is interested in attending the Carbon Literacy online training course.

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the YLCA AGM on 22 July 2023.

159/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Update on Council's finances. The information was noted and approved.
- (b) The Council **RESOLVED** to renew the National Allotment Society membership, cost £66.00.
The Clerk explained that Sky Broadband have made an administrative error in their invoicing, not incorporating vat. This error has been rectified and the direct debits have increased to reflect back dated vat costs.
The Clerk informed the Council that the new Parish Council notice board to be placed on Braithwell Road, junction of Radford Close has increased in cost since the quotation was received. The original quotation was £1485.00. The new cost is £1733.50. Ward Councillors granted the original figure of £1485.00 towards the cost of the purchase of the notice board. The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with placing the order, and asked if the Ward Councillors would consider covering the additional cost of £248.50.

Payments to be made were approved.

160/23 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- (a) The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 14 September 2023 at 6.30pm, to be held in the Parish Hall.

161/23 MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- (a) Laser Community Savers Accounts. Councillor Leach would like to consider holding a community event to publicise.

162/23 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, information relates to finance and business affairs. It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

163/23 DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED.

164/23 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 9:15pm.

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Ravenfield Parish Council

Public Participation 13 July 2023

Parishioners raised complaint about the Ravenfield Arms pub;

1. The new side extension exceeds the boundary. Boulders have been moved to accommodate this. How much further will they extend out onto the playing fields? Has planning consent been obtained?
2. Steps lead from the side extension onto the playing field – can see people with drinks filtering out onto the playing field and play area. Broken glass found in a morning.
3. Fire doors are open and should not be. Music can be heard until 11:30pm.
4. Car park has reduced parking bays, filled with outside seating.
5. Car's parking on Wood Lane and Hollings Lane to visit the pub.
6. Noise from pub customers until late (after 11:30pm).
7. Concerns of drink driving.

The Council asked if these concerns had been reported to Rotherham MBC Licensing department?
No reports have been submitted.

The Council is unaware of any planning applications associated with the Ravenfield Arms.

Action: The Clerk will contact Rotherham MBC Green Space Manager and relay the complaints. The Clerk will obtain email addresses for Rotherham MBC planning and licencing department and share these with residents who have submitted written complaints ahead of the meeting. The Council recommended that Parishioners submit their complaints to Rotherham MBC.

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