

**RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON  
Wednesday, 19 January 2022 at 8.00 pm  
At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, Northants**

**1 OPENING PROCEDURES**

1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr J Matts (8.05 pm), Cllr E Connor, Cllr J Jones, Cllr D Hayes, Cllr M Worthington Mrs C Holifield (Clerk), District Cllr P Bignell and one member of the public.

1.2 **Apologies:**

None

1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

None

**2 MINUTES**

2.1 The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 November 2021 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

**3 PUBLIC TIME**

The member of the public stated that following his recent email to the Clerk he wished to bring to the attention of the Council the continuing problem of dog fouling in the village not just on the pavements and verges but also on residents' private property particular at the top end of the High Street. He asked whether further dog bins could be provided in this area of the village or notices could be placed on posts. It was agreed to bring forward the agenda item on dog fouling for discussion.

District Councillor Bignell stated that over 1,600 replies had been received in respect of the West Northants Strategic Document so it would take longer than anticipated to review the responses. He also stated that he was in receipt of a fund of £7,500 which he could distribute in grants of approximately £500 for any Covid related projects within his ward.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 **Update on Action being taken in respect of HGV's including refuse lorries travelling through Ravensthorpe/Coton**

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The Chairman stated that a complaint had been received about the speed that Norse refuse lorries were travelling through the village. Following contact with Norse an investigation was carried out checking the speed telemetry of its vehicles and the maximum speed was found to be 27 mph. It was appreciated that this was below the speed limit but may still be perceived to be too fast. The Chairman stated that a response from Highways to the request to restrict HGV's from travelling through Ravensthorpe/Coton was still awaited.

## **5 BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Consideration and approval of continuation of Urban Highways Grass Mowing Contract for 2022**

It was resolved that the Parish Council would continue to be responsible for mowing the urban highways verges in Ravensthorpe and Coton and would receive an annual grant of £515.75 for doing so. Clerk to return the signed contract to Highways.

### **5.2 Consideration of continuing problem of dog fouling in village**

Further to discussion, it was agreed that a further reminder about the need for dog owners to take responsibility for their dogs would be placed in the Village Newsletter (Cllr Worthington and Clerk to liaise), the Clerk would contact the Dog Warden to see what assistance could be provided by WNC. Clerk to look into the costs of providing an additional bin for West Haddon Road junction including the costs of emptying such for discussion at the next meeting. It was re-iterated that any bin in the village could be used for disposing of dog poo bags not just those specifically designed for such.

### **5.3 Consideration of Village Hall's request to fund the additional costs of installing the cabinet for storage of newspapers amount to £134.25**

Following receipt of itemised costings, it was resolved to donate a further £134.25 from the Easement monies to the Village Hall to cover the costs of the installation of the cabinet.

### **5.4 Consideration of an action to be taken in respect of celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

Cllr Hayes stated that she had been in contact with various groups in the village to try and co-ordinate events for the Jubilee. She stated that she was holding a meeting for interested parties on 22 January in the Village Hall and would come back to the Parish Council at the February meeting with further ideas. It was agreed that the Parish Council would be happy to provide some initial funding for any events organised. Cllr Hayes stated she would respond to the survey from NCALC. District Cllr Bignell to provide contact details for applying for Community Grants from WNC.

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## 5.5 Consideration of WNC Tree Policy and Strategy Task Group

Following receipt of an email from WNC regarding a Tree Policy and Strategy task group requesting input from local parishes, it was resolved that Cllr Marsh (as Tree Warden) would draft a response on behalf of the Council.

## 5.6 Consideration and approval of ten hours overtime payment for Clerk for additional work carried out in November 2021

It was resolved to approve the payment of 10 additional hours.

## 6 PLANNING

### 6.1 Planning Applications

None

### 6.2 Planning Decisions

**WND/2021/0574 – The Vicarage, Church Hill, Ravensthorpe**  
Construction of detached double garage with storage above.

*Application approved*

## 7 FINANCE

### 7.1 Payments

The following invoices/items were approved by the Council for payment by the method stated:

Payee	Invoice Number	Amount (£) including VAT where applicable	Payment type
Mrs C Holfield – Clerk's December salary	n/a	321.98	Online
Mrs C Holfield – Clerk's Office Expenses	n/a	18.00	Online
HMRC – PAYE (Oct to Dec 21)	n/a	241.20	Online
Ravensthorpe Village Hall – Newspaper Cabinet donation from Easement monies	n/a	265.00	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Nov 21)	Various	237.80	Direct Debit
WAVE – Allotment Water	9813201	9.49	Direct Debit
Mrs C Holfield – Clerk's January salary/overtime	n/a	425.78	Online
Mrs C Holfield - Clerk's Office expenses	n/a	18.00	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Dec 21)	Various	266.04	Direct Debit
E-on – Street Light replacements	109760	3,543.12	Online
Ravensthorpe Village Hall – Cabinet installation costs donation from Easement Monies	Various	134.25	Online

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## 7.2 Income Received

Vat Refund for 2020-21 of £1,430.17, Urban Highways Verge Mowing Grant for 2021 of £515.75 and a bank rebate of 90 pence.

## 7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 December 2021. Balance at bank was £28,587.59 of which £5,409.70 relates to the balance of the Easement monies.

## 8 CORRESPONDENCE

- Emails from Parishioners complaining about dog fouling in Ravensthorpe
- Tree Policy and Strategy – email from WNC
- Email from Parishioner regarding speeding bin lorries
- NCalc Survey of events for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

## 9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – Report from Ruth Rolls was read out to Council by Clerk.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor stated that all was in order at the allotments. Cllr Matts stated that on behalf of the PCC he had been in contact with Natural England and was waiting to see what action they would allow in respect of removing the badger currently living in the Churchyard and causing damage to property.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Matts stated that the footpath between Coton and Guilsborough needed cleaning. Clerk to report.
- 9.4 **Tree Report** – Cllr Marsh stated that the dead Elm tree opposite the Garage in the High Street had now been taken down. He also stated that work as being carried out to one of the TPO lime trees at the edge of the Playing Field. (Agreed that the issue of the TPO lime trees and responsibility for their maintenance would be taken forward to the February meeting)
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – The Clerk stated that she had reported street lights numbers 2 and 27 in Ravensthorpe as not working.
- 9.6 **Footpath report** – Cllr Hayes stated that she had nothing to report.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman had circulated the data reports from the device prior to the meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that the speed device should be moved on a monthly basis between just four locations during the year (Teeton Road, East Haddon Road and Guilsborough/Coton Road and one other) to give an overall view of traffic flow and speeds at each location.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field Liaison** – Cllr Worthington stated that the Village Hall was now operating as normal but following current Covid guidelines. She stated that the Playing Field committee was still awaiting the outcome of their application for a Community Funding grant to replace the goalposts.

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**ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON:  
Wednesday, 23 February 2022 at 8.00 pm**

- Queen's Jubilee celebrations
- Finance Checks
- TPO trees on Playing Field
- Notice re affordable payroll from NCALC
- Parish Asset Mapping
- Provision of litter or dog poo bin in West Haddon Road/top of High Street

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

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*D. Webb* 23/2/2022