

**RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON  
Wednesday, 23 March 2022 at 8.00 pm  
At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, Northants**

**1 OPENING PROCEDURES**

1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr E Connor, Cllr J Jones, Cllr D Hayes, Cllr J Matts and Mrs C Holifield (Clerk)

1.2 **Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R Marsh, Cllr M Worthington and District Cllr Bignell

1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Connor declared a personal interest in the planning application for 5 Bettycroft Close.

**2 MINUTES**

2.1 The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 23 February 2022 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

**3 PUBLIC TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**


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

The Chairman stated that he had been following up on the Council's request to Highways to reduce vehicle weight limits through Ravensthorpe and Coton with District Cllr Bignell and that whilst some response had been received he would continue to pursue this matter on behalf of the Council.

4.2 **Update on Village Litter Pick that took place on 12 March 2022**

The Council would like to thank those who volunteered to help on the 12 March. Cllr Matts stated that all litter collected had now been disposed of.

10/2022

  
20/04/2022

## **5 BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Consideration of purchase of additional dog poo bin for the West Haddon Road area**

The Clerk stated that she had received the requisite licence from Highways to erect a dog poo bin on the west side of the West Haddon Road close to the junction with the East Haddon Road. It was resolved to order a green dog poo bin from Norse who would also arrange to fit the bin to the existing post by the pavement. The estimated cost including the annual emptying contract was £490.80.

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

Cllr Hayes stated that further meetings had been held and the organisation of the planned events was progressing. She stated that she would require some funds to be made available in order to facilitate events and purchases that weren't self-funding and it was resolved that a sum of £500 would be donated from the easement money balance. Cllr Hayes to liaise with Clerk re the release of the funds.

### **5.3 Approval of payment of additional pay for Clerk in accordance with the NALC pay agreement wef 1 April 2021**

It was resolved to pay the additional £79.80 in backpay and to increase the hourly rate to £13.21 in accordance with the NALC agreement and the Clerk's contract of employment

### **5.4 Consideration of change of start time of future Parish Council meeting from 8.00 pm to 7.30 pm**

After discussion, it was agreed to trial the new start time of 7.30 pm from the May Parish Council meeting providing the Village Hall was available to be hired from that earlier time.

### **5.5 Approval of annual payment of £110 in respect of gardening the bank and consideration of amount to be paid in 2022/23**

It was resolved to make the annual payment of £110 to Mr & Mrs Ellison for the work they had carried out through the year and the Council thanked them for their efforts. It was agreed that the future amount of payment would be discussed at the next meeting

11/2022

 24/04/2022

**5.6 Approval of annual payment of £80 in respect of cleaning the bus shelter and consideration of amount to be paid in 2022/23**

It was resolved to make the annual payment of £80 to Mrs Moss for the cleaning she had carried out during the year and the Council thanked her for her efforts. It was agreed that the future amount of payment would be discussed at the next meeting

**5.7 Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting – 20 April 2022 at 8.00 pm**

It was agreed that the Clerk would invite the usual presentations but exclude Planning. Clerk to see whether District Cllr Bignell would like to speak. Also a slot for an update on the proposed Jubilee celebrations and also Cllr Marsh to give an update on the Lime trees in the Playing Field.

**6 PLANNING**

**6.1 Planning Applications**

**WND/2022/0166 – 5 Bettycroft Close, Ravensthorpe**  
Single storey front extension

*The Council had no observations*

**6.2 Planning Decisions**

None

**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 Holifield – Clerk's March salary and back dated pay increase	n/a	391.51	Online
HMRC – PAYE (Jan to March)	n/a	284.60	Online
Mrs C Holifield – Clerk's Office Expenses	n/a	18.00	Online
WAVE – Allotment Water	10189144	13.85	Direct Debit
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Mar 22)	Various	121.55	Direct Debit
Nick Ellison – Gardening Bank	n/a	110.00	Online
Ann Moss – Cleaning Bus Shelter	n/a	80.00	Online

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## 7.2 Income Received (to 28 February 2022)

Allotment rents totalling £445

## 7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ending 28 February 2022. Balance at bank was £23,196.84 of which £5,275.45 relating to the balance of the Easement monies.

## 7.4 Internal Finance Checks

Cllr Connor stated that she had carried out her internal finance checks and found all to be satisfactory.

## 8 CORRESPONDENCE

- WNC Survey in respect of Public Spaces Protection Order - noted

## 9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – Report from Ruth Rolls circulated to Councillors by email.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor stated that all was in order with allotments beginning to be dug over. She stated that the matter of the uncovered pond had been investigated further and that there was no requirement to cover it, in addition the loose glass had been removed. The Clerk stated that all annual payments had been made by tenants and that there was still a waiting list.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Matts stated he had nothing new to report.
- 9.4 **Tree Report** – The Chairman stated that he had spoken to the householder regarding the overgrown laurel on the Teeton Road. If no action taken, matter to be reported to Highways to deal with.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – Nothing to report.
- 9.6 **Footpath report** – Cllr Hayes stated that she had nothing to report.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman stated that the device was still at Teeton Road but would be moved to the East Haddon Road location shortly.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field Liaison** – Cllr Worthington provided a written report to state that the Village Hall would be increasing rental charges due to increased energy costs. There would be film night showing a Ukrainian film on 29 March 2022 with all proceeds going to the Ukrainian relief fund. Unfortunately, the Playing Field committee was not successful with their application for a Community Funding grant to replace the goalposts and had decided to fund the purchase from their own reserves. Planning for the Beer Festival to be held on 16 July 2022 was underway.

## ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON: Wednesday, 20 April 2022 at 7.00 pm

- Queen's Jubilee celebrations
- Internal Audit

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm

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