

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, 22 October 2025 at 7.30 pm At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, NN6 8EH

1 OPENING PROCEDURES

- 1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Hayes (Chair), Cllr M Worthington, Cllr J Matts, Cllr J Jones, Cllr M Bushell, Cllr E Connor, Cllr C Durrant, Cllr R Marsh (7.40 pm), Mrs C Holifield (Clerk) and Unitary Cllr C Morton.

1.2 **Apologies:**

None

1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Matts declared an interest in agenda item 5.1 as Mr Fitch is a tenant in one of his properties.

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 The Minutes of the Parish Council ordinary meeting held on 17 September 2025 were approved by the meeting and the Chair signed the minutes accordingly.

3 PUBLIC TIME

There were no members of the public present and Unitary Cllr Morton stated that he had nothing new to report.

4 MATTERS ARISING

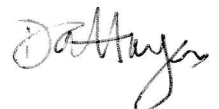
4.1 **Update from Anglian Water**

The Clerk stated that she had emailed Angela Tarry at Anglian Water in respect of the Council's concerns about graffiti on the Pumping Station and the overgrown vegetation causing visibility issues in the area of the Causeway but had received no response. Clerk to follow up for next meeting.

4.2 **Change of date of November Parish Council meeting**

The Clerk stated that she would be unable to Clerk the meeting due to be held on 19 November due to forthcoming eye surgery. It was resolved that the meeting be re-scheduled for **Wednesday, 3 December 2025**.

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5. BUSINESS

5.1 To consider and approve quotation for works to trees in the Pocket Park

The Clerk stated that she had had no response to her repeated requests for quotations for the work to be carried out to trees in the Pocket Park despite being given promises from local tree surgeons that they would check out the work required and provide quotations. As it was recommended under the Tree Safety Inspection that the work be carried out before the financial year end (ie March 2026), it was resolved to award the work to Maurice Fitch who had already quoted £1,500 (exc VAT).

5.2 To consider and approve the purchase of a SIM only contract for mobile phone for dedicated Parish Council use

The Clerk stated that she had looked at various SIM only contracts which could just be rolled over month to month with no requirement to sign up for an extended period. Vodafone which had good coverage in Crick and Ravensthorpe had a SIM only deal for £10 per month. The Chair stated that GiffGaff might have a cheaper deal at £6 per month. Clerk to look into this for next meeting.

5.3 To consider any large item expenditure to be included in the forthcoming budget calculation for 2026/27

It was agreed that additional costs should be budgeted for the works to the Village Trees required following the Tree Safety Inspection and to re-instate the budget for replacement of the obsolete street lights which in this financial year would need, in part, to be vired to cover the exceptional expenditure on the Beech Tree on the village green and other trees which had not been budgeted for.

5.4 To consider whether to make application to WNC Highways for yellow lines to be painted on the High Street to alleviate parking problems

The Council considered the email correspondence that had been received from a parishioner and the response given by Unitary Cllr Lister and resolved that it would not be appropriate to make an application for yellow lines to be painted in the High Street on the grounds that it would not solve the current problem with parking which was deemed to be of a temporary nature.

6.1 Planning Applications

2025/3713/LBC and 2025/3708/FULL – Bay Tree House, 2 Church Hill, Ravensthorpe, NN6 8EP

Erection of one storey and two storey extension, internal alterations to main dwelling and refurbishment of outbuildings and associated landscaping

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The Parish Council considered this application and would object on the following grounds:

Item 1 Installation of log burner

No observation

Item 2 Removal of part of the 19th century range and 20th century conservatory and erection of one-storey and two-storey extensions

The replacement of the modern conservatory with a 2-storey extension on the same floor plan seems desirable if constructed in a style matching the remainder of the 19th century wing. The Council has strong reservations about the planned French window and Juliet balcony on the first floor as these are not in keeping with the age of the house.

The proposed single-storey extension to the east of the wing currently has a flat roof and vertical wooden cladding. Neither of these features are appropriate for a house of this age and will affect the important view of the house across the garden from the south. The existing conservatory has a low pitched roof and it would be possible to use a similarly pitched roof on the proposed extension without impinging on the eastern first floor windows. This together with the use of matching breathable render on the south face of the extension would integrate it better with the rest of the building.

Items 3 – 6

No observations

Item 7 Erection of open timber frame structure link

This proposal will improve the function of the existing extension without seriously affecting its appearance but the proposal to clad the existing brickwork with vertical wood cladding is inappropriate. Variegated brickwork is a characteristic feature of the older houses in the village and should be preserved.

Items 10 – 13

No observations

Item 14 Removal of existing roof lights and forming of new hipped dormers

The proposed dormers will be over dominant on an important aspect of the building and will significantly change the appearance of listed building. It would be preferable to retain the existing roof lights should the installation of dormers be approved it would be preferable to avoid a hipped design as this would not be in keeping with other buildings of a similar age in the village.

Items 15 – 23

No observations

Item 24 Removal of existing lean-to roof and forming of new flat roof

This functionally unnecessary change to the exterior view of the property from the village green should not be made. Flat roofs are inappropriate for a listed period property and particularly in a prominent position. It would be more appropriate to replace the existing roof with slate tiles to match the remainder of the outbuilding but to retain the existing pitch of the roof.

Item 25 Existing brickwork walling clad with vertical timber cladding

*This proposal would seem to be out of character for a listed period building and no similar changes have been made to other village houses of a similar age.
(see Item 2 and 7)*

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Items 26 – 28

No observations

In conclusion the Council feel that the proposal to replace the existing modern conservatory with a two storey extension on the same footprint would be an improvement to an important and prominent village building but that some of the proposed changes would significantly alter the appearance of a listed period building in ways which would be counter to the principles of the Ravensthorpe Village Design Statement."

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 (£) includes VAT where applicable	Payment type
Clerk's Salary – October	n/a	513.85	Online
Clerk's Expenses – October	n/a	26.00	Online
Stephen Hartwell – Mowing village/Pocket Park	386/396	1185.96*	Online
E-on – Street Light Maintenance	6018810191	153.80	Online
E-on – Street Light Repair (High Street)	6018811011	42.00	Online
HMRC – PAYE/NIC – July to Sept	n/a	489.90	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Sept 25)	03149077	135.80*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Sept 25)	03029170	6.21*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Sept 25)	03029236	12.14*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Sept 25)	03050067	6.73*	Direct Debit

7.2 Income Received to 30 September 2025

Precept of £8,500 and bank interest of £10.28

7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chair signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 30 September 2025. Balance at bank was £22,320.45 of which £2,803.37 related to the balance of the Easement fund.

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7.4 Receipts and payments account to 30 September 2025

The Council noted the receipts and payments account covering the six month period ended 30 September 2025 which had been forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- Email received from NCALC re online planning briefing with WNC on 5 November 2025 (circulated to Councillors – places booked for Cllrs Hayes, Worthington and Durrant)
- Letter received by Cllr Marsh from parishioner in respect of Village Trees

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Crabtree Pocket Park** – Ruth Rolls provided a report which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that loose dogs had once again been fouling in the park, however, until the owners could be identified further action could not be taken.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor stated all in order.
- 9.3 **Highways** – The Clerk stated that she had spoken with Mark Atkinson who had a tractor and hedge cutting flail. He stated that he would be able to cut the hedge opposite the Village Hall when he came to the village to carry out work for a local farmer. He estimated that the cost would not be more than £100. Clerk to liaise with Mark to let her or John Matts know when he proposed to carry out the work so vehicles could be moved in advance and any debris cleared away.
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated he had nothing new to report.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – The Clerk stated that the light outside the garage had now been dealt with and she had since reported a faulty light outside Haddon House on the Guilsborough Road.
- 9.6 **Rights of Way** – Cllr Durrant stated that he had nothing to report.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Devices** – Cllr Marsh stated that both devices were working well.
- 9.8 **Village Hall Liaison** – Cllr Worthington stated that there was nothing significant to report
Playing Field Liaison – Cllr Worthington stated that the Bonfire and Fireworks event was being held on Friday 7 November. A premises alcohol licence had been granted to keep in line with the size of events being organised.
- 9.9 **Police Liaison Representative** – Cllr Bushell stated that the current areas of focus for the local Police were 'Women at Risk' and 'Stay safe with Fireworks'

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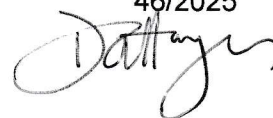


**ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON
Wednesday, 3 December 2025 at 7.30 pm (Note revised date)**

- Budget for 2026/27
- Precept for 2026/27
- Meeting dates for 2026
- Update from Anglian Water
- Update on mobile phone SIM

Meeting closed at 8.17 pm

46/2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dallan', is written over the printed number '46/2025'.