

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD REMOTELY BY VIDEO CONFERENCE Wednesday, 17 February 2021 at 8.00 pm

1 OPENING PROCEDURES

- 1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr M Worthington, Cllr J Jones, Cllr J Matts, Cllr P Hawkins, Cllr E Connor, Mrs C James (Clerk) and one member of the public.
- 1.2 **Apologies:** None
- 1.3 **Declarations of Interest:**
Personal: None
Personal and Prejudicial: None

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 January 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman (to be scanned to Clerk).

3 PUBLIC TIME

Mr Chris Myers introduced himself as a candidate for the forthcoming Councillor elections for Long Buckby and stated he was attending to observe only.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

5 BUSINESS

5.1 **Consideration of Parish Council's response to further Covid-19 lockdown**

The Council agreed that there was nothing further to do at the present time.

5.2 **Approval of ongoing application for a new bank account with Yorkshire Bank**

The Clerk stated that she had received confirmation that an account had been opened for the Parish Council with Yorkshire Bank. Switch documents had been signed as per the bank mandate and it was resolved that these would be scanned back to the bank following the meeting to complete the switch from NatWest to Yorkshire bank. In addition, it was resolved that the Clerk would transfer the balance of the easement monies held in the NatWest Business Reserve account into the Current Account ready for the switch process and that the Business Reserve account would be closed to avoid any unnecessary complications with the switch process.



- 5.3 Consideration and approval of attendance of Councillor/Clerk on NCALC Emergency Plan workshop – 24 February 2021**
It was resolved that Cllr Marsh would attend the workshop on behalf of the Council and a place would be booked for him at a cost of £38.
- 5.4 Consideration of setting date for Annual Parish Meeting via Zoom**
It was resolved that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 21 April 2021 at 8.00 pm via Zoom video conference. In order to facilitate this, it was resolved that the April Parish Council meeting would be brought forward to the earlier time of 7.00 pm. Clerk to liaise with usual attendees and ask for short reports to be prepared.
- 5.5 Consideration of current internet service provided by Gigaclear**
Cllr Hawkins asked the Council for their feedback on the current level of service provided. After discussion and an explanation from the Chairman about the history of Gigaclear providing fibre internet to the village, it was agreed that the current level of service was acceptable (far better than many rural communities were offered) and that no further action was required.
- 5.6 Promotion of Parish Council elections to be held on 6 May 2021**
The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council elections were going to be held on 6 May 2021 and that electronic nomination papers had already been forwarded to Councillors. Cllr Worthington asked the Clerk to book her a place for the DDC Election Candidates Briefing on 3 March. It was agreed that Councillors would initially complete their forms electronically and forward to the Elections Office to be checked over. Once that was completed, hard copies would be printed off and delivered to the Chairman. The Clerk would then make an appointment to take all forms to the Elections Office in Daventry.
It was agreed that notices of the Councillor elections would be placed in the Village Newsletter to encourage other parishioners to apply and also in the two Noticeboards. Clerk to prepare notices.
- 5.7 Enquiry from parishioner as to possible provision of mirror to aid traffic exiting junction at Church Hill onto Guilsborough/Coton Road**
The Chairman reported that following an enquiry made with Highways, it was confirmed that for various operational reasons mirrors were not permitted to be erected. Cllr Worthington to report back to parishioner with full details of the reasons.
- 5.8 Consideration of setting date for Annual Litter Pick**
After discussion, it was resolved that the annual litter pick would take place on Saturday, 13 March 2021. Volunteers to meet outside the Village Hall at 10.00 am but due to current Covid-19 restrictions would be asked to provide their own equipment (gloves, hi-viz clothing, etc). Parish Council to provide bags. Notices to be placed in Village Newsletter and the Noticeboards. Clerk to arrange collection of litter after the event with DDC. Cllr Worthington to liaise with WI.



5.9 Approval of donation payment of £300 to Long Buckby Library Hub

The Clerk stated that she had been contacted by Long Buckby Library Hub to confirm that they were now fully operational and had received their central funding. It was resolved to arrange for the payment of £300 as an annual donation to the Hub (as had been previously agreed)

5.10 Promotion of Census 2021

The Clerk stated that households would shortly be receiving notification of the Census 2021 which was hoped could be completed by the majority online during March.

5.11 Consideration of replacement locks for Noticeboards

Cllr Worthington stated that Yannis had attempted to unlock the Parish Council noticeboard but was worried about forcing it and breaking the glass. The Chairman/Cllr Marsh stated that they would take responsibility for opening it and once opened the lock could then be replaced. Clerk stated that she had contacted Bob Pike for the return of the key to the Coton noticeboard.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Planning applications

DA/2020/1172 – Sunnyside, Road to Coton, Coton, NN6 8RF

Demolition of existing conservatory. Construction of single storey rear extension to form garden room.

No Observations

6.2 Planning Decisions

None

7 FINANCE

7.1 Payments

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

Payee	Invoice Number	Amount £	Payment method
Mrs C James – Clerk’s February salary	n/a	315.83	Online
Mrs C James - Office Expenses	n/a	23.40	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Jan 20)	various	226.30	Direct Debit
Long Buckby Library Hub – Donation		300.00	Online



7.2 **Income Received**

None

7.3 **Balances at Bank**

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 January 2021 (to be scanned to Clerk). Balance at bank was £24,372.38 of which £6,574.61 is the balance of the easement monies.

8 **CORRESPONDENCE (for information only)**

- Notification from DDC of Parish and Town Councils meeting to be held on 25 February 2021

9 **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS**

- 9.1 **Crabtree Pocket Park** – The Clerk stated that Ruth Rolls had completed a detailed application form for an Action on Climate Change Grant from DDC (maximum £1,000) for a picnic bench, bat box, saplings and a billhook which had been forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was resolved to fully support Ruth in her role as Pocket Park Co-ordinator and that the Clerk should countersign the application on behalf of the Parish Council and submit the form prior to the March deadline.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor stated that all was satisfactory in the allotments. The Clerk stated that the annual rental demand letter was ready to send to tenants but was awaiting confirmation that the bank switch had taken place before sending out the new bank details to enable tenants to pay online.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Jones asked the Clerk to submit a FixmyStreet report in respect of a large pothole on the Coton/Ravensthorpe road just prior to the junction to the reservoir car park.
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated that he had nothing to report.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – The Clerk stated that she had received no new reports of problems with street lights.
- 9.6 **Public Footpath Report** – The Chairman stated that he had spoken with the owner of Cuffy's Fields and it was reported that they would request the leaseholder to put in an additional step on the 2nd stile to make access easier for walkers.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman reported that the data he had uplifted from the device on the Teeton Road indicated that 20% of traffic was over the speed limit. Maximum speed recorded was 48 mph. Volume of traffic back to normal pre lockdown levels.



9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field** – Cllr Worthington stated the Village Hall remained closed. New front doors were going to be installed. The Playground remained open but was being carefully monitored.

10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA (17 March 2021 at 8.00 pm)

- Update on traffic issues
- Bank switch update
- Elections – 6 May 2021
- Annual Parish Meeting

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. W. K.', written in a cursive style.

17th March 2021