

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD REMOTELY BY VIDEO CONFERENCE Wednesday, 16 September 2020 at 8.00 pm

1 OPENING PROCEDURES

- 1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr M Worthington, Cllr P Hawkins, Cllr J Matts, Cllr J Jones, Cllr E Connor, Mrs C James (Clerk) and two members of the public.
- 1.2 **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Hewison.
- 1.3 **Declarations of Interest:**
Personal: Cllr Matts declared an interest in planning application DA/
Personal and Prejudicial: None

2 MINUTES

- 2.1 The Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 August 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman (to be scanned to Clerk).

3 PUBLIC TIME

The two members of the public stated that they were attending the meeting in respect of the planning application for Cultra, 1 Coton Road. The Chairman invited Mr Young to address the Council. Mr Young provided further details of the changes made to the plans relating to Cultra to try to accommodate the objections raised previously by the Parish Council and the concerns of the neighbours. These included reducing the width of the overall building; moving it further from the boundaries; reducing the ridge height; changing the type of render on the front aspect.

The Chairman thanked Mr Young for attending the meeting and it was agreed that the Council would discuss the Planning Application DA/2020/0160 as the next item on the agenda. (See 6.1 below)

The two members of the public left the meeting after 6.1 after the Council had considered this application.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 **Update on Dead Tree Branches on the Gullsborough Road**
The Clerk stated that she had been trying to get an update on what was being done about the dead branches but the contact at Berry Bros had been on holiday for the past two weeks.

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4.2 Update on traffic calming measures being taken by Highways following site visit

The Chairman stated that the warning posts had now been erected on the kerb on the Guilsborough Road opposite Little Lane. Warning markers had also been erected outside Greenacres but might need to be moved. Highways had attempted to move the direction post but were unable to do so. A new post has been ordered and the old one will be cut down when it is ready for erection. Highways are looking at the possibility of a low cost method of deterring vehicles from crossing the central hatching at the High Street junction but this might take some time as the engineering section are busy on other Covid related projects at the moment.

5 BUSINESS

5.1 Consideration of Parish Council's further response to Coronavirus pandemic

The Council agreed that there was no further action that needed to be taken by the Council as the Covid 2020 group were doing an excellent job. It was agreed that, in accordance with the guidance being received from NCALC and the current rise in case numbers, that Parish Council meetings would continue to be held remotely for the foreseeable future.

5.2 To consider and approve payment by direct debit of annual fee to Information Commissioner for Data Protection at a cost of £35

It was resolved to continue to pay for the annual Data Protection as recommended by NCALC.

5.3 To consider applications received in respect of casual vacancy for Councillor

The Chairman stated that only one application had been received and the applicant had been due to observe the meeting. It was agreed the Clerk should contact the applicant and suggest that he observe the October meeting if still interested in becoming a Councillor.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Planning applications – See Public Time above

DA/2020/0160 (Amended) – Cultra, 1 Coton Road, Ravensthorpe
Demolition of existing dwelling. Construction of new dwelling, garage and granny annexe.

No New Observations. The Council note that the applicants have taken into consideration the previous objections raised and amended their plans accordingly.

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DA/2020/0630 – 7 Church Hill, Ravensthorpe

Conversion of part of garage to habitable space and first floor extension above.

No Observations

DA/2020/0354 (Amended) – Bell End, Road to Coton, Coton

Change of use of stable building to summer house for use associated with main dwelling and as occasional use as a holiday let (12 days per annum) (retrospective)

No new observations. The Council still have concerns about possible parking issues in The Lane.

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 Sept salary		307.49	Online
Mrs C James - Clerk's Administration Expenses		18.00	Online
HMRC – PAYE (July to September)		222.80	Online
WAVE – Allotment Water	7746822	26.43	Direct Debit
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Aug 20)	n/a	231.00	Direct Debit
Stephen Hartwell – Village Mowing (2 cuts)	936/944	1020.00	Online
Information Commissioner – Data Protection Fee		35.00	Direct Debit

7.2 Income Received

None

7.3 Balances at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 August 2020 (to be scanned to Clerk). Balance at bank was £21,121.59 of which £6,574.27 is the balance of the easement monies.

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7.4 Approval of Clerk's Pay Increase in line with National Agreement 2020/21

The Clerk stated that NCALC has now forwarded details of the National Pay Agreement for local government employees (this had been circulated to Councillors). Pay scale 17 had increased from £12.36 per hour to £12.73 per hour backdated to 1 April 2020. Council resolved to approve the increase.

8 CORRESPONDENCE (for information only)

None

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – Ruth Rolls most recent report and photos had previously been circulated to Councillors by email.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – The Clerk stated that she had received the monthly report from Cllr Hewison and that there were no matters of concern. Cllr Connor stated that a badger had taken up residence in the Churchyard and there were concerns from allotment tenants that it would destroy their produce. Cllr Matts stated that as PCC representative responsible for the Churchyard he would look into what could be done.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Matts stated he had nothing new to report. See Matters Arising for other issues.
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated that he had not yet had time to carry out an inspection of the Parish trees but would do so for the next meeting. The Chairman stated that he had not noticed any problems.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – The Clerk stated that she had received no new reports of problems with street lights.
- 9.6 **Public Footpath Report** – Cllr Hawkins stated that he was struggling to walk all the paths. It was agreed that a six monthly report on each path would suffice.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman stated that the new position midway down the Guilsborough Road was assisting in slowing traffic and would be left there until the end of the month. It was agreed that the next position should be near the Green on the Teeton Road.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field** – Cllr Worthington stated that the works at the rear of the Village Hall would commence in October and that the new terrace area would allow wheelchair access. The Village Hall had reopened for exercise classes only.
Cllr Worthington stated that Western Power had provided a donation of £500 to the Playing Field for allowing access to the substation at the end of Church Gardens.

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10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA (21 October 2020 at 8.00 am)

- Update on traffic issues
- Update on dead tree branch overhanging Guilsborough Road
- External audit
- Renewal of 3 year Grass mowing contract
- Parking issues
- Additional Council policies

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

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