

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD REMOTELY BY VIDEO CONFERENCE
Wednesday, 21 October 2020 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 Hewison, Cllr E Connor and Mrs C James (Clerk).
- 1.2 **Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr P Hawkins and Cllr J Matts
- 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 16 September 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman (to be scanned to Clerk).

3 PUBLIC TIME

There were no members of the public present

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 **Update on Dead Tree Branches on the Guilsborough Road**
The Clerk stated that she had now had a response from Berry Bros who had confirmed that the affected branches had been dealt with.
- 4.2 **Update on traffic issues in village**
The Clerk stated that she had had no further update from Mr Boyes regarding the works to be carried out. The Chairman requested that Mr Boyes be informed that the two warning markers that had been erected at the junction of Guilsborough Road/High Street were aligned in the wrong direction. Clerk to chase.

5 BUSINESS

- 5.1 **Consideration of Parish Council's further response to Coronavirus pandemic**
The Council agreed that there was no further action required at the present time.

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- 5.2 To consider the offer received to switch business bank accounts from NatWest to a selected bank for a cash incentive of up to £1,500**
The Clerk referred to information that had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting in which NatWest (as a consequence of competition regulations) had written to the Council to make an offer to switch bank accounts for a cash incentive of up to £1,500. The Clerk stated that she had made enquiries and following information received from NCALC the best option to consider would be a switch to the Co-op Bank who were part of the scheme. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Co-op bank to see what exactly would be involved in changing the Councils accounts as there were concerns from some Councillors that, due to new fraud regulations, the time and effort taken to switch may negate the value of the cashback.
- 5.3 To consider whether further policies should be adopted by the Council**
The Clerk referred to information that had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council had sufficient policies already and that the only additional policy to adopt would be a Publication Scheme so members of the public could see what documents were held by the Council.
- 5.4 Update on recent site visit to the new Pumping Station on Teeton Road**
Cllr Hewison stated that she, together with Cllrs Worthington and Hawkins, had met with Anglian Water staff at the new Pumping Station for a site visit in respect of the revised planning application (see below). She stated that they were extremely impressed with the work that had been carried out by Anglian Water who had addressed almost all of the concerns raised by the Parish Council at earlier meetings. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to Anglian Water to thank them.
- 5.5 Consideration of any further action to be taken in respect of the continued problem of vehicles parking on pavements**
Cllr Worthington stated that the problem with parking on the pavement outside the Village Hall continued with the path being completely blocked by vehicles on Sunday. Cllr Hewison stated that she had left the polite Parish Council notices on some windscreens but had found them screwed up on the pavement later on. Cllr Marsh agreed to take the matter up with Mr Pike as hirers of the Village Hall needed to be aware of the problems that they and their clients are causing to parishioners.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Planning applications

DA/2020/0782 Land opposite Water Works, Teeton Road, Ravensthorpe
Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission DA/2019/0992 (installation of Pumping station). Reduction in height and alterations to external elevations.

No Observations

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6.2 Planning Decisions

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

Application approved

DA/2020/0630 – 7 Church Hill, Ravensthorpe
Conversion of part of garage to habitable space and first floor extension above.

Application approved

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)

Application approved

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 October salary (including backdated pay increase)		367.21	Online
Mrs C James - Clerk's Administration Expenses		18.00	Online
E-On Street light maintenance (July to Sept 20)	100627	123.92	Online
Stephen Hartwell – Village and Pocket Park	952	1032.00	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (Aug 20)	n/a	238.26	Direct Debit

7.2 Income Received

Half year precept of £8,750 and bank interest of 17 pence.

7.3 Balances at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 30 September 2020 (to be scanned to Clerk). Balance at bank was £28,277.24 of which £6,574.44 is the balance of the easement monies.

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7.4 Half year Budget report (period ended 30 September 2020)

The Clerk asked if Councillors had any queries relating to the half year budget report which she had circulated prior to the meeting showing income and expenditure to 30 September 2020. There were no unexpected items.

8 CORRESPONDENCE (for information only)

- Notification of Town and Parish Councils meeting to be held on 29 October 2020 – noted
- NCALE Update – September/October 2020 edition circulated to Councillors

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** – Cllr Hewison provided her report and stated that all was in order.
- 9.3 **Highways** – In the absence of Cllr Matts there was no report.
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated that he had noted a dead branch on one of the oak trees on the Teeton Road but this did not pose a problem at the present time.
- 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 Clerk stated that Cllr Hawkins had investigated a complaint from a resident about a new stile that had been erected on the footpath to Coton through Cuffys Field. However, having walked the route, Cllr Hawkins found that both he and his large dog could cross the new stile without difficulty and it was agreed that no further action was required.
It was noted that there were problems with overgrown hedges/vegetation on the footpaths between the Allotments and The Hollows and Church Gardens and Teeton Road. Clerk to ask Cllr Hawkins to look into these problems and consult with residents as appropriate.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – Data from the speed device had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Marsh stated the had now moved the device to the new location on The Green. He stated that he had had requests from residents to position the device on the High Street to try to slow traffic before the sharp bends when it was next relocated and this was agreed.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field** – Cllr Worthington stated that work was ongoing at the Village Hall to construct the outside terrace. She stated there would be no firework display this year. The roundabout was still being repaired by Mr Hickman. The Playing Field committee were still waiting to hear from DDC whether they would be given the grant they applied for.

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10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA (18 November 2020 at 8.00 pm)

- Update on traffic issue
- External audit
- Parking issues
- Meeting dates for 2021
- Finance Checks
- Budget for setting Precept for 2021/22
- Telephone Kiosk
- Bank switch

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Smith'.

18/11/2020