

**RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON  
Wednesday, 20 July 2022 at 7.30 pm  
At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, Northants**

**1 OPENING PROCEDURES**

1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr M Worthington, Cllr E Connor, Cllr J Matts, Cllr J Jones, Mrs C Holifield (Clerk) and District Cllr Bignell

1.2 **Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Hayes

1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Matts declared a personal interest in the Planning application at 6.1.

**2 MINUTES**

2.1 The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 22 June 2022 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

**3 PUBLIC TIME**

There were no members of the public present. District Cllr Bignell stated that he had hopes that the new Highways contract for West Northants Council with Kier due to start in September would result in improvements being seen.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 **Update on overgrown vegetation on Causeway (Coton Road)**

The Clerk stated that she had reported the matter to Anglian Water and that works had recently been carried out to cut back the vegetation along the Causeway and at the junction with the Hollowell Road. The Council remain dissatisfied with the work that has been carried out and consider that a safety issue still remains. Cllr Matts stated that the hedgerow required cutting with a flail. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Anglian Water again and also the Highways Liaison Officer to see what further action could be taken.

28/2022



#### **4.2 Update on order for replacement bench**

Cllr Matts stated that he had taken delivery of the new bench from Cyan and that he would install in the next week or so. It was agreed that Cllr Worthington would liaise with the Hickman family regarding the replacement of the dedication plaque with wording to be agreed at the September meeting.

#### **5. BUSINESS**

##### **5.1 Consideration and approval of payment of annual membership of Northants CALC including internal audit fee**

It was resolved that the Council should continue to be a member of Northants CALC and the payment of the annual membership fee and the internal audit fee (2022/23) totalling £586.21 was approved.

#### **6 PLANNING**

##### **6.1 Planning Applications**

WND/2022/0498 – Cultra, 1 Coton Road, Ravensthorpe  
Construction of detached summer house/office pod

The Council made the following observations:

- 1. The Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed removal of the hedgerow and feels that the replacement of the hedgerow with close board fencing is not acceptable.*
- 2. The Parish Council would wish to see the surrounding surface area for the summer house/office pod to be constructed of a permeable material*

##### **6.2 Planning Decisions**

Cllr Marsh asked whether Planning Officers should be required to notify the Parish Council of any non-material changes that are approved in respect of any planning applications that have previously been considered by the Council (particularly where the Council has made observations/objections). District Cllr Bignell stated he would look into this.

29/2022



## 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 Holfield – Clerk's Salary July 2022	n/a	387.31	Online
Mrs C Holfield – Clerk's Office Expenses	n/a	20.00	Online
Northants CALC – Annual Membership	2036	586.21	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity (June 22)	Various	175.54	Direct Debit
Stephen Hartwell – Village Mowing	202259	567.60	Online
Northants CALC – Training Course fee	2157	22.80	Online
Cyan Furniture – New Bench	Tbc	460.00	Card Payment

### 7.2 Income Received (to 30 June 2022)

VAT refund of £2,148.71 and a cash rebate from the bank of 14 pence.

### 7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ending 31 May 2022. Balance at bank was £29,512.38 of which £5,275.45 related to the balance of the Easement monies and £5,379.31 to a CIL payment.

### 7.4 Internal Finance Checks

Cllr Connor stated that she had carried out the quarterly financial checks. All satisfactory apart from an apparent overpayment of 2 pence to E-on. Clerk to arrange credit note.

## 8 CORRESPONDENCE

- o NCALC Councillor Membership Satisfaction Survey – circulated to Councillors by email.

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## 9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – No report received
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor reported that all was in order at the allotments. Cllr Matts stated that the Church would be erecting some closeboard fencing where there were some problems with the existing wall adjoining a garden in Bettycroft Close.
- 9.3 **Highways** – The Chairman stated that he had again reported the adverse camber on the Coton Road and he was now expecting it to be sorted.
- 9.4 **Tree Report** – Cllr Marsh stated that a number of Ash trees on the West Haddon Road were showing possible symptoms of Ash dieback disease.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – Nothing to report.
- 9.6 **Footpath report** – Nothing to report
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman reported that he had downloaded the data from the device whilst it had been located on the East Haddon Road. There was a noticeable increase in traffic volume (up to 1,000 vehicles) on certain days and a few vehicles had been recorded at travelling at 60 mph.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field Liaison** – Cllr Worthington reported that the Village Hall would be closed for a week in August for annual cleaning. The Playing Field reported that the recently held Beer Festival/Family day was a great success with over 500 people attending.

### ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON: Wednesday, 21 September 2022 at 7.30 pm

- Vegetation on Causeway
- Dedication Plaque for Bench
- Amendments to Planning applications

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Marsh', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.