

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday, 20 March 2024 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 Bushell, Cllr R Marsh, Cllr M Worthington
Cllr J Jones, Mrs C Holifield (Clerk) and Unitary Cllr P Bignell.

1.2 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Hogben, Matts and Connor.

1.3 Declarations of Interest

None

2 MINUTES

2.1 The Minutes of the Parish Council ordinary meeting held on 21 February 2024 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

3 PUBLIC TIME

Unitary Cllr Bignell stated that WNC were offering assistance with litter picking kit under the Spring Clean initiative. The Fostering service had seen an improvement and its rating had increased to 'good'. A new housing allocation scheme was being launched in WNC and everyone on the current lists under the previous Councils would need to reapply. A new public spaces order came into effect with £100 fines for dropping litter/smoking/leaving dog poo in community spaces.

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Update on contact with Anglian Water re Ravensthorpe reservoir car park

The Clerk stated that she had had no further contact from the person responsible for the management of Ravensthorpe car park. To be taken forward to April meeting and to invite Anglian Water to attend the Annual Village Meeting on 27 April 2024.

4.2 Update on insurance claim for damage to street light number 43 in Dairy Field

The Clerk stated that she had made a successful claim to Aviva and an amount of £585 had been paid into the bank account. She had also instructed E-on to carry out the repair to the light.

11/2024



4.3 Update on order of free portrait of King Charles III for Village Hall

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall committee would like to display a portrait in the Village Hall and she had ordered the standard free framed portrait being offered by the Government.

4.4 Update on Annual Litter Pick

Cllr Marsh stated that the annual litter pick had taken place on 16 March and the usual volunteers had attended who were to be thanked for their efforts. The bags collected were outside the Village Hall waiting for Norse to pick them up. Clerk to chase WNC.

4.5 Update on Attendance at NCALC Briefing

Cllr Hayes (Chair) stated that she had attended the briefing regarding the Local Plan and referred to the note she had forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting.

5. BUSINESS

5.1 Consideration of action to be taken in respect of Annual Village Event to take place on Saturday, 27 April 2024

Cllr Hayes (Chair) stated that the Village Hall had been booked for the morning of 27 April 2024 and that the Clerk had already notified the usual attendees of the change of format this year. It was agreed that all groups/organisations in the village should be invited and not just the ones that had previously attended the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Hayes (Chair) to liaise with Bob Pike to get contact details of users of the Village Hall. It was agreed that hot drinks and cake would be available on the morning and that apart from very short reports that the event would be much more informal. Final arrangements to be made at the April Council meeting.

5.2 To approve payment of £110 to Mr Pate for gardening the bank

It was resolved to make the annual payment of £110 to Mr Pate.

5.3 To approve payment of £80 to Mrs Moss for cleaning the bus shelter

It was resolved to make the annual payment of £80 to Mrs Moss

5.4 To consider and approve responses to questionnaire in respect of settlement hierarchy for Ravensthorpe

It was resolved to approve the discussed responses to the questionnaire agreeing that Ravensthorpe should remain as a secondary village in the new hierarchy. Cllr Hayes (Chair) to finalise the questionnaire and send to Clerk for transmission to WNC.

12/2024



5.5 To consider and approve responses to questionnaire in respect of settlement hierarchy for Coton

It was resolved to approve the discussed responses to the questionnaire agreeing that Coton should remain as a hamlet in the new hierarchy. Clerk to finalise the questionnaire and sent to WNC.

5.6 To consider action to be taken to replace Glyn Lewis (who is retiring from role) as Police Liaison Representative for Ravensthorpe and Coton

The Clerk explained that Mr Lewis was trying to find a replacement for the role and for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme but the Clerk stated that if he could not then a Councillor would be required to take responsibility for the Police Liaison Role at the May meeting.

5.7 To consider correspondence received in respect of HGV's travelling through the village

Unitary Cllr Bignell stated that he was still awaiting a response from Nick Henstock of WNC Transport to his enquiries. To be taken forward to April meeting.

5.8 To consider annual risk assessment for Allotments

The risk assessment prepared by Cllr Hogben prior to the meeting was approved. To be sent to all allotment holders for attention.

5.9 To approve the purchase of a bench for the Pocket Park

It was resolved to purchase a 2 seat recycled brown Park bench with back as selected by Ruth Rolls from NBB Recycled furniture. Clerk to liaise with Mrs Rolls re delivery and order online. Funds to come from Easements monies.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Planning Applications

None

6.2 Planning Decisions

None

6.3 Planning Other (not in our Parish)

Appeal Ref: APP/W2845/W/23/3325657

Appeal decision in respect of Plot 1, Tythe Farm, East Haddon

Appeal allowed

13/2024



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 at appropriate rate where *)	Payment type
Mrs C Holifield – Clerk's Salary March 2024	n/a	440.11	Online
Mrs C Holifield – Office Expenses March 2024	n/a	20.00	Online
Stephen Hartwell – Clearing vegetation on Green	140	300.00*	Online
Mrs A Moss – cleaning bus shelter	n/a	80.00	Online
SSE Energy – Failed DD paid online	391908087	22.57*	Online
Mr A Pate – Gardening the bank	n/a	110.00	Online
Cllr R Marsh – reimburse litter pick bags	n/a	8.50	Online
SSE Energy – Street Light electricity (Jan/Feb)	Various	76.30*	Direct Debit
SSE Energy – Street Light electricity (Jan/Feb)	Various	377.72*	Direct Debit
WAVE – Allotment water	13239052	14.61	Direct Debit
SSE Energy – Street Light electricity	Various	176.66*	Direct Debit
SSE Energy – Street Light electricity	Various	73.75*	Direct Debit

7.2 Income Received to 29 February 2024

WNC verge mowing grant of £515.75, Allotment rents of £235 and Aviva insurance payment of £585.

7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 29 February 2024. Balance at bank was £26,038.35 of which £4,775.45 related to the balance of the Easement monies.

7.4 Internal Finance Checks

The Clerk stated that Cllr Connor had carried out her internal finance checks and had reported that all was satisfactory

7.5 Internal Audit Meeting for 2023-24

The Clerk stated that the meeting with the NCALC internal auditor had been set for Monday, 29 April 2024.

14/2024



7.6 Formal Complaint to Virgin Money

The Clerk stated that as a consequence of complaining about the length of time it had taken to open the business savings account, the Council had been recompensed with the sum of £75

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- Email correspondence from parishioner in respect of his communication with WNC Deputy Director of Transport with regard to HGV's (see agenda item above)

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – No report available
- 9.2 **Allotments** – See risk assessment item above
- 9.3 **Highways** – No report available
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated that he had nothing new to report. It was agreed that either he or Cllr Matts would try to speak to Mr Spencer about the overhanging trees on the East Haddon Road by the Washbrook.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – It was agreed that an article would be put in the next Village Newsletter about reporting faulty lights to the Clerk and to explain the recent upgrades to street lights including the part-night cells.
- 9.6 **Footpaths** – Cllr Bushell stated that she had walked three of the paths and all was in order.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – Cllr Marsh stated that the device would remain on the East Haddon Road until the permanent Solar powered device was installed. Date still unknown.
- 9.8 **Village Hall Liaison** – Cllr Worthington stated that there had been very good interest in the table tennis facility.
Playing Field Liaison – Cllr Worthington stated that there was nothing new to add since the last report had been provided.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON:

Wednesday, 17 April 2024 at 7.30 pm

- Finalise arrangements for Annual Parish Event
- HGV lorries in the village
- Review of amount being paid for cleaning bus shelter
- Review of amount being paid for gardening the bank
- Review of amount being paid for allotments
- Review of amounts being paid for Teeton Road and West Haddon Road pits

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

15/2024