

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk: Mr Julian Vischer
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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 12th May 2016 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs R. Rook (in the Chair), R. Humphreys, S. Bailey, H. Anderson and N. Brinner; Ward Cllrs P. Geary, D. Hosking & K. McLean + 3 members of the public.
Clerk J Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – None

2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – None

3. **Approval of Minutes of the April Meeting and any Matters Arising** not covered below

The minutes of the April Meeting were passed as an accurate record. Proposer Cllr Bailey, Seconder Cllr Humphreys. Unanimous.

4. **Village Appearance**

4.1. *Verge protection at Cemetery gate (burial ground)* – The Clerk had researched two alternatives the plastic-cups based system and the plastic mesh roll. The former was quoted at costing between £1,000 and £1,500 as foundations were required; the latter at approximately £300 including an allowance for installation. It was agreed to invite the current landscape contractor to install the pegged-down green plastic mesh roll. Proposer Cllr Rook, Seconder Cllr Humphreys. Unanimous. **Clerk**

4.2. The Chair reminded councillors of the experiment to strengthen the damaged verges in Common Street. The contractor for the new play equipment installation on the recreation field had agreed to cut turves that could be used for this purpose. As the Chair would be away during the installation of the play equipment Cllr Humphreys agreed to manage the volunteer group for the task. **Cllr Humphreys**

5. **Flood Mitigation**

Ward Cllr Geary informed the meeting that the new Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) would be appearing on the Milton Keynes Council (MKC) website in the next few days. The Chair had drawn up a village petition demanding flood control measures. The completed petition(s) would be presented at the full MKC meeting on 8th June when Ward Councillors would file an official budget request. It was noted that works on the carrier drain at the north end of the village is currently listed on the 2016-17 works schedule. The gathering of signatures to the petition to be organised by Cllrs Brinner and Bailey and the petition to be passed to P Geary within 2 weeks. **Cllrs Brinner/Bailey**

6. **Landscaping**

6.1. **New Landscaping Contract** – The new contractor – Chris Page Services Ltd. – had not yet agreed to upgrade public liability insurance cover to £5million. **Chair**

7. **Recreation Field Improvements**

7.1. **16/00082/CLUP and refund of fees** – The Certificate of Lawful Development was in place and a refund of £146.25 received. One further refund of 97.50 was due to be paid by cheque to RPC.

7.2. **Procurement of Sports Equipment** – The start date for the works was set at 30th May. As the Chair would be away during the installation of the play equipment it was agreed to invite an interested resident to monitor the progress of the works. **Chair**

7.3. **Picnic table** – the Clerk had circulated various choices via email from the websites of four separate suppliers. Photographs were circulated. It was agreed that Cllr Bailey would deal with the transaction. It was further agreed that some kind of bark mulch be installed under the bench so that it could be anchored permanently in one place thus preventing the need for grass/weed maintenance under the table. **Cllr Bailey**

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8. Allotments

The Chair had been informed that agreement had been reached in principle *vis a vis* the boundary and the documents were with the respective solicitors consequently the lease could be available soon. It was agreed that the matter should continue to be chased up regularly.

Chair

9. Finance - Cheques for approval & Balances – The following payments were approved; Proposer Cllr Rook, Seconder Cllr Bailey:

<u>chq</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>gross</u>	<u>VAT</u>
100681	J Vischer - salary	133.51	
100682	J Vischer - admin	22.60	
100683	BALC - annual sub	<u>29.75</u>	0.00
	TOTAL	185.86	

Credits – Hockey Foundation grant £9,000; 1st stage of precept £3,753
Available Funds at 19th April 2016: £12,984.

10. Planning

Previous applications

- 10.1. 15/02071/TCA Notification of intention to remove wispy branches to two Willow Fronds at: Bluebell Cottage Bay Lane. *Awaiting decision*
- 10.2. 16/00622/FUL Yew Tree Farm Stoke Goldington Road, Erection of a single dwelling. *Application withdrawn*
- 10.3. 16/00661/DISCON Yew Tree Farm Stoke Goldington Road Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 4 (flood risk assessment) and 8 (archaeological record) attached to application 14/00508/FUL. *Pending*
- 10.4. 16/00725/LBC Yew Tree Farm Stoke Goldington Road, Listed building consent to re-thatch ridge and front elevation of roof. *Application refused*
- 10.5. **NEW** – 16/00900/DISCON, 16/00941/DISCON & 16/01069/DISCON all details pursuant to discharge of conditions for Yew Tree Farm application no 14/00508/FUL. *Info only*
- 10.6. Long Barn Entrance Alterations Appeal ref APP/Y0435/C/15/3132949 – Appeal upheld, enforcement notice quashed 21st April.
- 10.7. **OTHER to monitor** – [Bluebell cottage – MK Planning Enforcement Team had written to Mr Caplin requiring various minor changes and/or further Planning Applications; This was raised in June 2015 so should be followed up at the June 16 meeting
- 10.8. TPO on Ash Tree adjacent to brook (renewal required in July)

11. Correspondence - other than that circulated by email – A letter had been received concerning the possible expiry of the right to use a footpath following the course of the old Northampton to Bedford railway, as the Countryside Stewardship Scheme, which enabled public access, was coming to an end in January 2017. The letter asked what action the parish council may take. It was agreed to contact the MKC footpaths officer, Rosie Armstrong.

Clerk

12. Councillors/Residents Items

- 12.1. Plan:MK – RPC Response submitted 17th March and acknowledged.
- 12.2. Better warning signage (at the junction of Mill Road and the Gayhurst road for traffic travelling south - *reported 12th December 2015*). *'under investigation'*. No update – an update had been requested from MKC. Ward Cllr Geary reminded the meeting that when the new Director of Highways and Public Realm, Tom Blackburne-Maze, took office ward councillors would take him to visit this dangerous spot. Email with all outstanding Highways/lighting issues to be sent to Ward Cllr P Geary.
- 12.3. Defibrillators – purchase, siting - Mr R McGowan from the Village Hall Committee reported that the funds for the purchase of the defibrillator and cabinet were in the process of being transferred to RPC.
- 12.4. **NEW** – The Chair reported that it had been stated in the press that the national broadband installation program would be curtailed prematurely. Ward Cllr Hosking offered to check with the MKC Head of Infrastructure, Martin Smith.

Chair

Ward Cllr Hosking

13. Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 9th June 2016 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Meeting closed 9pm.

signed

date