

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 12th January 2017 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs R. Rook (in the Chair), S. Bailey, R. Humphreys and H. Anderson; Ward Cllrs, D. Hosking.
Clerk J Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – Cllr N. Brinner; Ward Cllrs K. McLean, P. Geary. These were accepted.
2. **Declaration of Members Interests** – None.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the November Meeting and any Matters Arising not covered below**
 - 3.1. The minutes were accepted as an accurate record. Proposer Cllr Rook, Seconder Cllr Humphreys. Unanimous.
 - 3.2. Matters Arising – None
4. **Village Appearance**

Nothing to report
5. **Flood Mitigation**

Ward Cllr Geary not being present no update was available. Neither Clerk nor Chair had received any information via email. The Chair offered to chase. **Chair**
6. **Landscaping**
 - 6.1. **Cemetery verge** – the Chair reported that the works had been completed.
 - 6.2. **Landscaping contract 2017** – it was agreed to take on the current contractor for a further year at an increase in charges of 3%. The Chair offered to contact the contractor. **Chair**
7. **Recreation Field Improvements**
 - 7.1. **Land Deeds** – Carry forward until allotments lease concluded.
 - 7.2. **Dog Signs** – the Chair had installed the signs.
 - 7.3. **Picnic Bench** – Chair to brief the contractor regarding installation of the slabs under the feet of the table. [*post-meeting note: the contractor will await drier weather before commencing*]
 - 7.4. **Moles** - the Chair had instructed the Clerk to contact the contractor in between meetings. The problem had not yet been resolved. **Clerk**
8. **Allotments**

The SMV solicitors had forwarded the site plan for the proposed lease to RPC solicitors last week. Chair to chase. Three contractors had been contacted to price for the works. Cllr Anderson and the Chair had agreed to work on the pricing document – this was agreed. **Cllr Anderson/Chair**
9. **Finance**
 - 9.1. **Budget & Precept Approval** – The draft budget data was gone through.. It was agreed to increase the Clerk's pay scale one spine point on the anniversary of the start of employment. Clerk to revise the figures to take account of this. It was agreed that the Allotments site development was the main project for the coming year. Councillors to suggest future projects for 2018-19. Slight adjustments to the figures were made. At the recently called village meeting to discuss the budgetary implications of Milton Keynes Council's (MKC) reduction in the grant for landscaping and possible withdrawal of certain services, the majority of residents had agreed that it was preferable to pay more precept than see a deterioration in the attractiveness of the area. An annual increase of £1,000, equating to an approximately 13% increase on current levels was deemed acceptable. Clerk to draw up a revised version for circulation. It was formally agreed to approve the budget and to increase last year's precept by £1,000 to £8,506. Proposer Cllr Bailey, Seconder Cllr Anderson. Unanimous. Clerk to reissue finalised Budget - complete and send off precept form. **Clerk**

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9.2. Cheques for approval & Balances – The following payments were approved:

<u>chq</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>gross</u>
100716	J Vischer - salary	168.52
100717	Post Office (PAYE)	109.80
100718	J Vischer - expenses	16.00
100719	Chris Page Services Ltd - 1712	60.00
100720	Village Hall Association (hall hire)	131.25
100721	Marcus Young Landscapes - 1875	552.00
100722	Cllr Anderson expenses	<u>8.00</u>
		1,045.57

Available Funds at 12th January 2017: £7,516 (plus allocated reserves).

Proposer Cllr Rook, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous.

The small savings account had been closed as arranged. The balance, £4,513.74, is included in the available funds above.

10. Planning

10.1. Building activity at Northend – still no feedback form Planning Enforcement.

10.2. **Previous applications** - 16/03250/FUL The Old Stables Bay Lane Demolition of existing barn and erection of new bungalow; construction of double garage for Home Farm Barn. Revised scheme to 11/02645/FUL with addition of single storey rear extension and revised parking layout (Retrospective) (Re-submission of withdrawn application 16/02092/FUL). Objected to. *Pending*

10.3. **NEW applications** – 16/03525/LBC 11 Common Street, Listed building consent for partial removal of existing coal bunker, removal of external plastic downpipe, removal of existing solid fuel boiler, installation of LPG boiler to internal wall, installation of new pipework and flue exit. No objection in principle, but a comment to be submitted to the effect that the storage of LPG bottles should be considerate, ensuring the bottles are not visible from neighbouring buildings. **Clerk**

10.4. 16/03513/LBC Yew Tree Farm Listed building consent for the alterations to Barn A' to include a garage with garage door within the dwellinghouse (as approved under application 16/01788/FUL). No objection.
& 16/03512/FUL Yew Tree Farm Alterations to Barn A' to include a garage with garage door within the dwellinghouse (as approved under application 16/01788/FUL). No objection.

10.5. 16/03610/FUL Burnside Common Street Erection of timber garden room. No objection in principle, but submit a comment that RPC relies on the expertise of the conservation officer to determine conformity to conservation area rules. The two air-conditioning units at the back might need sound screening.

10.6. 16/03635/DISCON Yew Tree Farm Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 7 (archaeology), 10 (ground surface areas), 13 (biodiversity), 14 (landscaping), 15 (tree protection), 16 (root protection plan) and 17 (landscaping statement), attached to planning permission 16/01788/FUL *For information*
& 16/03637/DISCON Yew Tree Farm Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 3 (external boarding), 4 (rainwater goods), 5 (Windows), 6 (doors) and 7 (re-use of existing stable doors), attached to planning permission 16/01789/LBC *For information*

10.7. **OTHER to monitor** – [Bluebell cottage – alterations to conditions]. The three enforcement points raised in May 2015 were still outstanding. The Clerk was instructed to request clarification on their status. **Clerk**

11. **Correspondence** - other than that circulated by email – The following items were noted – MK Council invitation to Civic Reception.

12. Councillors/Residents Items

12.1. Outstanding highways /lighting issues – 3No: i) Road Signs reference No FS8925833; these had been removed
ii) noisy manhole cover: this has been done; iii) better warning signage (junction Mill Road/Gayhurst Road) - no

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update on the last item. Ward Cllr Hosking informed the meeting that the new Head of Highways, David Frost, had been appointed and Ward Councillors were still hopeful that a visit to Ravenstone would be arranged. There were two streetlights issues to add to the list of outstanding items.

12.2. Defibrillator – training/information session – Cllr Bailey reported that 2 training CD’s had been received and a viewing session was planned for 28th January. The local First Responder would also be holding a training session.

12.3. NEW – Olney Ward Forum was planned for 25th January at 7.30pm. MKC officers in attendance: Martyn Smith (broadband), Tom Blackburne-Maze (Public Realm) and Tim Hannan (budget).

13. Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 9th February 2017 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 8.45pm

signed

date