

RAVENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 9th February 2017 at Ravenstone Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs R. Rook (in the Chair), S. Bailey, R. Humphreys, N. Brinner and H. Anderson; Ward Cllrs, D. Hosking, P. Geary; 1 resident.

Clerk J Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – Ward Cllr K. McLean. 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 Bailey, Seconder Cllr Humphreys. Unanimous.
 - 3.2. Matters Arising – None
4. **Village Appearance**
 - 4.1. A resident had discussed with the Chair a plan to kerb the verge outside the property after building alterations were complete. He was invited to notify the Parish Council at this stage.
 - 4.2. Councillor Anderson proposed an Annual Village inspection to take place before the March meeting. Agreed unanimously. **Chair to arrange** **Chair**
5. **Flood Mitigation**

Ward Cllr Geary reported that the new Flood Mitigation officer, Gordon Boote, would be applying for funds for the Ravenstone Feasibility Plan from the Regional Flood Control Committee. The officer will send a briefing paper for the next Parish Council meeting. The allocation of funds takes place quarterly. The estimated cost of the Feasibility study is £25,000. Chair to chase ahead on March meeting. **Chair**
6. **Landscaping**
 - 6.1. **2017 SLA** – a letter had been received from Councillor Martin Gowans addressed to all five Parish Councils affected by the proposed reduction in landscape grants. He reports that he has Cabinet approval to propose deferring the withdrawal of the Support Grant until next financial year; but at this point the whole amount would be withdrawn. This proposal has yet to be approved by full Council. He is planning to hold a meeting with the affected parish councils. It was agreed that RPC's budgeted covering shortfall be retained as earmarked reserves until next year.
 - 6.2. **Landscape contract 2017** – The Chair reported that the contractor was happy with the marginal increase in rates for the next mowing season. Clerk to contact contractor and formally renew the contract. **Clerk**
7. **Recreation Field Improvements**
 - 7.1. **Picnic Bench** – the quotation received for the under-table slabs came in at £680. This was double the estimated cost. The Chair offered to contact a local resident with an excavator to dig out and remove the soil and provide base aggregate in order to reduce costs. **Chair**
 - 7.2. **Moles** - remedial work was necessary to level the numerous molehills now that the moles had been removed. It was agreed that the Chair invite the landscape contractor to spread out and re-seed. **Chair**
 - 7.3. **Land Deeds** [*Carry forward until allotment lease concluded*]
8. **Allotments**

The 23-page lease was clearly a *pro-forma* targeted at a farm. It was agreed to circulate the document for comment to ensure the entire document is relevant. **Cllr Anderson/Chair**
8. **Finance**
 - 9.1. **Cheques for approval & Balances** – The following payments were approved:

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100723	Clerk's salary	142.16
100724	Admin expenses	16.00
		<u>158.16</u>

Available Funds at 9th February 2017: £6,471 (plus allocated reserves).

Proposer Cllr Rook, Seconder Cllr Bailey. Unanimous.

A Telephone Banking Application was signed by two signatories so that a passcode could be issued allowing the Clerk to change address details over the telephone.

10. Planning

- 10.1. **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. *Awaiting decision*. It was agreed that Ward Cllr P Geary would deputise and speak for RPC at the Development Control Meeting as no-one was free to attend [*post meeting note*: following the RPC letter of complaint to Planning regarding the quality of the application and subsequent withdrawing of the extension aspect of the application RPC's objection was withdrawn]
- 10.2. 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. *Pending*
- 10.3. 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)
& 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). *Pending*
- 10.4. 16/03610/FUL Burnside Common Street Erection of timber garden room. *Pending*
- 10.5. 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
& 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 *Pending*
- 10.6. 17/00032/FUL Yew Tree Farm Stoke Goldington Road Ravenstone, Alteration to 'Barn C' (as approved under application 16/01788/FUL) to regularise rebuilding of collapsed outbuilding as garden room to dwellinghouse (part retrospective). No objections.
- 10.7. **OTHER to monitor** – [*Bluebell cottage – alterations to conditions*]. The Clerk had written to Planning concerning the three enforcement points raised in May 2015 which were still outstanding. No reply received to date.

11. **Correspondence** – *other than that circulated by email* – None other than 6.1 (*above*)

12. Councillors/Residents Items

- 12.1. Outstanding highways /lighting issues – Ward Cllr P Geary reported that a date for the proposed walkabout with the new Head of Highways, David Frost, had yet to be fixed. Cllr Anderson reported that she had repeatedly reported three faulty streetlights to be told that they had been fixed when they clearly were still not working. The matter would be escalated. Ward Cllr P Geary recommended copying all such problems with the environmental reporting system to R Peck at MK Council.
- 12.2. Defibrillator – training/information session – Cllr Bailey reported that 22 residents had attended the informative session which was well-received.
- 12.3. **NEW matters** - Olney Ward Forum - the Chair reported back on the meeting. He had proposed that a joint initiative between MKC and the parishes be launched to address the litter problem. This had been supported by the chairs of Olney Town Council and Weston Underwood Parish Council and the Ward Councillors had promoted the idea at Emberton PC who were also supportive. An initial meeting with Tom Blackburne Maze is being arranged. **Chair** to pursue
- 12.4. Attendees for the upcoming MKALC conference (25th March) would be finalised at the next meeting.

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

Meeting closed 8.40pm

signed

date