

# The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8 July 2021 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by Councillor D Rowley.

Present: Councillors B Callear, K Jay, R Jupp, T Leach, R O’Nion, N Pearson, D Rowley and Clerk G O’Carroll.

Nine members of the public were present.

123/21 **APOLOGIES** – no apologies received, all Councillors present.

124/21 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECULINARY AND OTHER INTERESTS** – Councillor Rowley raised an interest reference agenda item 11 (d) – Parish Council Insurance Renewal. Councillor Rowley declared that he previously worked for Aviva insurance.

125/21 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS** – agenda item 11 (a) – Pension Policy.

126/21 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – see attached report.

127/21 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** - It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 June 2021 be a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

128/20 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** – the Clerk updated the Council with information relating to the public participation question of when works are due to commence of 320 new dwellings on Moor Lane South (Planning application RB2019/0894). Rotherham MBC Planning Officer, confirmed that there has been no subsequent application submitted. No approved dates of commencement are available.

## 129/21 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Military Community Ventra Centre – information circulated on Facebook. Councillor Leach has responded with details of community events.
- (b) Complaint received from Kingsley Drive resident, that the long grass against the back of the fence is growing through into their garden, and dogs are using the grass as a toilet area. The trees against the fence are pushing onto the fence and overhanging onto the resident’s trampoline. The Clerk reported that the complaint has been resolved. Rotherham MBC had visited and strimmed the long grass. The tree surgeon carried out the annual maintenance programme on 6 July 2021. The long tree branches were found to be of the tree from the neighbour’s garden.
- (c) Complaint received from Barberry Way resident, of long grass and weeds at the side of their property. The tree surgeon carried out the annual maintenance programme on 6 July 2021, and cut back the area. The tree surgeon advised that he had had difficulty accessing the area due to goal posts and pallets stored on this area of Jubilee field. The tree surgeon also reported garden waste and rubble behind many boundary fences, and said that the maintenance work was much more difficult this year due to the number of obstacles. **Action:** The Clerk to contact all properties that have a boundary with Jubilee field and request that no waste be disposed onto the field, and no equipment stored there.
- (d) Additional Item – Hellaby Action Group, shared information reference planning application RB2018/1225, and asked for support from Ravenfield Parish Council and parishioners.
- (e) Additional Item – a Parishioner would like to hold a children’s Halloween party in the Parish Hall on Saturday 30 October 2021, with all funds raised to go towards the parish fete. It was **RESOLVED** to allow free of charge hall hire, and grant a donation of £50 towards the cost of sweets and decorations. Grant to be made payable to

### 130/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS

- (a) A Gate Access, Hollings Lane Playing Field. The council discussed quotations received for a kissing gate (£1700) and a special radar gate (£900). The council **RESOLVED** not to replace the gate, due to the costs.
- (b) Signage placed on Hollings Lane playing field was graffitied and destroyed within 6 hours. The Council **RESOLVED** not to replace the signage.
- (c) Re-opening the Allotments. The Council **RESOLVED** that an Allotment Society/Committee should be set up to manage the allotments. It was **RESOLVED** to pay for the annual membership for Local Authorities, of the National Allotment Society, at a cost of £55 + vat. **Action:** The Clerk to obtain templates and guidance to setup an allotment society and draft these for the council to adopt and the next meeting. A meeting of interest to be held once the policies are in place.
- (d) Rotherham MBC, have confirmed that a collapsed drain has been identified on Jubilee field. Works will be carried out by Rotherham MBC in this financial year, no dates known. **Action:** The Clerk to request the works could be carried out by the end of this year, to enable events to take place in the field in the new year.
- (e) Rotherham MBC Highways have identified a damaged kerb, leading to Jubilee field entrance off Barberry Way, and asked that the council look to lower the kerb if permitting vehicle access. Lowered kerb access onto Jubilee field is available from the Kingsley Drive entrance. The Clerk has requested Rotherham MBC grass maintenance team access the field from this entrance. It was **RESOLVED** not to apply for a lowered kerb, and any vehicle access will be made from Kingsley Drive.

### 131/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH

- (a) The Council discussed the ongoing reports of off road and quad bikes throughout Ravenfield, and access points off Hollings Lane. Councillor O'Nion shared the response received from MP John Healey, which confirmed issues are known about, and some form of action is underway.
- (b) Councillor Leach asked the Council to consider purchasing new posters/stickers from Keep Britain Tidy (Dog Poo Fairy) to encourage people to pick up after their dogs. **RESOLVED** not to purchase stickers. **Action:** Clerk to contact Rotherham MBC and ask for pavement spray notices on Hollings Lane, play area entrance, Braithwell Road, and Moor Lane South (junction before Spencer Drive).

### 132/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL

- (a) Due to the extension of the Covid lockdown restrictions, the Hall will now re-open without restrictions, on Monday 19 July 2021.
- (b) The Council **RESOLVED** to resurface the outdoor area with tarmac, and purchase two benches – with the grant obtained from the Silverwood Community Chest.

### 133/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

- (a) Pension Policy –Councillor Rowley provided the Council with details of the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority and NEST schemes, and information received from YLCA. If the Council choose the NEST scheme, YLCA recommend advice be sought from a financial advisor. The Clerk and Caretaker have expressed a preference for the SYPA scheme, but would like to know the contribution figures before proceeding. **Action:** Councillor Rowley to investigate further, but advised information reads 1/3 payable by employee, 2/3 by employer.
- (b) The Clerk reported that the Councils current bank (HSBC) do offer online banking, but payments are approved by one signatory alone. The Council financial regulations require two signatories for each payment. Unity bank online banking do provide this facility, allowing the Clerk to setup payments, but two signatories to approve payments. **RESOLVED** to proceed with an application to transfer bank account from HSBC to Unity.
- (c) The Clerk advised that Jubilee Field is not detailed on the asset register. The charter surveyor conducting

the asset valuation of the Parish Hall has advised only Rotherham MBC would be able to provide a valuation of Jubilee field. **Action:** Clerk to try and obtain an estimated figure by hectare/square meter of land from Rotherham MBC, to calculate the costs.

- (d) Parish Insurance renewal is due 4 August 2021. The Clerk presented quotations from BHIB (current insurer) and Zurich. Councillor Rowley compared both policies and confirmed very little difference. **RESOLVED** to proceed with the cheapest quotation – Zurich, on a three-year agreement - £1394. (BHIB three-year quotation £1632.83).
- (e) Newsletter 2021 – **RESOLVED** to accept J Jesson offer to put together this year's newsletter. The Council thanked J Jesson. All reports and articles to be submitted to J Jesson by 8 August 2021.
- (f) The Council and Ravenfield Community Plan Group **RESOLVED** to share minutes of meetings to better communicate of share work projects.

#### 134/21 **PLANNING**

No planning applications received as of 2 July 2021 the time of agenda being published.

Parishioners raised **RB2021/1341** – Moorland Close. Application to vary condition 02 (approved plans - roof pitch changes to dwellings) imposed by RB2019/0365.

(See public participation report)

The Council **RESOLVED** to submit an objection to this planning application, and request that the new houses be restricted to two storeys. To consider the intrusion of privacy, and reduced light to the existing residents of 4 and 7 Hurlfield Drive, Ravenfield.

#### 135/21 **EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

Clerk met with Rotherham MBC, Neighbourhood Co-ordinators, 17 June 2021.

#### 136/21 **YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS**

Congratulations to Councillor Rowley, elected as the Chairman of the South Yorkshire branch of YLCA.

South Yorkshire Branch meeting 17 July 2021. The Council discussed the following "Branch Resolutions to the Joint Annual Meeting" – Agenda Item 8.2:

Scarborough Planning Conditions – information noted.

York Planning Conditions – information noted.

Sprotbrough Quad Bikes – **RESOLVED** vote to agree and support.

Walton Parish Council - degenderise the terminology "Chairman". **RESOLVED** to vote to continue with current terminology.

#### 137/21 **MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

- (a) Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons (2 June 2022)
- (b) Christmas Light switch on (1 December 2021)
- (c) Memorial Plaque – bench situated on Moor Lane South

#### 138/21 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- (a) Update on Council's finances. The information was noted and approved.
- (b) Payments to be made were approved.

#### **139/21 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as 9 September 2021 at 6.30pm, to be held in the Parish Hall.

#### **140/21 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, information relates to finance and business affairs. It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

#### **141/21 DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED.**

#### **142/21 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting was closed at 9:07pm.

## Ravenfield Parish Council

### Public Participation 8 July 2021

Residents of 4 and 7 Hurlfield Drive asked to discuss planning application RB2021/1341. They explained that although planning application has not been granted, builders have raised the pitch of the roof of the properties in question. The changes to the builds will reduce light into their properties more than already has. Their privacy is intruded, with windows looking directly into their properties. The residents complained that they have requested planning officers from Rotherham MBC to come out and view the issues from their garden/properties, but nobody has yet been to visit, and the works are taking place without planning consent.

The Council agreed to support the residents and raise a formal objection to this planning application.

**Action:** Clerk to submit the objection before the consultation end date, 22 July 2021.