



RAVENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 22
September 2025



Whitestone Solar Farm

At the end of 2024 some residents from Firsby attended the monthly Parish Council meeting to inform us about an enormous solar farm being proposed for South Yorkshire. They were the first to learn about it because their houses would be impacted by a large solar farm on Conisbrough Park. During the following months the Parish Council and other interested parties were invited to several events giving details of the scheme.

It is called Whitestone Solar Farm run by a firm called Green Nation. The reason this area was chosen is that there is a large substation at Brinsworth linking to the National Grid. It was originally there because of the steel industry in Rotherham/Sheffield.

The areas affected are Conisbrough, Wickersley, Thurcroft, Swallownest, Treeton, Kiveton Park and Harthill. It will be on land close to the M18 and M1 South corridor. Obviously other adjoining communities such as Firsby will also be affected. Land up to 3,500 acres will be needed.

Solar farms with a capacity less than 50 MW are decided for planning purposes by the Local Authority. The Whitestone development will be 750 MW! Because of this, the permission or otherwise will be given by the Secretary of State. Rotherham MBC will be consultees but not make the decision. We are not aware of a solar farm this large anywhere else in England.

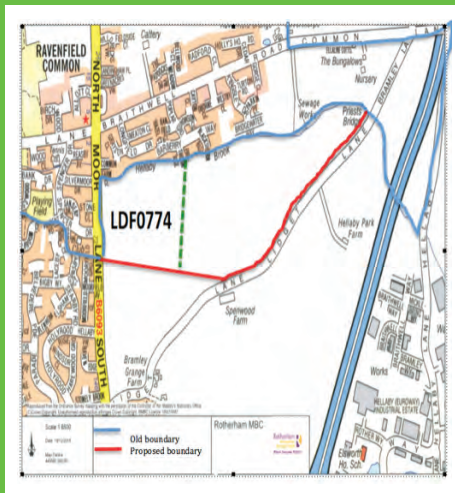
An original submission has been put before the Planning Inspectorate. Many points were raised which the developers must address. One of these was the need to include cable channels in the next submission. There will be no pylons in the scheme but in addition to panels there will be underground cables, inverters, battery energy storage systems, substations and a main project substation.

The timetable at the moment is there should be a second consultation during autumn 2025, a submission for a Development Consent Order during spring 2026 and a decision by the Secretary of State in the summer of 2027. If approved, construction would start in 2027.

More information is detailed in articles on pages 4 and 5.

We will post updates on our website News page, Facebook, and parish notice boards.

For more information, visit www.whitestonesolarfarm.co.uk



Community Governance Review

In 2019 the Parish Council submitted a legitimate Community Governance Review (CGR) to Rotherham MBC asking them to move the boundary between Ravenfield and Bramley to reflect the changes made in the Rotherham Local Plan. It was rejected primarily because Bramley objected and there were no residents on the new estate (then named Poppy Fields by the builders) to give their views.

We can now resubmit the CGR. Thanks to those of you who have already signed our petition. The next step is to consult with our new neighbours on the affected area and hopefully gather their support.

The decision has financial implications because currently Bramley receive the precept and Community Infrastructure Levy for the newly built properties.

We have a strong case and hopefully this time RMBC will come to the right decision.

If you wish to sign the petition, it is available at Ravenfield Parish Hall, The Cavalier, The Coral Fish Bar, and Ravenfield Supermarket. You can also request a copy by contacting the Parish Council (**details on the back page**).

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Off Road Quad Bikes and Motor Bikes

If you have useful information regarding off-road vehicles, please report it and let South Yorkshire Police know where, when and descriptions of the riders and/or the vehicles. If it's safe to do so, photos and videos are also really useful.

You can report in a number of ways including:

- Email: sypoffroadteam@southyorks.pnn.police.uk
- Facebook Messenger: @SYPOffRoadBikes
- Twitter (now known as X): @SYPOperations
- Telephone **101 for non-emergencies**
(999 in emergencies)



Jubilee Field All Weather Trail

You may remember our article last year asking for your help in completing a survey to share your thoughts and opinions on the proposed project for an all-weather trail at Jubilee Field.

The plan involves creating a tarmac footpath around the perimeter of the field, wild planting and the development of natural habitats for local wildlife. This path would offer a clean, accessible walking route with safer footing for all users, while allowing people to enjoy the field's natural beauty all year round.

The response to the survey was excellent, and we are extremely grateful to everyone who took part. The overwhelming majority were in favour of the proposed design.

With the community's support confirmed, we began preparing the project plan and seeking contractor tenders.

Unfortunately, when the tenders came in, they were significantly higher than anticipated, each exceeding £130,000, due largely to ongoing inflation in construction costs. This created a problem, as our funding plan relied on securing a grant, which is capped at £100,000 (with the Council required to contribute 10.75% of the total cost). The increased prices not only meant a shortfall in grant funding but also placed an additional financial cost on the Council.

We have since reviewed the design with contractors to explore ways of reducing costs. The tarmac footpath is the main expense. While we considered alternative materials such as compacted gravel or hex pave, these offered only small savings, had a shorter lifespan, and did not provide a consistently clean, safe walking surface (an essential aim of the project). As many of you know, Jubilee Field can become extremely muddy in the wet winter months due to its clay base, making a durable, weatherproof surface and improved drainage essential.

At present, the Council cannot cover the potential £50,000 plus funding gap, so the project is on hold until additional funding is secured. One possible avenue is linked to the Community Governance Review (see the article on our front page). If successful, Community Infrastructure Levy funds from any remaining properties built on the Redrow development could be used to help finance the project.

It is disappointing not to be able to deliver this project just yet, but we remain determined to make it happen. We will continue to keep you informed through the News page of our website, our Facebook page, and the Parish noticeboards.



Addressing the Rise in Fly-Tipping in Our Village

Unfortunately, fly-tipping continues to be a problem within our village.

If you witness or come across any instances of fly-tipping, please report them as soon as possible to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC).

www.rotherham.gov.uk/xfp/form/1096 Telephone: 01709 382121

Your reports can help take action against those responsible and keep our village a place we can all be proud of.



Parking Consideration

Parking on and near Hollings Lane remains challenging, especially during events at the recreational grounds. Please park considerately to ensure safety and respect for our residents.

Your co-operation helps keep Hollings Lane accessible and safe for everyone. Thank you for supporting our community.



Hollings Lane Play Area Renovations

Last September, improvement works were carried out at the Hollings Lane play area. The old floor surface was replaced with new wet-pour safety surfacing, and various repairs were made to the play equipment, including the replacement of worn parts.

One of the baby swings was replaced with a standard swing to give older children more opportunity to enjoy the swings. The original basket swing remains in place and continues to be suitable for all ages, from 2 to 11 years old. The perimeter fencing was also refreshed with a new coat of paint. Special thanks go to the Community Payback team for their hard work in making this possible.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the Ravenfield Youth Charity for covering all associated costs for these improvements.



Save our Green Belt Conisbrough Parks

We're a group of people, residents from the local area, who want to stop Whitestone 1, the proposed Solar Farm on Conisbrough Parks. This huge site of over 400,000 solar panels will have a big impact on the Greenbelt and the surrounding villages of Conisbrough, Clifton, Micklebring, Firsby and Ravenfield.

We've focused on Whitestone 1 but have engaged with Whitestone 2 and 3, discussing issues with their representatives on Parish Councils and local groups.

If Whitestone 1 is successful, our way of life will change. We'll lose beautiful vistas and outlooks, be restricted where we can walk, and our roads will be compromised for the next few years. We'll have diversions, heavy goods vehicles, and a vast sea of black glass and large noisy battery storage. Public footpaths and bridal ways will be closed while the work is going on - up to two years.

We've been working hard to stop Whitestone 1. We challenged Green Nation, the company behind the development, and they held an extra consultation event in Conisbrough because of our persistence and pressure. We've also contacted key players and influencers, which brought this solar development onto the table of MPs John Healey, Jake Richards and Sally Jameson. We'll continue to lobby on your behalf.

We've met with elected members from Doncaster and Rotherham, as well as key planning department officers. We're closely monitoring local solar farm applications since Whitestone arrived, as other developments have joined the frenzy, potentially causing significant sprawl across our countryside.



We've raised funds and engaged with the community through coffee mornings, drop-ins, and social nights. Our first public meeting on 14th April saw 350 attendees, and we hope to repeat that on 8th September at 7.00pm at the Ivanhoe Centre, Conisbrough, where we'll share updates on our current work.

The funds raised are being used to engage experts. We've recently engaged an Environmental Barrister to ensure we're on the right track. We have regular committee meetings supported by subgroups in Fundraising, Wildlife and Fauna, Strategy and Policy. If you can help or offer specialised expertise, please contact:

Philip Knight, Secretary: philipknight1884@btinternet.com

Lynsey Greenwood, Treasurer: lynseygreenwood@hotmail.com

Janet Greenwood: janet.greenwood@icloud.com

Look out for future events

- Dinnington Brass Band Concert – Tuesday 16th September at 7.00pm at the Ivanhoe Centre Conisbrough. £10.00 per ticket to include a Pie and Peas Supper (vegetarian option available).
- Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning - Saturday 15th November at 10.00am until 12.30 pm at The Ruddell Centre, Braithwell.

If you would like to arrange your own event or fundraiser, we are happy to assist you.



Ravenfield's Landscape Under Threat United Opposition to Whitestone Industrial Solar Proposal



Nestled amidst rolling fields, the tranquil beauty of Ravenfield and the historic charm of Firsby are cherished by many, from the glassy waters of Ravenfield Ponds and Firsby Reservoir to views stretching out over the historic Conisbrough Castle. This landscape not only provides a haven for wildlife and leisure but also secures our food supply, with the current harvest in full swing, a testament to the land's productivity.

Residents in Ravenfield have expressed concerns about the potential impact of Whitestone One on the local landscape. The proposed project is expected to be large in scale, with extended construction periods and underground cabling to Brinsworth. Residents have raised several issues for consideration:

- **Environmental and food security: Productive farmland may be lost, which could affect food production during a time of global uncertainty.**

- **Supply chain practices:** There are questions regarding labour conditions involved in supply chains, particularly in relation to manufacturing overseas.
- **Property values:** Evidence suggest that properties neighbouring to solar developments experience loss in value.
- **Carbon footprint:** While responding to climate considerations, some residents note the carbon costs associated with the manufacturing process where burning coal is required in the manufacture of the panels.
- **No Local benefit:** The development is planned to be owned by private investment companies, raising questions about potential impacts on local employment and energy pricing.

Despite these and many other concerns including health concerns, many residents in Ravenfield and Firsby were overlooked in the initial consultations with no meeting held within Ravenfield. Residents strongly

feel that this proposal is not about providing "clean" energy to the grid but is for profit of investors over of a 60 year period.

This is not the only threat, a second proposal is also planned for Firsby Lane by a German company called Ilos who will also be taking land.

Residents are calling for more people to get involved with several events are planned to raise awareness of the proposal. For updates or to get involved, join the Ravenfield Save Our Greenbelt WhatsApp or Facebook pages.

For further information

Ravenfield WhatsApp Group

Send a text message to 07974262040 and you can be added to the group.

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/saveourgreenbeltWhitestone>

Resident of Firsby

Ravenfield's Landscape Under Threat United Opposition to Whitestone Industrial Solar Proposal



Community Speed Watch

Get involved

RAVENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR HELP

Join the Community Speed Watch Group. Help make our roads safer by volunteering for Community Speed Watch, a scheme run by South Yorkshire Police and managed by local volunteers.

◆ What's Involved?

- ✓ Monitor vehicle speeds using a handheld device
- ✓ Help educate drivers & improve road safety

◆ How to Get Involved:

- ✓ We need at least 4 volunteers to start (Scan QR Code for more information)



- ✓ Practical training will be arranged locally
- Register your interest:
Email csw@southyorkshire.police.uk

Contact Ravenfield Parish Council Email: clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk Phone: 07462 468050

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New “Narrow Road” Signage for Garden Lane



With the support of our Ward Councillors and Rotherham MBC, new “Narrow Road” signage will soon be installed on Garden Lane, Old Ravenfield.

As many of you know, Garden Lane is a single-track road leading to Ravenfield ponds, which can be challenging when meeting oncoming traffic. We kindly ask all road users to take extra care, slow down, be courteous, and watch out for pedestrians, dog walkers, and especially horses.

ESTD  1952

RAVENFIELD *Tennis* CLUB

A Revival of a Village Gem

Did you know that Ravenfield was once home to a thriving tennis club? Tucked away at the end of Wood Close, the courts were once a bustling hub where residents of all ages came together to enjoy tennis, stay active, and connect as a community. For many locals, memories of summer tournaments, friendly matches, and village gatherings still linger as fond reminders of the club's heyday.

Over time, the courts sadly fell into disrepair and the club became inactive. But that's about to change.

We're excited to share that Ravenfield Tennis Club is currently undergoing a transformation and will be reopening very soon. While a full court resurfacing is planned for the future, the current phase of refurbishment includes:

- **Brand new floodlights, making evening games possible and extending play into the darker months**
- **Improved changing facilities to provide a more comfortable and accessible experience**
- **Enhancements to the surrounding area, including general tidying and improvements to make the space more welcoming**

The aim is to create an inviting, inclusive space where local residents can once again enjoy tennis—whether you're a seasoned player or picking up a racket for the first time. There are also plans for coaching sessions, open days, and community events.

This project marks the revival of a cherished part of Ravenfield's history and a renewed focus on community, health, and fun. Keep an eye out for updates on the official reopening—we'd love to see you on court soon!

Did You Know? The courts at Ravenfield were originally built around 1952 and for many years were maintained by local volunteers. The club once hosted summer tournaments that brought people from all over the village together.

Find out more or get involved www.ravenfieldtennis.uk

info@ravenfieldtennis.uk | Follow us on social media: @ravenfieldtennis (Instagram & Facebook)



Meet Your Parish Councillors

Ravenfield Parish Council is made up of seven dedicated volunteer Councillors, all working together to support and represent our community.

To share responsibilities and bring fresh perspectives, we rotate the roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman each year. At the Annual Parish Council meeting held in May 2025, Councillor Rowley was elected Chairman, with Councillor Callear appointed Vice Chairman.

Parish Councillors are usually elected by parishioners every four years, with the next elections scheduled for May 2028.

A full list of Councillors, along with their contact details, can be found on the back page of this newsletter.



Councillor Rowley Councillor Callear

Ravenfield Parish Council Chair's Report 2024/25

This has been my first year as Chair. I took over from Councillor Neil Pearson and would like to thank him and the other members of the Council for their ongoing help and support. I would also like to welcome new Councillor Lilley and Councillor Whitworth.

The Parish Council has worked hard all year for the benefit of our village and its residents. We have supported the community litter picks, the hanging flower baskets and the poppies on lampposts. This raised a total of amount of £130.00 in donations for the British Legion.

Ravenfield Rangers Junior Football Club continue to use the pitch on Hollings Lane, and we support their activities.

The Parish Hall is still very well used by many groups throughout the week and weekends. We continue to keep up with the maintenance of this to ensure this is a safe and pleasant environment for everyone who frequents it. The hall is available to hire for groups and private parties. Should you wish to make enquiries please direct these to our Clerk, Gemma.

The Redrow development is progressing, and we continue to receive complaints, so our work continues raising these with the builders to try to bring about a resolution to issues raised. We will continue to deal with these going forward.

We have updated the Hollings Lane play area, which included a refit of a new surface area, repair to the perimeter fencing, repaint and repaired and replaced items of play equipment which included removal of one of the smaller swings for a swing suitable for older children.

We would still like an All-Weather-Trail around Jubilee field so it can be accessed and used more, especially in the winter months. The main challenge for us is that the drainage of the field is a huge problem as it is waterlogged for much of the year. We have managed to move forward with this project in obtaining a plan, carrying out a consultation with residents and obtaining quotes. We continue with our efforts regarding this project.

The Council continue to fund the Christmas Lights which are popular. On 3 December 2024 at the Christmas Light switch on, Bramley Brass Band played whilst Ravenfield Primary Academy sang Christmas Carols. We are continuing with this and wanted to make this earlier this year with Christmas Light switch on being Friday 21st November 2025.

We also had our third Christmas panto, Beauty and the Beast, on 14 December 2024 which was a huge success. Within a few days of the tickets being available the 90 spaces were sold out. As it has proved so successful, we will continue to organise a Christmas panto in December.

A Remembrance Service was held on Moor Lane North, on 10 November 2022 and this was very well attended. Refreshments were provided in the Ravenfield Parish Hall following this service and this was also very well attended. We will continue with this service and to follow on with refreshments at the Parish Hall.

The Millennium Sign on Moor Lane North, was originally installed to commemorate the year 2000, was funded by contributions from the residents of Ravenfield and local businesses. Due to signs of weathering this was restored to its original condition.

Finances, reluctantly and after lengthy discussions we have increased the precept by 4.5%. This is because costs are constantly increasing and to keep the Parish Hall and projects on track, we have had no alternative but to take such measures to try to maintain a healthy budget.

We have also developed a brand-new website, and a great deal of work has gone into uploading all the information. This new website is user-friendly and simpler for residents to quickly find information. The website also provides useful information in relation to community groups that most residents may find useful.

Whilst we continue to use Parish Council noticeboards to make announcements, we also have our Facebook page which is regularly updated with useful information for residents. This has been a vital move forward in communication and the results of this can be seen from the ticket sales with the Christmas Pantomime being sold out in a few days.

I would like to say, a big thank you to Gemma our Clerk for the work she does in keeping the Councillors organised. Also, a mention to Sarah, the Caretaker for the work she does in looking after the hall.

As I step down as Chair, I would like to thank everyone for the support and guidance provided during my time as Chair. I hand you over to Dave, who will be the incoming Chair.

Councillor Maria Jones

Tour of Britain

On the 5th of September 2024, excitement swept through Ravenfield as the prestigious Tour of Britain cycle race passed through our village.

Many residents turned out to line the streets, waving Union Jack flags and cheering the cyclists on as they sped past. Homes, gardens, and Ravenfield Crossroads were decorated with bunting.

Children and families gathered along the route, eager to catch a glimpse of the professional riders in action. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, share in the excitement of a national sporting event.

A big thank you to everyone who helped decorate, wave the flags, and create such a memorable day for both residents and visitors.



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Christmas Light Switch-On

On 3 December 2024, many residents gathered for the annual Christmas Light Switch-On, filling the village with festive cheer. Brand new lights replaced those from previous years, and the celebrations were made extra special by the children from Ravenfield Primary Academy, who performed a beautiful choir set alongside the lively Bramley Brass Band. Warm soup and drinks, provided by The Cavalier pub, kept everyone cosy on a chilly winter evening.

Year 3 pupil Darcie Mason had the honour of illuminating the Christmas lights. The moment she pressed the switch, the crossroads became a sparkle of festive lights.

During the damp December weather, a few lights stopped working after water entered perished power outlet seals. Temporary repairs kept the display shining, and this year the Council has arranged to replace all lighting column power outlets to prevent future water damage.

Taking on board your feedback, this year's switch-on will be held a little earlier, on Friday 21 November 2025 at 6:30pm, making it easier for families to attend without the midweek rush and allowing everyone to enjoy the Christmas lights for that little bit longer.

We look forward to seeing you there and sharing another magical start to the festive season!



Christmas - Ravenfield

We would also like to give a warm thank you to Bramley and Wickersley Lion Club for their Sleigh Visits to Ravenfield last December. We're sure you'll agree that their visits always bring smiles and festive cheer to our village.

Summer Fayre Success!

We're delighted to share the fantastic success of this year's Ravenfield Primary Academy Summer Fayre, which took place earlier this summer. It was a wonderful afternoon full of fun, laughter, and community spirit.

A huge thank you goes to the Parish Council, who generously sponsored the inflatables and games, helping to make the day extra special for the children. Their continued support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who attended and contributed, we raised a fantastic £816.91 on the day - a brilliant boost to our school funds!

This brings the total raised by the Friends of Ravenfield School this year to over £8,000. These funds will go towards exciting new additions for the school, including:



Christmas activities



Music equipment



Maths equipment



Playground equipment



Furniture and storage for early years and foundation

We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from parents, carers, and the wider community. Together, we're making a real difference for our children.

Thank you!



Christmas Panto News

Ravenfield Parish Hall was filled with excitement as Chaplin's Pantos brought "Beauty and the Beast" to life in December last year. The performance was a huge hit, with children enthusiastically joining in the interactive fun. The talented cast delivered an impressive and captivating show. Tickets sold out quickly, within the first week of release.



This festive event was generously supported by Ravenfield Parish Council along with Bramley and Ravenfield Ward Councillors. To add to the festive spirit, refreshments and snacks were also provided courtesy of the Ward Councillors.

Following the great success of the last four years, Chaplin's Pantos will be returning to Ravenfield Parish Hall on Saturday 13 December 2025 at 5:30pm (doors open at 5:10pm) with their new production, "Red Riding Hood". The event will once again be subsidised by Ravenfield Parish Council and Bramley and Ravenfield Ward Councillors.

Tickets will cost only £4.00 each and go on sale from Monday 3 November 2025. To book, please contact the Clerk.

Watch for posters and Facebook updates with further details!

Remembrance Sunday - Sponsor a Lamppost Poppy



Running up to 11 November, Braithwell Road, Hollings Lane, Moor Lane North, and Moor Lane South will once again be lined with Remembrance Poppies, as a tribute to those who served. Adding to the display, the Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Group will decorate an area near the Crossroads with handmade crocheted poppies, creating a special scene.

Ravenfield Parish Council is inviting residents and local businesses to take part by sponsoring a lamppost poppy for a minimum of £5. Your message of remembrance will be displayed in the Parish Hall, on our notice boards, website, and Facebook page.

Sponsorship is open from 6 October to 8 November 2025, with messages displayed by 11 November. All proceeds go directly to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

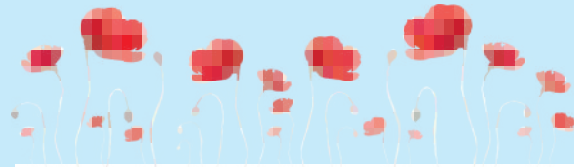
We are also looking for volunteers to help with putting up the lamppost poppies in the days leading up to Remembrance Sunday. If you are able to lend a hand, please get in touch with the Clerk.

To sponsor a poppy, contact the Clerk on 07462 468050 email clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk or visit www.ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Last year, thanks to your generosity, we raised £130 for the Poppy Appeal!

The Annual Remembrance Service will be held at the Memorial Stone on Moor Lane North, Sunday 9 November 2025 at 10:45am, followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

All are warmly welcome to join this special community event.



Saturday Singalongs

Saturday 06 September 2025

With the fabulous Sally Glennon

2 pm-3:30 pm

FREE Entry to all + hot and cold refreshments

Raffle to raise money for Lost Chord UK

Dementia and Neuro-inclusive

SAVE THE DATE

First Saturday of the month 2025/2026

Next dates: 04 October, 01 November, 06 December, 03 January, 07 February

Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, S65 4PT



with thanks to supporters



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Sunday 9 November 2025

10:45am

A minutes silence to be observed at 11:00am



The service will be led by St James Church - at the War memorial, Moor Lane North, Ravenfield. (Near Ravenfield Crossroads)

Poppies, Wreaths and Flowers can be laid during the service.

All Are Welcome

Complimentary refreshments will be served after the service at Ravenfield Parish Hall.

For more information telephone 07462 468050, or email clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Supported by Ward Councillors Cllr Liz Duncan & Cllr Greg Reynolds,
Lost Chord UK,
Ravenfield Parish Council
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

St James Church

St James church continues to give a friendly welcome to all every Sunday morning at 10.30am.

The first Sunday is the Family Service and children attending enjoy the many activities such as drawing and taking part in the service. The 2nd Sunday of the month is Holy Communion where we have a vicar to lead us in worship. The 3rd and 4th Sundays are Morning Worship. We don't have a resident vicar and therefore the Morning Worship services are taken by various members of the congregation, they are always very enjoyable and after every service we have coffee and cake and an opportunity to chat.

We are looking at redecorating the inside of church in the forthcoming year so will be actively fundraising!

Anyone wishing to get involved is more than welcome.

Looking forward to welcoming new members to the congregation.



Ravenfield Old Village Garden Society



Ravenfield Old Village Garden Society was formed with the objective of developing a village community, where residents work together to create and maintain an attractive and sustainable environment. This is achieved through organised gardening sessions to maintain the open garden areas, throughout the village, and twice a year to fill over fifty planters with floral displays. In order to achieve this and to keep the grass verges tidy, the Society holds fundraising social events, throughout the year, the highlight this year being the summer Mediterranean themed buffet, with vocalist Crystal Marie entertaining over eighty villagers and friends. With over fifty planters, we have a short period of time when they are empty, to assess their condition.

This year we have had to replace seven hayracks and two half barrels as well as adding three more hayracks on the wall on Hooton Lane, as you leave the village. We have plans to replace further planters at the beginning of next year.

The society would like to thank the Parish Council and Ward Councillors Liz Duncan and Greg Reynolds for their support, this year, in helping the Society to present the village in an attractive way. The AGM will be held at 7.30pm on 24 October 2025, at Temples' Barn on Church Lane.

For more information about the Society please contact the secretary, Katrine Greenwood Tel. 07753825279 or chair, Jayne Knighton Tel.07957451055.



2025/2026 Events Calendar

Look out for more details on the Parish Council website, Facebook Page, and on Parish Council Notice Boards

October 2025

Sponsor a Lamppost Poppy

November 2025

- Sunday 2 November 2025
Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Group
Christmas Fair, in Ravenfield Parish Hall
- Sunday 9 November 2025 - Remembrance Sunday
Service at the Memorial Stone, Moor Lane North
Refreshments served at the Parish Hall.
- Friday 21 November 2025 - Christmas Light Switch on
Ravenfield Crossroads/The Cavalier.

December 2025

- Saturday 13 December 2025
Red Riding Hood Mini Panto, Ravenfield Parish Hall.
- Sunday 21 December 2025
Christmas Pop-up Café, Maltby Brass Band
Ravenfield Parish Hall.

May 2026

- Saturday 9 May and Sunday 10 May 2026
Ravenfield Art Exhibition, Ravenfield Parish Hall.

The Cavalier Fun Day

On Saturday 26 July 2025, The Cavalier held their annual summer sunday. The event raises money for charity and this year's recipient was the Rotherham Hospice.

There were stalls, raffles and food outlets. Throughout the day there was live music. The rain stayed away this year which allowed everybody to enjoy the day outside. The village at its best!

Money in donations, raffles etc have not yet been totalled. The Rotherham Hospice will count and confirm a total figure.

These events take plenty of organising so well done to Nicky and John and the people who contributed to a great day.

Ravenfield Park Management

Ravenfield Ponds Angling Club continues to provide excellent fishing for all members.

This year's weather has been dry and bright and given the anglers a fantastic chance to catch our Tench which feed extremely well at this time of year.

Our young anglers are able to fish free of charge with an adult member- (under member supervision).



Sunday 10 August 2025 - Ravenfield members took part in the regular Canebenders v Matchmen event. This sees our traditional anglers competing on a friendly basis against our regular match anglers. The winner was our Traditional Angler John Milford with an excellent catch of Tench of 22lb 10oz.

The anglers broke for lunch and enjoyed a sandwich and pastries before settling down for the second half of the day.

In the end the Matchmen snook a win by 4lb 2oz!

Fishing at Ravenfield is open to all and you can join online at any time for a full 12 months membership, all is done digitally.

To join - simply visit www.ravenfieldponds.co.uk/join and choose your membership category.



Ravenfield Fete Group

You will remember that last year the group decided to take a year off and then re-assess the viability of continuing. We offered advice and financial assistance to any other Ravenfield residents who were interested in forming a group and organising an event/s. Sadly no one stepped forward.

We have collectively decided that we can no longer proceed with future events without guaranteed support in organising and stewarding them.

The group have now disbanded and will make a decision on how remaining funds can be used to benefit the village as a whole.

We want to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to those who have supported us through volunteering, sponsorship, donations or being part of our events. We thank all our visitors for supporting us by attending our fetes, and hope they brought the community spirit and enjoyment we wanted to create.

Ravenfield Fete Group.
Grace, Jenny, Lynsey and Toni.



Ravenfield Art Group

The year 2024/25, has been a good one for the Ravenfield Art Group. We meet twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays in Ravenfield Parish Hall from 7pm. The first session of each month is a taught or demonstrated by a visiting professional artist. The second session is for follow-up or personal artwork. We have welcomed a few new members but still have a waiting list as table space is limited for workshop sessions. Those on the waiting list are invited to demonstrations / lectures.

Our annual art exhibition in May was again a most enjoyable community event benefitting three different community groups. We had 255 works of art submitted and sold 87 of them: a new record for the group. The 350 visitors enjoyed not only the art, but live music on keyboard and saxophone, and were sold refreshments by the St. James' (Ravenfield), Church group on the Saturday and the Ravenfield Community Plan Group on the Sunday.

In 2026 our annual exhibition will be on the weekend of 9th and 10th May. We hope residents will put that date in their diaries well in advance.

Photos from a session by Peter Wood.



The Longbar

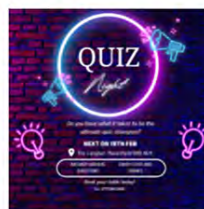
Find us on Facebook & Instagram



Pizza & Platters



Coffee & Cakes



Quiz Night & Events

The Longbar is a Winebar & Bistro in the heart of Ravenfield Village, a cosy & stylish spot offering delicious coffee, breakfast and lunch by day. Transforming into a relaxed evening venue with sharing plates, fine wines, handcrafted cocktails & ale. Whether you're stopping by for a morning pick me up or a night out with friends, The social hub provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere for every occasion.



Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Circle (Ravenfield LFC)

Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Circle formed in 2024 after Ravenfield WI decided to close. It has over 20 members, the majority of who live in Ravenfield.

We enjoy a variety of activities, events, talks and social evenings which are all suggested and agreed by members.

These are the sessions we held so far this year:

January - Games night

February - Clay creations talk & FIMO mouse bookmark

March - Women of steel talk

April - Silk flower arrangement session

May - Hooton Walled nursery talk

June - Wentworth treasure trail

July - Wine tasting & quiz

August - Social evening

In March members enjoyed a meal at the Wharnccliffe restaurant followed by a theatre trip to Rotherham Theatres to see the Maltby Musical Theatre group production of The Full Monty.

We organised a Well Dressing display and blessing at the memorial stone on Moor Lane North at the end of August 2025.

We have an autumn Craft Fair booked on Sunday, November 2nd 2025, at the parish hall where we'll be selling lovely homemade gifts and treats.

For Remembrance Day in November 2024, we coordinated members and friends to make knitted and crocheted red poppies that were displayed at the crossroads flowerbed area. We plan to do this again this year.

The group meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7pm-9pm at Ravenfield Parish Hall. Annual membership is £40. For more information about our group, please email: ravenfieldlfc@outlook.com

Chair of Ravenfield LFC: Karen Jay August 2025



Ravenfield Old People's Social Fund

Established - November 1945

Our coffee mornings are still very popular, on the first and third Wednesday of the month, in the Parish Hall, starting at 10:00am. Everyone is welcome. Please do not be alone, you will find we are all very friendly.

This year's day trips are to:

June - Trentham Gardens

July - Liverpool

August - Skipton

September - Whitby and Pickering

November - White Rose Shopping Centre - Leeds

We will finish the year with our normal Christmas Party in the Parish Hall, which includes entertainment.

For more information please contact:

Geoff: 0772487404 Christine: 07387698971

Geoff Outram - Chairman of Ravenfield Old People's Social Fund



Ravenfield Educational Foundation

Ravenfield Educational Foundation continues to award grants to help students pursue their studies in academic and vocational higher education. We also provide financial support to Ravenfield Primary Academy for specific projects such as library improvements and a book vending machine.



Ravenfield Rubbish Rascals

Our team of volunteers pick throughout the year to keep our streets, parks and wood clean, also we've had a few new faces join us this year. Many thanks to everyone for helping to keep our village looking amazing.

A big shout also to the small team in the village who pick Ravenfield Lane (not easy), Main Street and Moor Lane South.

Earlier this year Redrow the builders of Poppy Fields kindly supplied us with some equipment, pickers, rings and a good supply of red bags.

On Saturday morning 5th April 2025 we had annual big litter pick where quite a few of us and a youngster met up for a couple of hours. The main areas we pick are the Park, Hollings Lane, Woods and Silverwood.

We collected a large number of bags at different pick-up points which we arranged for Street Pride to collect.

We don't have a specific schedule, our volunteers give their time when and as they choose and where they think it's necessary, so if you have a bit of spare time and would like to join us, please contact me.

Caz Evans: 07758027745 or email: caz.evans48@icloud.com

Coordinator for The Ravenfield Rubbish Rascals.

Any fly tipping spotted can be reported to Street Pride also, who generally act quickly to remove it.



Join the Parish Council as a volunteer and help keep our village vibrant!

From decorating for special events to distributing leaflets, there are plenty of ways to get involved, no experience needed, just enthusiasm and community spirit. It's a great chance to meet people, contribute, and have fun. Contact the Clerk at clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07462 468050.

THE RAVENFIELD CHARITY

We are here to help when you are in financial need through no fault of your own. There is no red tape, no publicity, and confidentiality is assured.

The only criteria required to make an application is that you live in Ravenfield.

Examples of cases in the past have been people with limited finances, who have needed to make an essential purchase or repair.

If you think you are eligible please feel free to contact the charity.
All applications will be considered on merit.

The Secretary

16 Holly's House Road, Ravenfield, Rotherham S65 4LS

Ravenfield Community Plan Group (RCPG)

Although disbanded last year, volunteers of the Ravenfield Community Plan Group will be back at the Parish Hall on Sunday 21 December 2025 to host a Christmas Pop up Café. Maltby Brass Band will be in attendance. Look out for more information, advertised closer to the time, on the Council's website, Facebook page and noticeboards.

why not get into indoor bowls?

It's friendly, it's fun
and it will help
keep you fit.



RAVENFIELD INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

We meet every **Wednesday & Friday - 7:00pm – 9:00pm**
in Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, S65 4PT

Contact: **Dave Skelding. Telephone: 07917 276095** For more information.

Ravenfield Book Swap

Do you enjoy reading? Are you short of books? Then why not come along to the Book Swap in the Parish Hall? We have books to suit all tastes and ages, fiction, non-fiction, autobiographies, hobbies, travel and history. Don't worry if you don't have anything to swap, we have plenty of stock, just come along and help yourself.

This is a valuable addition to the village facilities, and saves you a trip to the library. It's right on your doorstep!

The Book Swap is open on Monday and Tuesday, 2.30 - 3.30pm (excluding bank holidays).



Hire Ravenfield Parish Hall



Ravenfield Parish Hall is available to hire for regular group activities, commercial use, or private parties. The Hall features a fully equipped kitchen with electric oven, fridge, and crockery, plus tables, chairs, and a small meeting room. It is fully accessible for disabled users.

For bookings or more information, contact the Clerk by email: clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone: 07462 468050 or visit our website.

Bramley Townswomen's Craft Group (July 2025)

Sadly, we have been informed by Head Quarters that Townswomen (T.G) is to close in January 2026. The Trustees have worked hard to try to avoid this but due to declining membership and therefore finances, it has become impossible to carry on as there is rent to pay for HQ premises, salaries and insurances operating from the Birmingham.

Townswomen Guilds were formed from the suffragette movement and in 2029 would have celebrated 100 years. Their aim was to empower women and girls to fight for a better life through education and for many to eventually take a seat in national government.

The Rotherham District Federation of which Bramley is a member have held meetings to ask the opinion of its members as to how they would like to proceed, if at all, and decisions have been made by the Guilds to carry on. We will continue to hold and meet bi-monthly with other Guilds in the Federation. We have also agreed to carry on with our usual activities such as outings, book club, theatre group, lunch gatherings and the usual carol service Christmas celebrations, and other important annual dates.

This brings me to the twice monthly Craft group which is held in Ravenfield Parish Hall. You do not have had to be a Townswoman to attend. We do not pay an annual subscription. We pay £1 entrance fee; this covers the hire of the Hall for our sessions and light refreshments. Many of us knit for the Rotherham Women's Refuge, mostly children's garments and the neo-natal ward at Rotherham Hospital.

There are ladies doing other crafts who are willing to share their knowledge with others. You may enjoy a craft of your own that you can share with others.

Our group numbers are around 20, we enjoy each other's company, exchange ideas and are very friendly. Anyone is welcome.

Why not come along, the first and third Thursday of each month 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Meet new friends and maybe learn a new skill.

We hope to see new faces at Ravenfield Parish Hall.

What's on regularly at Ravenfield Parish Hall

Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, Rotherham, S65 4PT

TIMETABLE

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Monday | Book Swap Library - 2:30pm-3:30pm (except bank holidays) | Rotherham Philatelic Society 7:00pm-9:00pm (2nd Monday each month, March-November) |
| Tuesday | Book Swap Library Open 2:30pm-3:30pm | Art Group 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Wednesday | Ravenfield Old Peoples Social Fund 10:00am (Coffee Mornings) 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month) | Indoor Bowling 6:30pm-9:00pm |
| Thursday | Toddler Group 9:15am-11:30am (term time) Bramley Townswomen's Guild / Craft Group - 1:30pm-3:30pm (2nd & 4th Thursday each month) | Ravenfield Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm (2nd Thursday each month exc August) Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Circle 7:00pm-9:00pm (3rd Thursday each month) |
| Friday | Sewing Group 10:00am-3:00pm | Indoor Bowling 6:30pm-9:00pm |
| Saturday | Yappy Ever After Dog Obedience 9:00am-11:00am Lost Chord - 2:00pm - 3:00pm 1st Saturday each Month until February | Ward Councillor Surgery 4:00pm - 5:00pm 1st Saturday each Month until February |

If you are interested in joining/attending one of these groups, please use the contact information below to see if there is space.

| Group Name | Telephone Number | Email Address |
|---|------------------|--|
| Art | 07415 186188 | j.s.jesson@gmail.com |
| Book Swap Library | 07462 468050 | clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| Bowls | 07917 276095 | skeldingdave@yahoo.com |
| Bramley Townswomen's Guild, Craft Group | 01709 548767 | |
| Ravenfield Old Peoples Social Fund | 01709 547167 | geofoutram@aol.com |
| Ravenfield Ladies Friendship Circle | | ravenfieldffc@outlook.com |
| Rotherham Philatelic Society | 01709 541954 | |
| Sewing Group | 01709 548237 | ninaparkin@btinternet.com |
| Toddlers | 07399 567617 | Mckromdon@yahoo.co.uk |
| Yappy Ever After (Dog Obedience) | 07592 726570 | yappyeverafterdogs@gmail.com |

Thank You!

Ravenfield Parish Council would like to THANK....

All those who give their time volunteering in the Parish.

Bramley and Ravenfield Ward Councillors; Councillor Gregory Reynolds and Councillor Liz Duncan, for their support and grant donations.

MP John Healey, for his continued support with local issues

Ward Councillors



Councillor Liz Duncan

Bus. phone: 01709 807939

Email: liz.duncan@rotherham.gov.uk



Councillor Greg Reynolds

Bus. phone: 01709 807941

Mobile: 07757 791881

Email: gregory.reynolds@rotherham.gov.uk

Meetings of Ravenfield Parish Council

Parishioners are welcome to attend Council Meetings.

Meetings commence at 6:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month (excluding August), held in Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, S65 4PT

The agenda of the meetings are posted on the Parish Council website, Facebook Page, and on Parish Council Notice Boards.

Parish Councillors



Councillor
David Rowley
(Chairman)

Email: cllrrowley@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Brian Callear
(Vice Chairman)

Email: cllrcalear@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Karen Jay

Email: cllrkjay@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Maria Jones
(Chairman)

Email: cllrjones@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Rebecca Jupp

Email: cllrjupp@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Stephen Lilley

Email: cllrilley@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk



Councillor
Patricia Whitworth

Email: cllrwhitworth@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Get In Touch

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www.johnhealeymp.co.uk

JohnHealeyRotherham

@JohnHealey_MP

John Healey ^{MP}

Ravenfield Parish Council Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2025

| | Year Ending 31 st March 2024 | Year Ending 31 st March 2025 |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Balances brought forward | £78,017 | £69,095 |
| (+) Annual Precept | £48,755 | £51,193 |
| (+) Total Other Receipts | £22,306 | £17,419 |
| (-) Staff Costs | £25,214 | £26,867 |
| (-) Loan interest /Capital Repaid | £9,362 | £9,362 |
| (-) Total Other Payments | £45,407 | £40,197 |
| (=) Balances Carried Forward | £69,095 | £61,281 |
| Total Cash and Investments | £69,095 | £61,281 |
| Total Fixed Assets | £469,771 | £468,147 |
| Total Borrowings | £66,011 | £58,636 |

The above accounts were subject to internal and external audit and were accepted and approved by the Council.

Ravenfield Parish Council Contact Details:

Ravenfield Parish Hall, Birchwood Drive, Ravenfield, Rotherham S65 4PT

Telephone Number 07462 468050 Email clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website www.ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk Facebook Ravenfield Parish Council - Village Notice Board

Clerk to the Parish Council - Gemma Needes