

# The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13 March 2025 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by the Chairman, Councillor Jones.

**Present:** Councillors B Callear, K Jay, M Jones, R Jupp, S Lilley, D Rowley, P Whitworth and G O'Carroll (Clerk).

**In attendance:** Three members of the public were present.

<b>45/25</b>	<b>NON-ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS</b>
(a)	<b>To receive and note apologies from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.</b>
	All Councillors present.
(b)	<b>To consider reasons for absence provided by councillors who cannot attend and resolve the council's acceptance of these if felt relevant.</b>
<b>46/25</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS</b>
(a)	<b>To receive disclosures by members of any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and any other relevant interests under the Members' Code of Conduct.</b>
	No pecuniary interests declared.
(b)	<b>To receive and decide upon request for dispensations to councillors to take part in discussions and votes where they have declared disclosable pecuniary interests.</b>
	No pecuniary interests declared.
<b>47/25</b>	<b>ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS - To identify any agenda items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public, Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2)).</b>
(a)	No items identified.
<b>48/25</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> (see attached report)
<b>49/25</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b>
	<b>To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held in Ravenfield Parish Hall on Thursday 13 February 2025 (attached).</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2025 be a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025

<b>50/25</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</b>
	<b>To note any matters arising from the minutes of the last Council meeting.</b>
	<p>During public participation:</p> <p>Concerns were raised about parking on the bend near Ravenfield Primary Academy during school drop-off and pick-up times. The issue was reported to Marc Hill at Rotherham MBC, who advised that restrictions such as double yellow lines would not be appropriate, as the parking occurs for short periods. Single yellow line restrictions are typically applied in broader schedules, making them unsuitable. Experience has shown that parking restrictions near schools are often ignored, as drivers remain in their vehicles and perceive enforcement as unlikely. Restrictions could force parking to nearby residential areas, leading to further complaints. It was also noted that parked vehicles help slow traffic, and removing them could increase vehicle speeds, contradicting existing concerns about speeding.</p> <p>Concerns about Thrybergh Lane and the possibility of widening it, were also forwarded to Marc Hill. His feedback indicated that Thrybergh Lane is a lightly used rural road, similar to others in the borough. Removing verges along its length would require significant costs with minimal benefits for road safety or traffic management. Additionally, widening the road could encourage more drivers to use it as a shortcut to Doncaster Road, potentially increasing vehicle speeds.</p>
<b>51/25</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE – To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>Rotherham Hospice Community Engagement and Fundraising Opportunities.</b>
	Rotherham Hospice is seeking opportunities to attend community events for fundraising and raising awareness of their work. The Council suggested that this would be best directed to the Bramley Sunnyside JFC football presentation. <b>Action:</b> The Clerk will contact the event organisers.
(b)	<b>Braithwell Road, Shopping Centre Car Park – to receive comments from business owner.</b>
	Coral Fish Bar has requested a loading bay to facilitate deliveries and collections due to limited parking spaces. As the car park is privately owned, the Council cannot assist directly but will raise the request at the next CAP meeting to explore possible solutions for a loading bay on the main road. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to take the request to the CAP meeting.
<b>52/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS – To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>Review Grounds Maintenance Contract Fees from Rotherham MBC – Option for 1 or 3 Years.</b>
	The new grounds maintenance contract fee is £3,112.20, an annual increase of £269.22. The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the revised contract fee on a three-year basis.
<b>53/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>The Cavalier Defibrillator – replacement pads.</b>
	Replacement defibrillator pads were purchased at a cost of £126 following the successful use of the defibrillator.
(b)	<b>CCTV Request – to receive feedback from local Parish Council.</b>

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025

	The Clerk obtained information from Treeton Parish Council, which installed CCTV in May 2024 following public concerns raised on social media, despite low crime levels (an almost identical situation to Ravenfield). Since installation, crime levels have remained unchanged, and the cameras are believed to be more beneficial for tracking vehicles passing through Treeton rather than addressing any local crime. The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> not to proceed with CCTV, as funds could be better spent in other areas of the village. It was noted that many properties already have CCTV, which police can access if needed, and that CCTV footage is not actively monitored.
<b>54/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL</b> - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	<b>Request closure of the Hall for one week to allow re-decoration – proposed week commencing 11 August 2025.</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to close the Hall from Monday 11 August 2025, re-opening scheduled for Monday, 18 August 2025.
(b)	<b>Additional Item – Children playing in the Hall car park.</b>
	It was noted that the car park is being used by children to play. No objections were raised, it was observed that the gravel stones around the perimeter of the car park are being displaced, and football marks were seen on the door.
(c)	<b>Additional Item – Antique Valuation event.</b>
	A booking has been taken for an antiques valuation day held in the Hall on Monday 7 April 2025. Posters will be displayed to advertise the event.
<b>55/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL</b> - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	<b>Community Speed Watch Scheme – to receive an update.</b>
	Community Speed Watch has confirmed that two volunteers have registered for the scheme, but a minimum of four volunteers is required. <b>Action:</b> Councillor Jay will re-post the information on Facebook, and posters will remain on display.
(b)	<b>South Yorkshire Police Information Stall – suggestion suitable location in Ravenfield.</b>
	A suitable location with heavy footfall for a community stall has not been identified, other than outside the shops. The police prefer an indoor location due to weather conditions. Another suggestion was to hold the stall at the Cavalier Fun Day in August. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to forward the suggestion to South Yorkshire Police.
<b>56/25</b>	<b>REPORTS FROM RAVENFIELD ALLOTMENT SOCIETY</b> - To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	<b>Request for free of charge hall hire to hold the Ravenfield Allotment Society Annual General Meeting – April 2025.</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to allow free of charge Hall hire on Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Councillor Jay will open and close the Hall.

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025

<b>57/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO REDROW DEVELOPMENT</b>
(a)	<b>Environmental Health – investigating infestation of rats.</b>
	<p>The Clerk received confirmation that Environmental Health is investigating reports of an increased rat infestation around the Redrow, Poppy field development. Additionally, the Clerk contacted the Planning Officer at Rotherham MBC regarding the maintenance of the strip of land between the development and the residential boundary of Longfield Drive. Land Registry details indicate that the land belongs to Redrow, so it is assumed they are responsible for its maintenance. The Planning Officer recommended to report any issues to RMBC Enforcement. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to report this to Enforcement.</p> <p>It was noted that Redrow has not responded to the request for a site meeting to discuss residents' concerns.</p>
<b>58/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO GREEN ITEMS</b>
<b>59/25</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM</b>
	<p>Customer Relations at Whitestone Solar Farm have offered two dates for the Council to join a Teams or Zoom meeting to receive details of changes to their proposal. The Council's preferred date is Thursday 3 April 2025. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to confirm the selected date with Whitestone Solar Farm and share further communication with Councillors via email.</p>
<b>60/25</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>
(a)	<b>To consider the following planning applications:</b>
	No planning applications received at the time of publishing the agenda
(b)	<b>To receive information on any previous planning applications/issues and discuss further action.</b>
	<b>Ravenfield Arms</b> – Planning Application appeal submitted to the Secretary of State.
	It was noted that the Secretary of State has dismissed the planning application appeal.
<b>61/25</b>	<b>EXTERNAL MEETINGS</b> – To receive information.
<b>62/25</b>	<b>YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS</b> - To consider the following received items and decide further action where necessary:
<b>63/25</b>	<b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b> – To receive and approve the following:
(a)	<b>Update on the Council's finances</b>
	The Council noted and approved.
(b)	<b>Payments to be made</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the payments, as presented, be approved and made accordingly.
<b>64/25</b>	<b>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b>
(a)	<b>To confirm the date and time of the next meeting, Thursday 10 April 2025 at 6:30pm.</b>

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025

	It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the next ordinary meeting of Ravenfield Parish Council will be held on Thursday 10 April 2025 at 6:30pm.
<b>65/25</b>	<b>ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING</b> - To agree on items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.
	Discuss the Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2025-2026 Term. Discuss the Members of the Staffing Committee Group for the 2025-2026 Term.
<b>66/25</b>	<b>DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM(S) FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED</b> - To discuss and take decisions about any agenda item(s) for which the press and public have been excluded
<b>67/25</b>	<b>CLOSURE OF THE MEETING</b>
	The meeting was closed at 7:55pm.

**Chairman Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date: 10 April 2025**

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# Ravenfield Parish Council

## Public Participation 13 March 2025

### **Woodlathes Balancing Pond**

A resident, involved in communications with MP John Healey, asked the Council for their thoughts on the response received from the MP. The Council agreed with MP John Healey's suggestion to allow Persimmon Homes six months to demonstrate their commitment to the promises they made. The parishioner pointed out that there is a written management agreement requiring Persimmon Homes to carry out the necessary work without prompt. It was noted that the overall maintenance of the pond has declined since Persimmon Homes closed their South Yorkshire offices, and it was felt that their lack of local presence has led to a reduced concern for the pond.

The reply from MP John Healey indicates that dredging will take place in March, but advice from the parishioner suggests this should be done immediately, as dredging could disrupt fish spawning from March to June.

Although signs stating that fishing is prohibited are displayed, fishermen are regularly seen at the pond.

The perimeter fence around the pond has still not been repaired.

**Action:** The Council instructed the Clerk to write to the Chief Officer of Rotherham MBC, highlighting these issues and requesting that RMBC take responsibility for the pond's maintenance.

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025

# RAVENFIELD YOUTH CHARITY

Registered Charity No. 523806

## Ravenfield Parish Council

Ravenfield Parish Hall  
Birchwood Drive  
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Rotherham  
S65 4PT

Email: [clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ravenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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# The Minutes of Ravenfield Youth Charity

## Thursday 13 March 2025

Minutes of the Ravenfield Youth Charity meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2025 in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by the Clerk, Gemma O'Carroll.

Commenced at: 8:00pm

**Present:** Councillors B Callear, K Jay, M Jones, R Jupp, S Lilley, D Rowley, P Whitworth and G O'Carroll (Clerk).

### 1. APOLOGIES

### 2. SCHRODERS PERSONAL WEALTH

- (a) The Council noted receipt of correspondence "Updates to your personal discretionary portfolio service". Commencing 1 April 2025, the overall amount pay for the Discretionary Fund Management will fall from 0.35% to 0.33%.

### 3. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was closed at 8:05pm

Chairman Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10 April 2025