

The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8 January 2026 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by the Chairman, Councillor Rowley.

Present: Councillors K Jay, M Jones, R Jupp, D Rowley, S Lilley, P Whitworth and G Needes (Clerk).

In attendance: Four members of the public were present.

01/26	NON-ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS
(a)	To receive and note apologies from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.
	Councillor Callear was absent. No apologies were received.
(b)	To consider reasons for absence provided by councillors who cannot attend and resolve the council's acceptance of these if felt relevant.
	No apologies received.
02/26	DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS
(a)	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.
	No pecuniary interests declared.
(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.
	No pecuniary interests declared.
03/26	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)).
	No items identified.
04/26	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (see attached report)
05/26	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
	To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held in Ravenfield Parish Hall on Thursday 11 December 2025 (attached).
	The Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 11 December 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
06/25	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
	To note any matters arising from the minutes of the last Council meeting.

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

	<p>Minute Reference 238/25 (a): Ravenfield Primary Academy PTA Grant Application. A funding request was received from Ravenfield Primary Academy PTA for the provision of a new stage. Ravenfield Youth Charity offered support; no further communication has been received from the PTA to date.</p> <p>Minute Reference 240/25 (d): Defibrillator – Old Ravenfield</p> <p>An inspection of the defibrillator at Old Ravenfield identified that the electrode pads expired in July 2025 and that the battery currently indicates only two remaining charge bars. Replacement pads were ordered at a cost of £143.00 (excluding VAT). These are on back order, and all peripheral components for this defibrillator model will discontinue in February 2026.</p> <p>The Clerk presented information on the cost of a replacement defibrillator, estimated at approximately £1,000, with grant funding potentially available to reduce the cost by £250. The Ravenfield Fete Group offered to contribute £300 towards the purchase of a new defibrillator, using funds from the disbanded group. The Council RESOLVED to include the purchase of a replacement defibrillator as an agenda item at the next Council meeting.</p>
07/26	CORRESPONDENCE – To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Consideration of Term Dates 2027-2028.
	The Council noted the item and raised no comments.
(b)	Complaint – David Wilson Development Site Signage (Poppy Fields Development).
	<p>A complaint was received from a parishioner regarding new signage at the Poppy Fields development site. The advertisement board refers to Ravenfield. Photographs submitted show the sign located in close proximity to the Bramley parish boundary sign.</p> <p>The Council discussed the matter and agreed that the issue closely aligns with the ongoing Community Governance Review.</p>
(c)	Correspondence – Rev James
	Rev James replied to the Council's letter of thanks for his assistance with the Christmas Lights Switch On and kindly offered to help again this year, if required.
08/26	MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS – To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Jubilee Field – To receive updates regarding potential land encroachment.
	The Clerk consulted three local solicitors. One expressed interest and requested relevant documentation for review prior to advising on the most appropriate course of action. The Council RESOLVED to provide the requested documentation and to present any associated legal fees at the next meeting for further consideration. Action: Clerk.
09/26	MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Woodlathes Balancing Pond – To receive a maintenance update and any new information.

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

	<p>Yorkshire Water have acknowledged repairs to the outlet via Rotherham MBC Drainage Department. Persimmon Homes confirmed they are awaiting quotations for the following works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of silt from the basin and disposal off-site • Removal of excessive rush growth (to be collected and removed at a later date) • Crown lifting of trees and removal of dead and overhanging vegetation • Cutting back of bushes and shrub areas • Repair of damaged fencing • Re-fitting of life buoys • Litter picking <p>Action: Clerk to continue to pursue updates and to obtain timescales for when works will be undertaken.</p>
10/26	<p>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:</p>
(a)	<p>Christmas Pantomime 2025 – to receive feedback from the Red Riding Hood mini panto held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 13 December 2025, and to consider holding a similar event in December 2026.</p>
	<p>The Red Riding Hood pantomime was well received and enjoyed by both adults and children, with positive feedback noted. Some disappointment was expressed from residents who were unable to obtain tickets.</p> <p>The Council discussed the possibility of arranging two performances next year; however, it was noted that ticket prices would likely need to increase, as demand for a total of 180 tickets was not expected to be met.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to arrange a pantomime for December 2026 (date to be confirmed as Chaplin Pantomimes have not yet released their schedule), with a provisional preferred date of Saturday 12 December 2026.</p> <p>Ward Councillor Reynolds indicated that Ward Councillors would likely be able to support the pantomime again through their devolved budget.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to book the pantomime once dates are released.</p>
(b)	<p>Scheduled Closures for Redecoration and Maintenance.</p>
	<p>The Council RESOLVED to close the Hall for up to two weeks during August to enable the Caretaker to carry out maintenance and redecoration works. Action: Clerk to publish the planned closure dates and notify regular Hall users.</p>
(c)	<p>Additional Item – Maintenance Repairs</p>
	<p>It was noted that the porch internal door closer has broken. Action: Clerk to arrange repair.</p> <p>It was noted that a power socket in the Main Hall is not working. Action: Councillor Jupp's husband, a qualified electrician, will inspect the socket.</p>

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

11/26	MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Community Governance Review – To receive a petition count and determine next actions. A total of 210 signatures have now been obtained for the petition (minimum of 189 required). The Council RESOLVED to submit a request to Rotherham MBC for a Community Governance Review to alter the Parish boundary. Action: Clerk to progress the submission.
(b)	Meeting Dates 2026 – To receive and note the proposed schedule of ordinary meetings for 2026. Proposed meeting dates for 2026, comprising the second Thursday of each month (excluding August), were circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised that, due to annual leave, the agenda for the July meeting would need to be published on 23 June 2026.
(c)	Annual Parish Meeting 2026 – To consider and set the date. The Council RESOLVED to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 9 April 2026 at 6:00pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall. The meeting will precede the Ordinary Parish Council meeting scheduled to commence at 6:30pm.
(d)	Christmas Light Switch On 2026 – To consider and set the date. The preferred date for the Christmas Light Switch-On is Friday 20 November 2026. Action: Clerk to liaise with Ravenfield Primary Academy (School Choir), Bramley Brass Band, The Cavalier Pub, and Rev James regarding their availability.
12/26	REPORTS FROM RAVENFIELD ALLOTMENT SOCIETY - To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
11/26	MATTERS RELATING TO REDROW DEVELOPMENT
12/26	MATTERS RELATING TO GREEN ITEMS
13/26	MATTERS RELATING TO WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM An invitation was received for the Chairman to attend a meeting of Parish Councils regarding the Whitestone Solar Farm on Monday 19 January 2026. Action: Councillor Rowley confirmed that he will attend.
14/26	PLANNING
(a)	To consider the following planning applications: RB2025/1672 - Land at Moor Lane South, Ravenfield (Bramley) Application to vary condition 01(approved plans) imposed by application RB2025/0602 to allow changes to the Construction Management/Phasing Plan. Plan Portal

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

	It was noted that no supporting documents or plans were attached to the planning application. The Case Officer, confirmed that no further information is available at this time. Action: Clerk to submit a response stating that the Council is unable to comment in the absence of supporting plans or documentation.
(b)	To receive information on any previous planning applications/issues and discuss further action.
	The Long Bar, Unit 2 Braithwell Road, Ravenfield – To receive information on licensing and planning applications (for information only).
	It was noted that tables and chairs remain outside The Long Bar. Members noted that a recent advertisement in the Rotherham Advertiser may be misleading, as a licence to serve alcohol outdoors does not grant planning consent for external tables and chairs. Rotherham MBC Enforcement advised that no action will be taken during the six-month appeal period. The Council expressed concern regarding this timescale. Action: Clerk to seek clarification from Rotherham MBC.
15/26	EXTERNAL MEETINGS – To receive information.
16/26	YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS - To consider the following received items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	YLCA Training Day - 12 March 2026.
	Councillor Rowley requested approval to attend. The Council RESOLVED to approve the request at a cost of £105.00. Action: Clerk to arrange the booking.
(b)	Additional Item. South Yorkshire Branch Meeting 18 February 2026, Agenda Topic Suggestions.
	To propose the Whitestone Solar Farm. Action: Clerk.
17/26	FINANCIAL MATTERS – To receive and approve the following:
(a)	Update on the Council's finances
	The Council noted and approved the Council's finances.
(b)	Payments to be made
	The Council RESOLVED that the payments, as presented, be approved and made accordingly.
(c)	Budget – To receive and consider the draft budget for 2026/2027.
	The draft budget for 2026/2027 was reviewed and approved. The Council RESOLVED that the shortfall in revenue and expenditure will be covered by the reserves.
(d)	Precept 2026/2027. To receive the Council Tax Base Rate and set the Parish Council Precept.
	The Council RESOLVED to increase the Parish Council Precept for the financial year 2026/2027 by 3%. This will result in a total precept of £55,101.91.
18/26	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING
(a)	To confirm the date and time of the next Parish meeting, Thursday 12 February 2026 at 6:30pm.

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

	It was RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of Ravenfield Parish Council will be held on Thursday 12 February 2026 at 6:30pm.
19/26	ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING - To agree on items to be included on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.
	Replacement Defibrillator – Old Ravenfield
20/26	DISCUSSION OF ANY ITEM(S) FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED - To discuss and take decisions about any agenda item(s) for which the press and public have been excluded
21/26	CLOSURE OF THE MEETING
	The meeting was closed at 8:55pm.

Chairman Signed: _____ **Date:** 12 February 2026

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026

Ravenfield Parish Council

Public Participation 8 January 2026

Planting Outside the Shops

Residents commented that the planting outside the shops has failed, with none of the plants or grass establishing, leaving the area in poor condition.

Action: Clerk to contact Rotherham MBC to seek an update and remedial action.

Hollings Lane – Stone Boulder / Off-Road Bike Access

A resident suggested that drainage pipes, as used in a similar location elsewhere, could provide a low cost option to prevent off road bike access at this point.

Action: Councillor Rowley and the Clerk to take this matter forward for discussion at the next CAP meeting.

Hollings Lane – Off-Road Bikes

Residents reported that on Boxing Day, parents were present on the field with children using mini bikes.

Fly Tipping – Moor Lane South (Outside David Wilson Homes Site Entrance)

It was reported that a sofa has been fly tipped at the entrance to the David Wilson Homes site on Moor Lane South. A resident reported the matter to Rotherham MBC; advised that no action would be taken as the land is privately owned.

Also noted that if the gate (located on land owned by the Water Board) were locked (as it has been for many years) this may help prevent further incidents.

Action: Clerk to follow up on the matter.

Chairman Initial: _____ Date: 12 February 2026