

The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 12 February 2026 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by the Chairman, Councillor Rowley.

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

In attendance: Five members of the public were present.

22/26	NON-ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS
(a)	To receive and note apologies from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.
	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jupp and Councillor Lilley.
(b)	To consider reasons for absence provided by councillors who cannot attend and resolve the council's acceptance of these if felt relevant.
	Councillor Jupp submitted apologies due to work commitments. Councillor Lilley submitted apologies due to personal reasons. The Council RESOLVED to accept the apologies received.
23/26	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.
24/26	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.
25/26	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (see attached report)
26/26	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
	To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held in Ravenfield Parish Hall on Thursday 8 January 2026 (attached).
	The Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 8 January 2026, be approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
27/25	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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	To note any matters arising from the minutes of the last Council meeting.
	<p>December Meeting: The note the accuracy of wording as below: Minute reference 247/25 (b) The Licensing <u>only</u> permits the consumption of alcohol in the external designated area if customers are <u>seated</u>. As planning permission was refused for external furniture there can be no external consumption of alcohol.</p> <p>January Meeting: Minute reference 11/26(d) – The date for the Christmas Light Switch-On was confirmed as Friday 20 November 2026. Availability has been confirmed by Ravenfield Primary Academy, Bramley Brass Band, The Cavalier, and Rev James.</p> <p>Public Participation Fly Tipping. The sofa has been removed. David Wilson homes have confirmed that the gate of the site entrance will be closed. Planting at the shops – The matter has been referred to Rotherham MBC Strategic Director. The planting remains within the three year maintenance agreement.</p>
28/26	CORRESPONDENCE – To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Rotherham Forgers RLFC – Home Ground Site Enquiry.
	The Council discussed the request and RESOLVED that Ravenfield does not have the facilities required by Rotherham Forgers RLFC, specifically changing and parking facilities.
(b)	Small Grants Scheme for Flagpoles and Flags.
	The Council discussed the Small Grants Scheme. The Clerk advised that companies had contacted the Council offering to supply and install a flagpole with either a Union Flag or St George’s Flag for £495.00 (excluding VAT). The Council considered installing a flagpole next to the war memorial on Moor Lane North, subject to confirmation that permission can be obtained as the location is on highways land. The Council RESOLVED that, if permission is confirmed, the Clerk should proceed with the grant application. Councillor Whitworth opposed a flagpole flying either flag and requested this be noted.
(c)	Additional Item: Lost Chord Singalongs – 2026-2027.
	An email was received advising that funding has been secured to continue the Lost Chord Singalong sessions at Ravenfield Parish Hall on the first Saturday of each month from March 2026 through to February 2027. A request was made for continued use of the Hall free of charge. The Council RESOLVED to permit use of the Hall free of charge, noting that the sessions are a well supported community event.
29/26	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.

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	<p>Relevant documentation has been submitted to the Council's solicitor. The solicitor has proposed obtaining copies of the associated deeds (cost £14.00) and undertaking an initial investigation at a cost of £200.00 plus VAT. Once this information has been reviewed, the solicitor will be in a position to advise the Council on the appropriate next steps.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED that solicitor advice would be required, however requested sight of the proposed scope of the investigation works. The Council RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain this information from the solicitor and circulate it to Councillors for approval, with the intention of bringing the solicitor's advice to the next meeting for a decision on how to proceed.</p> <p>Action: Clerk.</p>
30/26	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.
	<p>The Clerk advised that Persimmon Homes has been contacted for an update. The last correspondence received indicated that Persimmon were due to meet with their appointed contractor on 9 February 2026 to review the relevant risk assessments. No further information has been received to date.</p> <p>Residents present commented on the current appearance of the pond and expressed concern that no progress appears to be being made.</p>
(b)	Replacement Defibrillator – Old Ravenfield
	<p>The Council noted that the disbanded Ravenfield Fete Group has donated £300.00 towards a new defibrillator and expressed its thanks for the contribution. An application has been submitted to the Ward Councillors' Devolved Budget for £449.00 to cover the remaining costs.</p> <p>Ward Councillors Duncan and Reynolds advised that the application would be considered on 18 February 2026 and the outcome confirmed afterwards.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that replacement pads and a battery for the existing defibrillator have now arrived. It was agreed that, if funding for a new defibrillator is approved, the replacement items should be returned.</p>
31/26	MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Sky Broadband – Notification of Monthly Fee Increase.
	<p>The Clerk reported that notification had been received advising of a £3.00 per month increase in the broadband fee. The Council is currently in contract until September.</p>
(b)	Parish Hall External Paving Works – To receive quotations.
	<p>The Clerk advised that three contractors had been met with to date and that two quotations had been received via text message, which are not considered adequate for formal comparison. The Clerk requested additional time to obtain further written quotations.</p>

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(c)	Additional Item – Pot Hole, entrance of Parish Hall Car Park.
	A pothole has been reported. Rotherham MBC has advised that the land is unadopted. Action: Clerk to investigate ownership of the land.
32/26	MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Community Governance Review – To receive and note any updates.
	The Council received correspondence from Rotherham MBC advising that the signatures submitted had been checked and that there were insufficient valid signatures. It was advised that further signatures would need to be obtained and resubmitted. Councillor Rowley requested that he and Councillor Callear meet with the Head of Legal Services to discuss the matter further. Action: Clerk to request and arrange a meeting.
33/26	REPORTS FROM RAVENFIELD ALLOTMENT SOCIETY - To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	Request for Free of Charge Hall Hire – AGM (March)
	The Council RESOLVED to permit use of the Hall free of charge. Councillor Jay (and possibly Councillor Lilley) to attend as Council representative. Action: Clerk to liaise with the Allotment Society to agree a suitable date.
34/26	MATTERS RELATING TO REDROW DEVELOPMENT
	An email was received from a resident expressing concern about the Redrow building site at the rear of their garden. The resident reported that excavation works have resulted in significant surface water collecting near their property and raised concerns about the proximity of the site compound, as well as associated noise, dirt and disturbance. The resident also advised that the nearby dyke appears almost full and that only vegetation on the bank has been strimmed, with no dredging undertaken, raising concerns about a potential flooding risk. Action: Clerk to forward the information and photographs to Rotherham MBC Planning and encourage the resident to make direct contact with the Council. The Council noted an update received from Rotherham MBC Highways confirming that further works were due to recommence on 16 February 2026, timed to coincide with the school half-term. The remaining works include removal of the BT pole, resurfacing, new road markings and minor snagging works. During this period Brook Lane will be closed, with the usual diversion in place, and temporary two-way traffic lights will operate on Main Street/Flanderwell Lane.
35/26	MATTERS RELATING TO GREEN ITEMS
36/26	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 16 February 2026. Action: Councillor Rowley confirmed that he will attend.

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	The Council noted an email regarding trial trenching surveys within the Whitestone 1 area. Ward Councillor Reynolds raised concern that the tone of the correspondence was inappropriate.
37/26	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
	At the February Council meeting it was noted that no supporting documents were available. These have now been uploaded to the Planning Portal and include resident concerns, particularly regarding the proximity of site welfare units to neighbouring properties. The Council requested that the Clerk write to the Case Officer, Robert Morrell, highlighting the health and wellbeing of local residents and asking that the concerns detailed in the comments and objections attached to the application be addressed. The Council also requested clarification regarding the site development, as both Redrow and David Wilson Homes are currently involved, and whether these developments are operating separately. Action: Clerk to submit Council comments.
(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). The Council noted that Rotherham MBC Enforcement Team has made contact with The Long Bar.
38/26	EXTERNAL MEETINGS – To receive information.
39/26	YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS - To consider the following received items and decide further action where necessary: The Council noted that the application submitted nominating Councillor Callear to attend the Royal Garden Party (Minute Ref. 226/25(a)) has been successful and that Councillor Callear has been selected to attend the event.
40/26	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.
41/26	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING
(a)	To confirm the date and time of the next Parish meeting, Thursday 12 March 2026 at 6:30pm.

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	The Council RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of Ravenfield Parish Council will be held on Thursday 12 March 2026 at 6:30pm.
42/26	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.
43/26	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
44/26	CLOSURE OF THE MEETING
	The meeting was closed at 8:07pm.

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Public Participation 12 February 2026

Memorial Bench, corner of Radford Close – The Council noted information provided by a resident regarding a bench to be installed on the corner of Radford Close in remembrance of a Ravenfield resident who has recently passed away.

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