

# The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9 April 2026 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by the Chairman, Councillor Rowley.

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

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

<b>68/26</b>	<b>NON-ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS</b>
(a)	<b>To receive and note apologies from Councillors who are unable to attend the meeting.</b>
	No apologies for absence were received, 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>69/26</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>70/26</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>
	Agenda Item 8 (a)- Jubilee Field – To receive updates regarding potential land encroachment.
<b>71/26</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> (see attached report)
<b>72/26</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b>
	<b>To receive and confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held in Ravenfield Parish Hall on Thursday 12 March 2026 (attached).</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2026, be approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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<b>73/25</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</b>
	<p>The Clerk provided an update regarding the proposed installation of a flagpole and flag adjacent to the war memorial stone on Moor Lane North. Photographs of the site have been provided to the contractor, who has raised concerns that nearby trees may obstruct the flagpole and require cutting back.</p> <p>The Clerk has requested a site visit and advised that the trees cannot be cut back to accommodate the installation.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to follow up.</p>
<b>74/26</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE – To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>Bramley Sunnyside JFC - Football presentation, Saturday 16 May 2026</b>
	<p>An events application form to host the annual football presentation on Hollings Lane recreational ground was received and circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to grant permission for the event to take place. Event organisers confirmed that a leaflet drop would be carried out in advance of the event to notify local residents.</p>
<b>75/26</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS – To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>Jubilee Field – To receive updates regarding potential land encroachment.</b>
	<p>The Council has met with those concerned and agreed to obtain legal advice from solicitors recommended by the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations, who have more experience in dealing with this type of matter, in order to obtain a second opinion.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to contact YLCA to obtain solicitor details.</p>
<b>76/26</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH - To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:</b>
(a)	<b>Woodlathes Balancing Pond – To receive a maintenance update and any new information.</b>
	<p>Parishioners commented that they are pleased with the work undertaken by the contractor and noted that the pond looks visibly improved. It was noted that the perimeter fence has not yet been repaired, including section which was removed to allow plant equipment access. Heras fence panels also remain on site. Litter in the area continues to be an issue. A resident asked whether Yorkshire Water had repaired the outlet.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to confirm whether Yorkshire Water has repaired the outlet, contact Wayne Munro-Smith at Rotherham MBC regarding litter in the area, and follow up with Persimmon Homes regarding the fence repairs and removal of the Heras fencing remaining on site.</p>
(b)	<b>Replacement Defibrillator – Old Ravenfield</b>
	<p>The new defibrillator has now been installed outside the Parish Hall and registered with The Circuit. The original Parish Hall defibrillator has been relocated to Old Ravenfield.</p> <p>On inspection, the relocated defibrillator was found to have a low battery. A replacement battery was purchased at a cost of £199.99 excluding VAT. Both defibrillators are now fully operational.</p>

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(c)	<b>Damaged Bus Shelter, Hollings Lane.</b>
	In 2024, the brick bus shelter on Hollings Lane was damaged in a road traffic accident. The incident was reported to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA), who advised they would pursue recovery of costs through the relevant insurance company. The Clerk has since chased SYMCA and received confirmation that a replacement shelter is included within this year's shelter programme, no installation date has yet been provided. It was noted the replacement will be a modern style shelter rather than brick built.
(d)	<b>Street Lighting Attachments – Hanging Baskets.</b>
	The Clerk reported that no further correspondence had been received from Rotherham MBC. The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk contact Rotherham MBC to advise that the Council intends to proceed with the hanging basket display unless a response is received within the next seven days. If no response is received, the order will proceed. <b>Action:</b> Clerk.
77/26	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL -</b> To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	<b>St George's Day Celebrations – Sunday 19 April 2026.</b>
	The Council was reminded of the St George's Day celebrations to be held at the Parish Hall from 10:30am to 12:30pm, hosted by Ravenfield Community Plan Group. Entertainment will be provided by Maltby Brass Band. Complimentary homemade cakes, tray bakes and refreshments will be available.
78/26	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL -</b> To consider the following items and decide further action where necessary:
(a)	<b>Accounting Software – To receive information and associated costs.</b>
	The Clerk presented information comparing accounting software packages suitable for the Council. A preference was expressed for the Scribe accounting package. Cost of £299.00 setup fee and £37.00 per month thereafter, excluding VAT.  The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the purchase, noting that £500.00 had been allocated within the budget. It was acknowledged that the first year costs, including the setup fee, would exceed the budget allocation, with future annual costs expected to fall within budget. <b>Action:</b> Clerk.
79/26	<b>REPORTS FROM RAVENFIELD ALLOTMENT SOCIETY -</b> To receive the following items and decide further action where necessary:
80/26	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO REDROW DEVELOPMENT</b>
81/26	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO GREEN ITEMS</b>
(a)	<b>Northern Powergrid Foundation Grants.</b>
	The Council noted that this grant scheme may provide an opportunity to secure funding for solar panels at the Parish Hall. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to submit an expression of interest at the initial stage.

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<b>82/26</b>	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM</b>
	The Clerk confirmed that a response had been submitted to the Whitestone Solar Farm Targeted Consultation, held between 4 March and 3 April 2026.
<b>83/26</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>
(a)	<b>To consider the following planning applications:</b>
	<b>RB2026/0329</b> - 10 St James View, Ravenfield. Application to undertake works to a tree(s) within Ravenfield Conservation Area
	The planning application was noted. No comment or objections raised.
	<b>RB2026/0412 – Ravenfield Arms, Ravenfield</b> Application to vary conditions 02 (hours of use of external area) and 03 (use of television screens externally) imposed by RB2023/1386
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to raise an objection to the application. Members considered that the current conditions are working effectively, as evidenced by the lack of complaints from residents. It was noted that the application did not present anything materially different from previous applications. Concerns were raised regarding potential noise disturbance, particularly if television screens are positioned facing the building, as this may cause noise and voices to project towards nearby residential properties. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to submit the objection.
(b)	<b>To receive information on any previous planning applications/issues and discuss further action.</b>
	<b>RB2025/0979</b> – Outline application for residential development of up to 349 dwellings including details of the access land, east of Moor Lane South, Bramley.
	Due to the number of objections received, the application will be determined by Rotherham MBC Planning Regulatory Board. A letter was received offering the Right to Speak at the meeting. Councillor Rowley confirmed he would be willing to attend the meeting and speak on behalf of Ravenfield Parish Council. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to confirm to Rotherham MBC that Ravenfield Parish Council wishes to exercise its Right to Speak.
<b>84/26</b>	<b>EXTERNAL MEETINGS</b> – To receive information.
	16 March 2026 – Councillor Rowley attended a meeting of Parish Councils regarding the Whitestone Solar Farm held at Harthill Village Hall. 23 March 2026 – Councillor Jupp and Rowley joined the Whitestone Solar Farm Zoom meeting. The audio quality was reported to be very poor, and attendees were unable to clearly hear the discussion.
<b>85/26</b>	<b>YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS</b> - To consider the following received items and decide further action where necessary:
<b>86/26</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 the Council's finances.

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(b)	<b>Payments to be made</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the payments, as presented, be approved and made accordingly.
<b>87/26</b>	<b>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b>
(a)	<b>To confirm the date and time of the next Parish meeting, Thursday 14 May 2026 at 6:30pm.</b>
	The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the next ordinary meeting of Ravenfield Parish Council will be held on Thursday 14 May 2026 at 6:30pm.
<b>88/26</b>	<b>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.</b>
<b>89/26</b>	<b>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</b>
<b>90/26</b>	<b>CLOSURE OF THE MEETING</b>
	The meeting was closed at 8:00pm.

**Chairman Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** 14 May 2026

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# Ravenfield Parish Council

## Public Participation 9 April 2026

Concerns were raised regarding ongoing anti-social behaviour at Hollings Lane Recreation Ground, particularly along the access track to the allotments.

A resident reported that stone copings from the boundary wall adjoining the field had been pushed off and had fallen behind her garage. Due to their size and weight, the stones cannot be moved without plant equipment. The resident advised that the area must be kept clear of debris to prevent water ingress to the garage.

Graffiti was also reported on the side of a garage in the area.

Concerns were raised regarding an increase in dog fouling along the allotment access track.

Reports were also received of off-road bikes performing “donuts” on Hollings Lane Recreation Ground.

**Action:** Councillor Rowley and the Clerk to raise these issues at the next CAP Meeting. Parishioners were encouraged to report incidents to the Police, explaining that unreported incidents result in no data being available for Police action.

A Parishioner also asked whether the Council would be taking legal action regarding the potential land encroachment on Jubilee Field. The Council confirmed that legal advice had been sought and that the matter is being actively pursued.

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