Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Ravenfield Parish Council held on Thursday 14th May 2015, at 6.30pm, in the Parish Hall.

Present Cllrs. J. Jesson(Chairman), S. Hamshaw, N. Pearson, D. Rowley and J. Wilson.
Three members of the public were present.

All the members, who were present, signed their acceptance of office as councillors.

1. Election of Chairman.
D. Rowley was elected, unopposed, as Chairman for the ensuing municipal year; proposed N. Pearson, seconded J. Jesson.

D. Rowley signed his acceptance of office as Chairman.

On behalf of the Council, the newly elected Chairman, as his first duty, thanked the retiring chairman for all that she had done during her year of office.

2. Election of Vice Chairman.
D. Finch was elected to the office of Vice Chairman; proposed N. Pearson, seconded J. Jesson.

3. Election of representatives to the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations.
N. Pearson and D. Rowley were re-elected as representatives to the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations; moved J. Jesson, seconded N. Pearson.

4. Election of Representatives to Ravenfield Events Group.
Elected as members of the Ravenfield Events Group were N. Pearson, J. Jesson, J. Wilson and S. Hamshaw.

5. Apologies.
Apologies were received from and accepted on behalf of B. Callear and D. Finch ; moved N. Pearson seconded J. Jesson.

It was resolved that B. Callear and D. Finch be allowed to sign their acceptance of office as councillors at or before the next meeting of the Council; moved J. Jesson, seconded N. Pearson.

6. Minutes.
The minutes of the previous Council meeting, held 9th April 2015, were approved as a true record: moved Cllr J. Jesson, seconded Cllr N. Pearson.

7. Matters Arising.
a) Item 3a) Website – J. Jesson and the Clerk had attended a meeting, on 11th May, with RMBC IT personnel. Both have been allocated user names and passwords to allow them to populate and maintain the website. They were given very brief training and await an instruction manual.
b) Item 3b) Defibrillator – still waiting a response from the Co-operative Pharmacy. It was agreed to approach the Cavalier regarding siting it there.
c) Item 3c) Fence Hollings Lane - still requires repair. The Clerk was asked to contact R. Jackson of Streetpride.
d) Item 13a) bus shelter/notice board – the Clerk reported that it belonged to the Parish Council. The Clerk was authorised to arrange for repairs, providing the cost was less than £250.

e) Item 5c) parking Bridgewater way – Cllrs N. Pearson and J. Jesson had visited the site, they had noted the home made signs, but looking around in the vicinity realised for the Council to pay for signs was a non-runner as the Council would be inundated with requests and the roads were unadopted. The Clerk had informed the PCSO Supervisor and he had informed Mrs Inman.

8. Police Report.
There were no PCSOs working on days and therefore no one available to attend the meeting, consequently a report had been sent. For the period 14th April to 14th May the following were reported:-

9 incidents of Anti-social Behaviour consisting of 3 rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour, 4 nuisance vehicles, 1 concern and 1 disturbance.
3 burglary dwellings - 1 on Barberry Way, 1 on Birchwood Drive and 1 on Hollings Lane.
2 burglary other – 1 on Garden Lane and 1 on Hollings Lane.

Concern was expressed about the increase in the number of burglaries and cold callers in unmarked vans. The Clerk would inform the Police.

The meeting was adjourned for public participation; see separate report.

9. Correspondence.
a) Rotherham Hospice – It's a Knockout Event. Request for a grant to support the event which is being held Sunday 7th June. Agreed to make a grant of £50.
b) Ravenfield Old Peoples Social Fund – Grant. Letter of thanks for the grant.
c) RAY – Country Air. A copy of the spring issue of Country Air was supplied, this was passed on to members.
d) V. Burgess – Card of thanks. Val thanked members and parishioners for their compliments and good wishes on the occasion of her retirement from the Council, at the previous meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk write and thank Val for all that she has done for the community, including the Council, for the last 16 years.
e) Doncaster MBC – Statement of Community Involvement and Supplementary Planning Document. Consultation on the draft documents that provide additional guidance as part of the Local Plan. The consultation runs from 17th April to 15th May and the documents are available on their website. Noted.
f) The Pension Regulator – Automatic Enrolment Support. Confirmation that the Council's contact details have been received and that they have updated their records. Noted.
g) SYPCC – Community Speed Watch Scheme. The practice in South Yorkshire has been that it should involve officers to provide a clear uniform presence and they do not see any need to change it. Contact should be made to see if the local inspector is prepared to assist.
Wentworth has decided that they have taken it as far as the can and will not be doing anything further.
h) RMBC, Leisure & Community Services – Grounds Maintenance 2015/16. As per the agreement, the annual charge has been increased in line with RPI at August 2014 therefor by 1.5%.
i) RMBC, Commissioners Office – Creating a new vision for Rotherham. Invitation to meet a Commissioner and the Leader or Deputy Leader of RMBC at a roadshow. The roadshow will take place on Thursday 11th June, between 2pm and 4pm at the John Smith Room in the Town Hall. Cllrs Hamshaw and Jesson to attend.
j) YLCA – Website. Following the elections, new passwords have been issued; the user name and password can be obtained from the Clerk.
k) RMBC, Public Health – suicide-advice. Briefing note giving the future strategy for tackling the risk of suicide. Also giving information about the Rotherham Suicide and Self Harm Action Plan. Noted.
Consultation prior to applying for planning permission on behalf of John Cooper of Manor Farm for an agricultural scale wind turbine at Conisbrough Grange Farm. In view of the size and location of the proposed wind turbine, the Council had no objections.

10. Planning applications.
a) RB1992/1280 & Planning Inspectorate/Appeal Ref APP/P4415/C/3018479 – 4 Dovecote Lane. Agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate confirming that the Council's position has not changed and the Council continues to support the decisions previously made by RMBC and the Planning Inspectorate. The Council also agreed to request a copy of the appeal decision.

11. To Accept and Approve the Council's Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2015.
It was resolve that the Statement of Accounts, for the financial year ending 31st March 2015 be accepted and approved.

12. External Audit for the financial year ending 31st March2015.
a) It was resolved to accept and approve Section 1 of the Annual Return.
b) It was agreed to accept and approve Section 2 of the Annual Return.
c) The Explanation of Variances between the years 2013/14 and 2014/15 was accepted and approved.

13. Reports.
a) Cllr Jesson reported that the recent litter pick had been a success with 18 volunteers attending and collecting 50 bags of rubbish; also 24 volunteers were now regularly picking litter up.
b) Cllr Jesson reported the the sale of the land owned by the Ravenfield Charity was getting nearer and they will shortly be putting in for registration of the land with the Land Registry.
c) Cllr. Pearson reported that the Church drive had been resurfaced and they now had the water on.
d) Cllr Wilson reported that a speed check cable was being put down on Main Street.
e) Cllr Rowley reported on the meeting held with Spencer Fearn and Andy Morten on 23rd April 2015, regarding the football pitch. The Council gave a brief history of the site and Spencer put forward ideas as to how it could be developed. The Council advised them to contact the owners RMBC, which they subsequently did, but RMBC will not permit floodlights so it is a non-runner.
f) The Clerk reported that YLCA was running a training session for new councillors on Wednesday 24th June 7.00 to 9.30 pm at a cost of £45 per councillor. Following discussion, the Clerk agreed to provide training on Thursday 21st May 6.30 to 8.30 pm.
g) The Clerk reported, that following the election, the Council was now down to two signatories for the Co-op Bank and suggested this be dealt with at the same time as the meeting with Lloyds Bank. It was agreed to deal with this matter on Thursday 18th June at 6.30 pm. Members were reminded of the need to bring both the original and a copy of either their passport or driving license with photograph together with a utility bill.
h) The Clerk had updated the Risk Assessment and provided members with a copy. The Risk Assessment was reviewed and approved.
i) The Clerk had updated the Asset Register to include the new wayside seat donated by Living Streets.

14. Payments.
It was agreed that payments could be made.

15. Any Other Urgent Non Financial Business.
a) Motorbikes are going through the woods, off Hollings Lane down Pingle Lane and on to the bridleway off St James Drive.
The Clerk to report it to the Police.
b) Cllr Jesson reported that funding was available for local history projects.

The meeting was closed at 9.24pm.