Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13 December 2018 at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Present: Councillors B Callear, D Finch, K Jay, J Jesson, N Pearson and D Rowley
Clerk, G O'Carroll.

7 members of the public were present.

189/18 **APOLOGIES**

Councillor S Hamshaw was not present.

190/18 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 11 November 2018 were approved as a true record.

191/18 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Clerk referred to 178/18 (e). The contact details we initially had for National Grid are no longer active. The Clerk has spoken with RMBC, reference the original log reported in November 2017. We have received notification that RMBC have contacted the new "triio" manger requesting they contact Ravenfield Parish Council to discuss our complaint.

Reference the public participation comments in November, foot path from Ravenfield to Woodlaithes. RMBC, Right of Ways have visited the foot path in question and concluded that there is no funding available in the authority to light a new route. The path itself is not a legal recorded public right of way, despite clear use, and the surface is in reasonably good condition.

192/18 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Councillor Jay, Jesson and Pearson all declared an interest in the Community Plan, reference agenda item 8 (a).

193/18 **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

194/18 **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Radio Nightingale wrote to thank the Parish Council for their donation of £20.00 towards a UPS.
(b) Letter of resignation was received from Councillor Stephanie Hamshaw with immediate effect, due to personal reasons. **Action:** Clerk to follow standard procedure.

195/18 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS**

No matters raised.

196/18 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH**

(a) Community Plan. Last meeting held on 12 December 2018, in which 12 people attended. It was noted that 1300 questionnaires were distributed to every household in Ravenfield, and yet only 158 responses received. Visits to the primary school, were successful in gaining younger children's opinions and ideas. There are plans to speak with the doctors, police and older children to gain their opinions.
Councillor Jesson presented details of a Pocket Park Plus Grant Fund and gained consent from the Parish Council to make an application. If successful the grant would provide match funding towards installing a path around the perimeter of Jubilee field, and look to address the drainage issues on this field, making it a useable area for children to play.
(b) Woodlaithes Balancing Pond – update: MP John Healey received a reply from the Technical Director of Persimmon Homes, Mr Sam Sowrey. A site meeting has been organised for 11 January 2018 to discuss future maintenance plans.
(c) Trees – Jubilee Field. Trees and hedges at the side of 40 Barberry Way were removed on 23 November 2018. The tree surgeon assessed the trees on Jubilee field and advised removing trees at the side of 59 Barberry Way within six meters of the property. The rest of the field should have a maintenance gap of 1 meter between the boundary fence and the trees/shrubs. These should be kept cut back once a year. The Parish Council agreed the work should be arranged as soon as possible, and gave consent for the Clerk to organise these works be carried out. The annual maintenance costs are to be included in the budget.
(d) Christmas Decorations. Unfortunately, we were unable to proceed with decorating the tree outside the Cavalier pub. The power supply to the lights raised issues and additional costs. Concerns were raised in the safety of the lights with children playing in the area. Concern was also noted in anticipated vandalism. It was agreed more planning was required and we should look to have a plan in place by summer 2019. In the meantime, we are to look for suitable lights in the new year sales.
(e) Tennis Courts. Mr S Hindlle informed the meeting that unfortunately the tennis courts in Ravenfield are struggling to stay open. They are looking for support from the Parish Council to retain the facilities for the benefit of the local community. Ideas were discussed including the Parish Council taking over the management of the courts, or selling the courts and rebuild new elsewhere in Ravenfield. The Parish Council requested to see the finances before assessing the proposed options. Mr Hindle will try to provide these in January/February 2019.
(f) A petition was drafted and circulated to the Parish Councillors before the meeting. The Clerk also contacted James McLaughlin, RMBC, Democratic Services for his opinion of the wording of the petition. All Councillors confirmed they are happy to proceed with the wording. Unfortunately, as yet, no comments have been received back from James McLaughlin. The Clerk is awaiting a map from the archives of RMBC. On receipt of the map, the petition is to be printed and circulated for signatures. The petition will be displayed in the Parish Hall, the Cavalier and the Ravenfield Arms pub.

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197/18 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL**

(a) Parish Hall Extension – John Box architects have been instructed to submit a planning application with RMBC.

198/18 **PLANNING**

RB2018/1835 – land to the rear of 12 Hollings Lane. No objections raised.

199/18 **EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

Councillor Pearson, Jesson and Rowley attended the Rother Town and Parish Council Network meeting held on 21 November 2018. The follow up meeting will be held on 4 February 2019.

200/18 **YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS**
No updates received.

201/18 **MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

(a) Foot path lighting (Ravenfield – Woodlaithes)
(b) Defibrillator Checks, outside the Cavalier
(c) Ravenfield Crossroads Lights
(d) 2019/2020 Budget

202/18 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Update on Council's finances. A statement of accounts was distributed at the meeting for noting.
(b) Payments in accordance with the budget were agreed.

203/18 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as 10 January 2018 at 6.30pm.

204/18 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of such Act indicated, as now amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, information relates to finance and business affairs. It was moved that under Section 100(A)4 of the local government act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

205/18 **DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED**

206/18 **CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting was closed at 8:25pm.

Ravenfield Parish Council
Public Participation 13 December 2018

Complaint was received from the Old People Social Fund at the removal of a poster advertisement from their notice board within the Parish Hall. Although the date of the advertised event had passed, the posters are still required. It was noted that the Old People Social Fund will remove and add their own posters.

Reference the discussion held in November, minute 183/18 (d) – unauthorised adverts displayed on the Parish Hall notice board. A message was relayed via a member of the public, from Mr Morton, the owner of the Ravenfield Stores. "He is not the Parish Council noticeboard police, and wishes to return the key to the notice board". The key was returned to the Parish Council.

The Chair of the Old People Social Fund made the Parish Council aware that when he accessed the notice board this week, the door fell off the hinges, and requires repair. **Action:** Councillor Pearson to look at this.

A member of the public commented that the Christmas decorations outside the shopping area on Braithwell Road, look very messy. Last year they were straight and in line. This year they look untidy.
The Chair explained that last year we paid for an electrician to hang these, and two men carried out this work. This year, one shop owner put the lights up himself, with no help. It is a difficult job to carry out alone. The question was asked if any member of the pubic would be able to help assist with this task? Unfortunately, there were no volunteers.

Complaints were received regarding the traffic lights at the Ravenfield crossroads. The lights have been altered allowing traffic to move for a greater time period on Moor Lane South and North. Consequently, the traffic is backing up on Braithwell Road and Hollings Lane. When the lights do change, it is only for a short period of time only allowing a few cars to get through, and therefore not allowing the traffic to flow. Pedestrians also complained because it is taking a great deal more time to wait for the lights to change to be able to cross the road.
Councillor Napper has raised this at Borough Council meetings.
Councillor Callear has spoken with RMBC Highways and was informed that the change is a result of the recent traffic survey.
Resident explained that Spencer Drive is becoming a rat run to avoid the traffic delays.
Action: The Clerk is to contact RMBC Highways.

A member of the public commented on agenda 8 (a) (minute 196/18 (a)), to add that we should not assume that because the community plan questionnaire was not filled in, that it was not read. The resident said in his opinion the Parish Council has not fulfilled what was set out in the last community plan.
The Chair and Vice Chair explained that at the community open day, information was displayed highlighting everything that had been achieved and that the community plan was out of date and it was time to review this.

Complaint was also raised that the Parish Council did not mark the first world war centenary. The Parish Councillors explained that we did not receive any request for assistance, and understood that the Old People Social Fund/Events group has organised their own event to mark the occasion.

A number of residents commented on the response of RMBC, reference minute 191/18 – there being no funds available to address the public footpath from Ravenfield to Woodlaithes. Those resident present explained that they use the footpath regularly and that there is no lighting to areas. It is unsafe to walk this path in the dark. Suggestions were made that a new path could be put in place at the end of Wood Close, which would require

less lighting. Parish Councillors suggested we invite Councillor Sarah Allen, Cabinet Member for Cleaner, Greener Communities, to attend a site meeting. **Action:** Clerk to arrange.