Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12 September 2019 at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

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

Nine members of the public were present.

132/19 **APOLOGIES** – received from Councillor Finch and Councillor Jupp.

133/19 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 July 2019 were approved as a true record.

134/19 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
No matters to report.

135/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – The clerk declared an interest in item 9 (a), as related to a contractor who has tendered for the Parish hall building works. Councillor Jay declared an interest in item 6 (d), as a member of the Women's Institute.

136/19 **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

137/19 **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Thrybergh Parish Council confirmed their donation to the local dance school and not to individuals. Dalton Parish Council have not donated towards the dance school/students. It was resolved not good practise to donate funds to an individual, and therefore on this occasion the Parish Council would be unable to help.
(b) RMBC Licensing Act and Gambling policies, consultation was noted.
(c) Councillor Rowley and Councillor Pearson will attend the Community Infrastructure Levy seminar, hosted by Rotherham MBC, 8 October 2019.
(d) Ravenfield Women's Institute are supporting the Walker crisp packet recycle scheme, and asked for permission to place a collection bin in the Parish Hall. The Parish Council provided consent.
(e) It was noted that a community meeting is being held at Sunnyside Community Centre, Friday 13 September 2019, by the Silverwood Colliery Project.
(f) Additional item received from Councillor Jesson, providing resignation notice of secretary and treasurer to Ravenfield Youth Charity and Ravenfield Educational Charity.
(g) Additional item, email received from a parishioner regarding dog food being left on the pavements. The food is left out with good will, but providing a food source for vermin. **Action:** Clerk to write to the parishioner responsible to advise of the reported issues.

138/19 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS**

(a) During the summer holidays an area of the play area on Hollings Lane, was repaired at a cost of £100 exc vat.
(b) The Sky Fall play apparatus on Hollings Lane play area was repaired due to exposed wires, at a cost of £80 exc vat.

(c) The annual tree maintenance work on Jubilee Field is scheduled to take place on 30 September 2019. This work will address two complaints received over the summer holidays regarding over grown trees.
(d) Two quotations have been received from drainage contractors. Both with different suggestions of work. Councillors preferred the suggestion of a drain survey at a cost of £650 exc vat, to rule out any issues. Before instructing any investigation works, the Clerk is to contact Rotherham MBC and enquire of the works which were carried out in 2017 when addressing the hole which appeared.

139/19 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH**

(a) Community Plan. The noticeboard in the GP surgery is still placed behind the door, and will not be moved. All posters are displayed. Rotherham MBC have provided a cost to lay used road planings on the footpath from Ravenfield to Woodlaithes at a cost of £3500 exc vat. The Parish Council concluded this was too expensive. **Action:** Clerk to seek approval from Rotherham MBC to source cheaper contractor/quotations.
(b) Parish Boundary – petition. The draft report was received from Stuart Fletcher of Rotherham MBC, and circulated to Parish Councillors. It was noted that the names of Ravenfield Parish Councillors should be amended with current Parish Councillors, and the disappointment of the time scale in view planning permission may be granted prior to the dates given.
(c) Woodlaithes Balancing Pond – update. No reply has been received from MP John Healey or Persimmon homes. The pond desperately needs dredging. **Action:** Clerk to contact Rotherham MBC, Bronwyn Knight, Head of Planning.
(d) Three quotations were received for electrical works required to supply and install a weatherproof electrical socket from the Cavalier sign to the Conifer tree. The cheapest quotation was £195 exc vat. The cost of 3000 LED fairy lights is £959.49. This would leave a short fall of £93.49 from the budgeted costs and offer of donation. A parishioner offered to install the required power supply free of charge. It was assumed that the fire brigades offer to decorate the tree would still stand. **Action:** Clerk to write to the Cavalier and Brewery providing a risk assessment. If consent is received, a Christmas lights switch on would be take place on Tuesday 3 December 2019 alongside the Christmas carol event at the Cavalier.
(e) Distribution of the Parish Council newsletter has commenced. Thanks, was paid to Councillor Jesson for putting together the newsletter, and all of the distributors who have helped.
(f) The new head of Ravenfield Primary Academy telephoned to confirm that there are no plans to close Ravenfield Pre-School.
(g) Notification a 30mph speed limit will be introduced in Ravenfield. Councillor Napper added that the speed limit plans do not pass Ravenfield Primary Academy, and that he is pursuing an amendment to this.
(h) The Parish Council agreed to wipe off unpaid hall hire fees of £24, reference Yoga classes. The classes came to a sudden end in July with the teacher leaving the country.

140/19 **MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL**

(a) Parish Hall Extension. Four quotations have now been received. Ranging from £58,250 to £148,089. The Parish Council selected ROC Developments UK Ltd as the preferred contractor. The submitted quotation was £85,760. It was noted that quotation was valid for 28 days, dated 21 July 2019. It was agreed a further meeting should take place to discuss all discussed areas of work, with a view the work should commence February/March 2020. The hall would be closed for a three-week period, to coincide with the Easter holidays. **Action:** Clerk to begin an application for a Public Works Loan for £60,000 over 20 years.
(b) Areas of the garage roof are leaking. Buckets have been positioned appropriately. It was resolved no repair works should be carried out due to the imminent building work.
(c) The current fire prevention contractor, Photuris Ltd identified areas of work within the Parish Hall requiring attention, with very expensive quotations. Emergency light batteries have been replaced by the Caretaker, and emergency bulk head light by an electrician. These now need re-testing which will incur a fee. The Clerk disputed some of the areas of work and the associated costs, given not identified in previous visits.

Three independent companies visited the hall over August and provided quotations for appropriate fire prevention. The Parish Council agreed to change our service contract. The agreed preferred contractor was Hollinsend Fire. The annual service fee quoted is £304.50 exc vat. A saving of £40.00 to current contract.

(d) Additional item – number of minor repairs carried our in the hall recently, including window handles, soap dispensers. Thanks, was also paid to Mr McKninnon who has assisted with repairs.

141/19 **PLANNING**

(a) RB2019/1355 – 148 Braithwell Road. Discharge of condition No.'s 1-4 imposed by planning RB2016/0534.
(b) RB2019/1328 – Church Farm, Main Street. Erection of replacement livestock building.
(c) RB2019/1163 – Land rear to 12 Hollings Lane. Variation of condition 02 (approve plans to remove dormer windows and make bungalow into one level) imposed by RM2015/1590.
(d) RB2019/1135 – Silverwood Hollings Lane. Application to fell 3 No. trees and prune various trees protected by Rotherham MBC Tree Preservation Order No, 1997.

No objections were raised.

142/19 **EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

Councillor Jay and the Clerk attended a training session on Emergency Planning, hosted by Rotherham MBC.

143/19 **YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS**

(a) Councillor Rowley to attend the YLCA conference, 13 September 2019.
(b) Consultation on proposed reforms to permitted development rights to support the deployment of 5g and extend mobile coverage was received from YLCA, and circulated.

144/19 **MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

145/19 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Update on Council's finances. The information was noted.
(b) Payments in accordance with the budget were agreed.
(c) Authorise Signatories. No reply received from HSBC, it is assumed that the amendment to signatories has been actioned by HSBC.
(d) The external auditor, PKF Littlejohn LLP advised of a discrepancy in the 2018/19 accounts. Unpresented cheques totalling £823 were not shown in the correct box. The amendment reduces the total value of cash to be carried over from £70,870 to £70,047. The balance of the PWLB was incorrect, and should read £36,542, not £34,648. The error was caused using May 2019 (opposed to March 2019) PWLB statement which included May's payment. The Clerk is awaiting PKF Littlejohn LLP to confirm these figures.

146/19 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as 10 October 2019 at 6.30pm.

147/19 **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.

148/19 **DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED**

149/19 **CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting was closed at 8:50pm.

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

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Public Participation 12 September 2019

Chair of the Old Peoples Social Fund asked for permission to store Christmas items in the Parish Hall office. The Parish Council agreed to this, but on the terms that any items are left at their own risk.

Request was received to remove the stone bollard situated next to the entrance of the car park to the Parish Hall. This has been hit by a car again, causing damage to the car. It was resolved that the bollard remain, as a marker to the Parish hall boundary, to prevent vehicles over parking onto the private road opposite, and as protection for the light. The bollard is of a low height, but is visible when leaving and entering the car park. Once the damaged car park light is restored, this will draw further attention to the bollard.

Solar lights were installed to the footpath linking Ravenfield to Woodlaithes. Parishioners commented the improvement these have had.

A new bin has been positioned opposite Ravenfield Primary Academy. Thanks, was paid to Councillor Napper for arranging this.

Complaints were made that since electric works were carried out on the footpath situated near Woodlaithes balancing pond, the path is now difficult to pass and very muddy. The path was originally tarmac, but now left as soil. Parishioners added that a Rights of Way Officer from Rotherham MBC has been out to investigate this.

Councillor Napper advised a new defibrillator has been installed on the old Post Office garden wall, in Hooton Roberts. The Woodlaithes fun day raised £9000.