

The Minutes of Ravenfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Ravenfield Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10 June 2021 at 6.30pm in Ravenfield Parish Hall, chaired by Councillor N Pearson.

Present: Councillors B Callear, K Jay, R O’Nion, N Pearson, and Clerk G O’Carroll.

Four members of the public were present.

102/21 **APOLOGIES** – received and accepted from Councillor Jupp and Councillor Rowley.

103/21 **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECULINARY AND OTHER INTERESTS** – none declared.

104/21 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS** – agenda item 11 (a) – Pension Policy.

105/21 – **AGENDA ITEM 11 (B)** – Parish Councillor Vacancy, was brought forward to co-opt Toni Leach, as a new Parish Councillor. Councillor Leach participated in the meeting from this point.

106/21 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – see attached report.

107/21 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** - It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17 May 2021 be a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

108/20 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** – the Clerk updated the Council with information relating to the public participation enquiry regarding Jubilee Field drainage. Rotherham MBC, Senior Drainage Technician, Harrison Lamb, has acknowledged the ongoing request for the drain survey, and will provide dates on his return from annual leave (end of June 2021).

109/21 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Hollings Lane Playing Field Overgrown Trees and Unsociable Behaviour – the Clerk reported having visited the area and noted that there is one branch that slightly hangs into the garden of a property on Birchwood Drive. Rotherham MBC confirmed that they are in the process of conducting a tree survey of all trees on Rotherham MBC land, and the findings (including any recommended works) will be circulated to the Parish Council. The Clerk has arranged a meeting with Rotherham MBC Neighbourhood Coordinators to raise antisocial behaviour, but the current advice is to encourage residents to report these issues to the Police. It was noted that there does not appear to be a nominated Police Officer for Ravenfield. **Action:** Clerk to ascertain this information. This information is to be shared with the resident who raised the complaint.
- (b) Football Pitches, rental enquiry. The Council **RESOLVED** that there is insufficient land to accommodate the request of further football pitches.
- (c) Additional Item – Thrybergh Colliery Wheel Replacement Plaque. An email received from Thrybergh Parish Council providing costs associated with replacing the current plaque, and seeking financial assistance from Ravenfield and Dalton Parish Councils. The majority vote **RESOLVED** to replace the current plaque with a Stainless Steel/Brass option and to cover a third of the £230 total cost (a contribution of £76.67).
- (d) Additional Item - DuoFit, Fitness Classes. An email was received requesting permission to hire Hollings Lane playing field to hold outdoor fitness classes. It was **RESOLVED** to grant approval for a trial period June – September. The hire fee was set at £100 per month, with the trial period reduced to £50 per month. Review date: 9 September 2021. Terms of hire: must not use the marked-out football pitch. Fitness classes not to be held at the same time as football training or matches. Encourage DuoFit to leaflet drop to local residents.

110/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECREATION GROUNDS

- (a) A Gate Access, Hollings Lane Playing Field. The Clerk has discussed the issues with the Green Spaces Manager at Rotherham MBC. The gate was installed by Rotherham MBC to address the off-road bikes/quad bikes issues. The gate meets all legislation requirements, of which there are none specific to double pushchairs. Rotherham MBC would not look to replace any gate within the Borough for the purpose of a double pushchair. The Clerk has met with a contractor to discuss gate options and the works involved to amend the footpath layout. **Action:** To present the quotations at the next Parish Council meeting.
- (b) A provisional date was set as Sunday 18 July 2021, to invite the public to a meeting to discuss the forming of an allotment society. The meeting will be advertised once the government have updated the covid lockdown dates (expected to be announce on Monday 14 June 2021).
- (c) Treescape Funding. We have been advised that we do not meet the criteria of free tree planting but would qualify for a matched funding option, buy one, get one free. Rotherham MBC have provided an estimated fee of £264 for the purchase of a tree, planting and maintenance for three years. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would like to proceed with this option, and would look to have 4 trees planted in total (a cost of £528). A detailed survey and tree recommendations to follow.
- (d) Additional Item – Hollings Lane Play Area, May inspection report (received 9 June 2021) identified the swing basket and play house requires repair works. It was **RESOLVED** to instruct Rotherham MBC to carry out the repairs to the rotten boards of the play house (total cost £680 exc vat), and to remove the swing basket and await quotations for a replacement. **Action:** To raise associated costs at the next Ravenfield Youth Charity meeting.

111/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH

- (a) Woodlaithes Balancing Pond has now been dredged. Reports received that birds' nesting/ducklings were disturbed. This was fed back to MP John Healey.
- (b) Boulders situated on Hollings Lane were moved by Cadent when gas works were carried out. Some have not been replaced and left gaps enabling bike access onto the field. It was noted that this was initially reported to Cadent on 23 March 2021, and since escalated. **Action:** Clerk to pursue Cadent.
- (c) Additional Item - Woodlaithes Foot Path. Rotherham MBC propose to formally adopt the newly laid footpath from Woodlaithes village to Ravenfield as a right of way footpath, and to be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of this. No objections were raised. The solar lights will remain the responsibility of Ravenfield Parish Council.
- (d) Additional Item – Wayside Bench, to be placed on Braithwell Road. The Clerk presented associated costs and designs of a bench received from Rotherham MBC, Highways department. **RESOLVED** –to proceed with a concrete base (£375), Black Fusion Seat – memorial plaque 200 x 50mm, to read "In memory of Alan Scholes, Parish Clerk" (£578.38 exc vat). **Action:** Clerk to submit the planning application with the agreed furniture details and process the order. Costs to be coded against Community Infrastructure Levy income.

112/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH HALL

- (a) The Clerk confirmed that the windows and door guarantee amongst all quotations received is the same, 10 year guarantee on the products, 5 year glass and 2 years on working parts. Only DG Doors are able to re-use the existing lock barrel (to save on key cutting costs). The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with placing the order with DG Doors.
- (b) Covid restrictions are due to be lifted on 21 June 2021. Confirmation expected from the government on 14 June 2021. The Council **RESOLVED** to re-open the Hall and all facilities in accordance with government guidance.
- (c) Book Swap Library – **RESOLVED** to open every Monday and Tuesday 2:30pm – 3:30pm (excluding bank holidays) and Sunday 4:00pm – 5:00pm. Volunteer to manage the library and opening of this on Sunday. The Parish Council paid thanks to the volunteer.
The Old People Social Fund confirmed that they would allow public access into the Hall, one Wednesday a month. On further discussion the OPSF agreed to look at amending this offer to every Wednesday and would raise at their next meeting on 7 July 2021.

- (d) Outdoor Space Improvement Ideas. The Clerk presented bench and planter designs and costs, and quotations received for wet pour resurfacing. The Council would like tarmac resurfacing quotes to compare. **Action:** Clerk to obtain quotations and bring back to the next meeting.
- (e) For the purpose of upcoming insurance renewal and asset records, the Clerk recommended that a valuation be carried out of the Parish Hall following the building works. Three quotations were submitted. The Council **RESOLVED** to proceed with Mark Jenkinson quotation of £500. **Action:** Clerk to proceed with the valuation.

113/21 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

- (a) Pension Policy – **Action:** To ask Councillor Rowley read through the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority and NEST schemes, and feedback advice at the next meeting.
- (b) Vacant Parish Councillor Seat. Toni Leach was co-opted as a Parish Councillor.
- (c) Rotherham MBC Joint Working Group Agreement (2nd draft) was noted. No objections or amendments raised.
- (d) Ravenfield Parish Council Publication Scheme was reviewed and adopted.
- (e) The Clerk reported that on research with Parish Clerks, majority of Parish Councils using online banking, bank with Unity (£6 per month fee) or Lloyds TSB (£7 per month fee, plus 85p cheque charge). Currently the Council pay no monthly bank fees with HSBC. **Action:** Clerk to look at online banking options with HSBC and report back findings at the next meeting.

114/21 PLANNING

RB2021/0829 – 13 Longfield Drive. Single Storey front and side rear extension.

The planning application was noted. No objections raised.

115/21 EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Councillor Jay attended the virtual Rotherham MBC, Covid update meeting, 25 May 2021.

Councillor Pearson attended the virtual Ravenfield Community Plan Group meeting. Five items were raised for discussion with the Parish Council:

1. Progress of Jubilee Field
2. Adverts to be placed in the next Parish Council Newsletter
3. Newsletter advert income to be gifted to the Ravenfield Community Plan group
4. Progress of Allotments
5. Newsletter article/advert regarding remembrance poppies and sponsorship/donations.

Action: The items are to be raised as separate agenda items at the next Council meeting.

116/21 YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS

- (a) Rotherham MBC – Parish Appointments to RMBC Local Joint Working Group (JWG). Councillor Jupp nominated. **Action:** Clerk to submit the nomination paper.
- (b) Rotherham MBC – Standards and Ethics Committee, Ballot Paper. Councillor Rowley nominated. **Action:** Clerk to submit the nomination paper.
- (c) Additional Item – Reminder, South Yorkshire Branch Meeting, Askern, Wednesday 23 June 2021.
- (d) Additional Item – YLCA, Committee Training Sessions. Clerk asked if this would be of help in regards setting up of the Allotments. The Council did not feel necessary.

117/21 MINOR ITEMS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- (a) Gate Access – Hollings Lane playing field
- (b) Parish Hall - Outdoor Space
- (c) Jubilee Field – Drainage update
- (d) Allotments, progress
- (e) Parish Council Newsletter
- (f) Adverts for the Parish Council Newsletter, and if to gift generated income of these to the Ravenfield Community Plan Group
- (g) Remembrance Poppies Article for Newsletter

118/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Update on Council's finances. The information was noted and approved.
- (b) Payments to be made were approved.

119/21 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as 8 July 2021 at 6.30pm, to be held in the Parish Hall.

120/21 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.

121/21 DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR WHICH THE PRESS AND PUBLIC HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED.

122/21 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 8:55pm.

Ravenfield Parish Council

Public Participation 10 June 2021

Organisers of the Pop-Up Café's asked if tables and chairs could be used outside. The Parish Council granted permission but asked that the old chairs be taken outdoors rather than the new.

Alan Napper updated the Council and Parishioners with the damaged caused by the off-road and quads bikes throughout Silverwood and Gullingwood woodlands. It was noted that there are a number of hedgehogs killed (run over) by these vehicles. The birds that nest in these areas have not been seen this year.

Public reported that off road bikes are generally seen throughout the day, and quad bikes mostly at night.

A parishioner suggested that if the landowner (Ogden's) won't take responsibility, should the Council look to place boulders in the areas of openings, and approach Ogden's for consent to place on their land. The Parishioner will enquire if able to obtain boulders and donate to the Council, and bring back to the next meeting, if able to help.

The Old People Social Fund will be trialling serving breakfast for their members. Councillor Leach offered to place an advert in the Rotherham Advertiser when dates and times are arranged.

The Council was asked if there are any details of when building works to the new housing development on Moor Lane South are due to commence. Rumoured to begin in March 2022. The Clerk confirmed that we had received no information, but as the works fall under Bramley we may not be notified. **Action:** Clerk to contact Rotherham MBC Planning for further information.