

## RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, 23 February 2022 at 8.00 pm At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, Northants

#### 1 OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Herbert (Chairman), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr E Connor, Cllr J Jones, Cllr D Hayes, Cllr M Worthington Mrs C Holifield (Clerk), District Cllr P Bignell and one member of the public.

#### 1.2 **Apologies:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Matts

#### 1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

None

#### 2 MINUTES

2.1 The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 19 January 2022 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

#### 3 PUBLIC TIME


The Chairman welcomed Alan Worthington of the Playing Field Committee to the meeting. Mr Worthington stated that he did agree with the idea that had been mooted that the Lime Trees should perhaps be pollarded to help with the ongoing maintenance but agreed that it would be an expensive exercise due to the number involved and that agreement from residents would be needed as in the past there had been resistance to this idea. He stated that the work that had recently been carried out by a tree surgeon employed by a resident to one of the trees was excellent.

*Mr Worthington left the meeting at this point.*

#### 4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 **Update on Action being taken in respect of HGV's including refuse lorries travelling through Ravensthorpe/Coton**

As no response had yet been received from Highways, District Cllr Bignell agreed to follow up on the report that had been sent by the Council requesting that weight limits be put on local roads.

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## **5 BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Consideration of purchase of additional dog poo bin/litter bin for the West Haddon Road area**

It was agreed that the Council would like to purchase an additional dog poo bin (in green) for the West Haddon Road area. Clerk to liaise with Highways as to the most suitable location and obtain the necessary licence. To be taken forward to March agenda.

### **5.2 Consideration of an action to be taken in respect of celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

Cllr Hayes stated that meetings had been held and various activities had been planned by Village Groups for the Jubilee weekend culminating in a picnic on Sunday, 5 June in a field provided by Cllr Matts and his wife (emails with further details had been circulated in advance of the meeting). She stated that the idea of purchasing a Jubilee commemoration gift for the children had met with a negative response.

### **5.3 Consideration of NCALC's request to form a Parish Asset Mapping Group and receive a grant of £252.21**

Cllr Marsh stated that he and the Clerk had attended the two training sessions provided by NCALC in respect of this matter. He stated that he did not feel that there was sufficient benefit for the Council to expend the additional time required in the short timescale suggested to carry out the work that would be needed to complete the project. It was resolved not to take part in the project at this time.

### **5.4 Consideration of NCALC's offer of an affordable payroll service for small Councils**


The Clerk has previously circulated the information regarding the service that NCALC were proposing to offer from April 2022. After discussion, it was resolved not to change the current system used for HMRC payroll

### **5.5 Consideration of replacement street light number 27 in Paddock Close at a Cost of £1,177 (exc VAT) and street light number 2 in Bettycroft Close at a cost of £260 (exc VAT)**

After discussion, it was resolved to replace street light number 27 in Paddock Close. The Chairman reported that, since it had been attended to by E-on, street light number 2 in Bettycroft Close was now working so no action to be taken.

### **5.6 Approval of annual donation of £300 to the Buckby Library Hub.**

After discussion and consideration of the report provided by Buckby Hub into the ongoing financial position and activities, it was resolved to donate the annual amount of £300.

  
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**5.7 Consideration of any action to be taken in respect of the maintenance of the Lime Trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders bordering the Playing Field**

After discussion, it was agreed that the matter of the ongoing maintenance of the lime trees would be a subject for inclusion for the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting due to the sensitivity of the matter and the possible cost. As Tree Warden, Cllr Marsh agreed to look into costings and liaise with Mr Venton at WNC before the meeting takes place.

**5.8 Consideration of the Annual Village Litter Pick**

After discussion, it was resolved to hold the Annual Litter Pick on Saturday, 12 March 2022 to meet at Village Hall at 10.00 am. Cllr Marsh to co-ordinate in Ravensthorpe. Cllr Jones to deal with Coton area. Clerk to prepare notice for boards.

**6 PLANNING**

**6.1 Planning Applications**

None

**6.2 Planning Decisions**

None

**7 FINANCE**

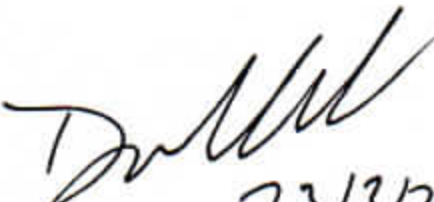
**7.1 Payments**

The following invoices/items were approved by the Council for payment by the method stated:

Payee	Invoice Number	Amount (£) including VAT where applicable	Payment type
Mrs C Holifield – Clerk's February salary	n/a	321.98	Online
Mrs C Holifield – Clerk's Office Expenses	n/a	18.00	Online
E-on – Street Light Maintenance	109719	123.92	Online
SSE Swalec – Street Light Electricity Jan 22)	Various	223.48	Direct Debit
Buckby Library Hub – Annual Donation	n/a	300.00	Online

**7.2 Income Received (to 31 January 2022)**

None

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### 7.3 Balance at Bank

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 January 2022. Balance at bank was £23,739.22 of which £5,275.45 related to the balance of the Easement monies.

### 8 CORRESPONDENCE

- Email from NCALC re affordable payroll service
- Emails from NCALC re Parish Asset Mapping Project

### 9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – Report from Ruth Rolls was read out to Council by Clerk.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Connor presented the annual risk assessment to the Council. It was agreed that she would speak to allotment holders regarding some loose glass and the Clerk would contact the allotment holder who had a very shallow pond in the plot to ask that it be covered at all times. It was agreed that the PCC should be notified about the uneven pathway at the entrance from the Churchyard. It was reported that the badger had possibly left.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Jones asked if the Clerk could contact Highways about cleaning the pavement between Guilsborough and Coton and also do some repairs on Sandy Lane as the road surface was disintegrating. He also reported that the dog poo bin was damaged. Clerk to action.
- 9.4 **Tree Report** – Cllr Marsh stated that there had been no major damage following the recent storms. It was agreed he would talk to the householder about the laurel that was overhanging the pavement on the Teeton Road to ask if it could be cut back as it was causing safety issues for pedestrians.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – See minute 5.5 above.
- 9.6 **Footpath report** – Cllr Hayes stated that she had nothing to report.
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – The Chairman stated that the device was now located on the Teeton Road. It was noted that the highest speeds recorded (in excess of 50mph) were early in the morning.
- 9.8 **Village Hall/Playing Field Liaison** – Cllr Worthington stated that the Village Hall was now operating a normal programme. She stated that the Playing Field committee was still awaiting the outcome of their application for a Community Funding grant to replace the goalposts. It was also planning a beer festival to be held on 16 July 2022.

### ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON: Wednesday, 23 March 2022 at 8.00 pm

- Queen's Jubilee celebrations
- Finance Checks
- Provision of litter or dog poo bin in West Haddon Road/top of High Street
- Annual payments re cleaning of bus shelter/gardening the bank on Village Green
- Consideration of changing meeting start time from May 2022 to 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm



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