

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, 19 February 2025 at 7.30 pm At Ravensthorpe Village Hall, High Street, Ravensthorpe, NN6 8EH

1 OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 **Present:** Cllr D Hayes (Chair), Cllr R Marsh, Cllr J Matts, Cllr M Worthington, Cllr E Connors, Cllr M Bushell, Cllr T Hogben, Cllr J Jones, Mrs C Holifield (Clerk) and Unitary Cllr P Bignell

1.2 **Apologies:**

None

1.3 **Declarations of Interest**

None

2 MINUTES

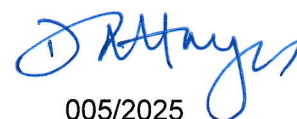
2.1 The Minutes of the Parish Council ordinary meeting held on 15 January 2025 were approved by the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes accordingly.

3 PUBLIC TIME

Unitary Cllr Bignell stated that following the rejection by Milton Keynes and Luton to include Northamptonshire into a new Mayoral district as part of the devolution process, the idea had gone back to the drawing board as the area would not be large enough. The draft budget would be going to Council shortly for approval and since the Unitary Councils came into being 5 years ago there had been a saving of £115 million. Sandy Lane in Harlestone was due to fully re-open in May 2025. He also reported that the Waste Recycling centres in Northamptonshire would be opening 7 days per week 10.00 am to 4.00 pm with effect from April.

4 MATTERS ARISING

None



005/2025

5. BUSINESS

5.1 Update on obtaining quotations for 'No Parking' signs

The Chair had previously circulated some examples of No Parking on Pavement signs which were available online. After discussion it was agreed that further research on cost and locations for the signs would be looked at and matter brought back to the March meeting.

5.2 Update following meeting with Angela Tarry of Anglian Water

The Chair stated that she, Cllr Bushell and Unitary Cllr Bignell had met with Angela Tarry at the reservoir to discuss concerns over various issues. Ms Tarry stated that Anglian Water were intending to cease with the trout fishing at the reservoir and concentrate only on carp fishing. There were plans to restrict entry to the picnic carpark to fisherman paying to fish for carp at the reservoir with a new coded gate access. Members of the public who wished to walk around the reservoir could park in the pay and display fisherman's carpark off the Teeton Road. It was also suggested that entrance to walkers may be restricted to those who purchased an annual permit which would include the cost of car parking (scheme already in action at Hollowell and Pitsford). Ms Tarry agreed that the graffiti on the pumping station and the hole in the hedge on the Causeway would be dealt with. She also stated that the cutting of hedgerow etc would now be undertaken in house so it was hoped that there would be improvements. A further update would be given to the Council in March/April.

5.3 To adopt the new Financial Regulations

It was unanimously resolved to adopt the new Financial Regulations, a copy of which had been circulated to Councillors by the Clerk prior to the meeting.

5.4 Process for submitting nominations for Parish Councillors in respect of the forthcoming May elections.

The Clerk had recently attended the NCALC training session regarding the forthcoming elections and had circulated details of the requirements to Councillors who wished to stand prior to the meeting. All information regarding the elections would be available on the NCALC website. The Clerk issued the required electoral numbers to Councillors.

5.5 Arrangements for Annual Village Event to take place on 5 April 2025

It was resolved that the format of the Village Event would be the same as last year with various village organisations being given the opportunity to provide a short report and to display details of their activities in the Village Hall with refreshments being provided by the Parish Council. Clerk stated that the hall had been booked from 10.00 to Noon.



006/2025

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.

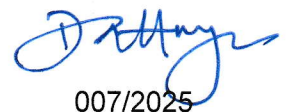
Payee	Invoice number	Amount (£) includes VAT where applicable	Payment type
Clerk's Salary – February 2025	n/a	456.57	Online
Clerk's Office Expenses – February 2025	n/a	35.40	Online
Microsoft 365 subscription – reimburse Clerk	n/a	79.99*	Online
Dodo Computing – setting up new laptop	1272	120.00	Online
Ravensthorpe Village Hall – Room hire (Jan to June 2025)	0207	155.25	Online
NCALC – Training course fee	4182	25.20*	Online
NCALC – Training course fee	4275	25.20*	Online
HMRC – PAYE (Nov to Jan)	n/a	366.60	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Jan 25)	02336132	19.73*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Jan 25)	02336134	177.24*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Jan 25)	02336131	8.64*	Direct Debit
YU Energy – Street Light Electricity (Jan 25)	02336133	9.94*	Direct Debit

7.2 **Income Received to 31 January 2025**

None

7.3 **Balance at Bank**

The Chairman signed the bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 January 2025. Balance at bank was £18,369.48 of which £2,803.37 related to the balance of the Easement funds.



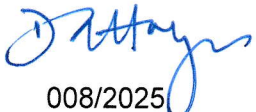
007/2025

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- NCALC Update – January/February edition (circulated to Councillors)

9 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 **Crabtree Pocket Park** – Various emails had been received regarding volunteer work parties to carry out tasks. Chair stated that a parishioner had suggested having a finger post by the gate of the Pocket Park. Clerk to liaise with Ruth Rolls. The Clerk stated that she had been informed that one of the entrance gate posts was rotten and needed replacement. Cllr Matts suggested contacting Simon Barnett to get a quote.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – Cllr Hogben stated that all was in order. Clerk stated that she had sent out the annual rent letters and to date one allotment was becoming vacant so she would be contacting the next person on the waiting list.
- 9.3 **Highways** – Cllr Matts stated he had nothing new to report. It was resolved that the **Annual Village Litter pick** would take place on Saturday 29 March 2025. Volunteers to meet Cllr Marsh at the Village Hall at 10.00 am.
- 9.4 **Trees** – Cllr Marsh stated he had some concerns about the ash dieback affecting trees on the West Haddon Road. Cllr Matts stated that the PCC were getting Maurice Fitch to inspect the trees in the Churchyard.
- 9.5 **Street Lights** – The Clerk stated she had received no new reports of faulty lights
- 9.6 **Footpaths** – Cllr Bushell stated that she had nothing to report
- 9.7 **Speed Awareness Device** – Cllr Marsh stated that he had downloaded some data from the new static device on the East Haddon Road. The data indicated that 15% of vehicles were travelling in excess of 34mph. Vehicle numbers had increased from 650 per day to 1000 per day since data was last taken at this site.
- 9.8 **Village Hall Liaison** – Cllr Worthington reported that the AGM had been held recently with the Chair of the Parish Council attending. A list of events coming up in the Hall is advertised on the noticeboard. The Committee would like more parishioners to become involved.
Playing Field Liaison – Cllr Worthington stated that a new defibrillator was being installed on the outside of the pavilion funding for which came from a grant and some the Playing Field funds. It was reported that Alan Worthington had retired from the Committee after serving for 28 years.
- 9.9 **Police Liaison Representative** – Cllr Bushell reported that there had been an increase in rogue traders carrying out calls in the area. The Police Beat bus would be calling again – dates yet to be given. Need to check with Chair of Village Hall regarding the Police attending at a coffee morning to give advice on phone and internet scams. Chair to chase.



008/2025

**ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA TO BE HELD ON
Wednesday, 19 March 2025 at 7.30 pm**

- Update on No parking signs
- Update on Annual Village Event
- Update of Annual Village Litter pick
- Internal Finance Checks

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm


009/2025