

RAVENSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING Held on Wednesday 17th February 2010

- 1. OPENING PROCEDURES:**
 - 1.1 PRESENT:** B Ball, P Foss, S Holt (Chairman), J Jones, J Matts, S Pasley-Tyler, R Spring, M Worthington and 5 members of the public
 - 1.2 APOLOGIES:** J Humphrey
 - 1.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
 - Personal** - None
 - Personal and Prejudicial** - none

- 2.1 THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on Wednesday 20th January 2010 were agreed and signed as correct by the chairman.
- 2.2 THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on Wednesday 3rd February 2010 were agreed and signed as correct by the chairman.

- 3. MATTERS ARISING**
 - 3.1 Parish Grass Mowing 2009** – the clerk advised that there had been an error with the payment and she would claim the difference of £13.84 next year.

- 4. PUBLIC TIME** – The inclusion of farmland adjacent to the village in West Northants Joint Planning Unit’s recently—published Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment was raised. The chairman said that the inclusion of this land in the village as a potential site was an error. Whilst it should not have been included in the plan, he had been advised by the JPU that it could not be removed until the consultation period for technical evidence had finished in February. The chairman’s understanding of the current position regarding major development is that towns are prioritised over rural areas. Ravensthorpe itself remains a “restricted infill” village.

- 5. BUSINESS**
 - 5.1 Adoption of Emergency Plan** – the final draft was put to the council. It was agreed that this should be reviewed annually and was duly adopted. Due to the content (personal contact numbers) copies would only be held by those on the Parish Council’s Emergency Plan Committee.
 - 5.2 Street Lighting** – J Matts provided maps with the lights in the village marked, and advised councillors that he had checked the lighting and recommended 7 lights which could be removed, three of these being concrete posts. He then explained more fully the reasons.

He asked that councillors check these out so that it could be discussed further at the next meeting. He stressed that this was as much a ‘green issue’ as a cost saving scheme. S Holt advised that he had at last received a breakdown of the costs for unmetered electricity; if ten lamps were to be removed there would be an annual saving of approximately £350 to the village plus any maintenance costs. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting and to draw up a proposal to put to the village at the APM. The chairman thanked J Matts for the work he had done.
 - 5.3 Village Litter Pick** – date - this was set for Saturday 27th March at 10.30am and is to be advertised in the next village newsletter. J Matts offered to dispose of the rubbish.
 - 5.4 Parking on Teeton Road** – a councillor had received a complaint about the parking of vehicles on the pavement; this is becoming a safety problem as it is forcing pedestrians into the road. An ambulance had difficulties parking too. After discussion it was agreed that B Ball should speak to the Community Safety Sergeant.
 - 5.5 NCALC** – Update Jan/Feb – to circulate

- 5.6 **NALC** – New Standing Orders – the council has had notification that there are to be some key changes including changes to public participation. It was agreed that the clerk and chairman look at this. The new standing orders should be ratified at the AGM.
- 5.7 **Dog Bins** – the clerk advised that she had searched for companies to empty further dog bins. Only one came forward. They quoted £408 to supply, install, to empty and clean on a weekly basis at £408 per annum. To supply two bins would cost £750 per year. She had been advised that DDC may have money in April to provide a service to empty further bins. R Spring said that he felt strongly about this and that DDC should empty bins – it is illegal for dog waste to be put in litter bins as is being done at the moment. After further discussion it was agreed to ask our District Councillor, Ian Pasley-Tyler to look into the matter on the councils' behalf.

6. **PLANNING** – there were no planning matters

7. **FINANCE**

7.1 **It was agreed to pay the following ACCOUNTS**

Ravensthorpe Village Hall	Rent for meetings	90.00
e.on	Street Lighting Elec Bill	443.07
TOTAL		533.07

7.2 **Received** - none

7.3 **BALANCES AT BANK** **£3460.00**

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 **NALC** – Incorporation of the Association & Notice of Special General Meeting - noted
- 8.2 **NSPCC** – Campaign to raise awareness of the NSPCC Helpline – place on notice board
- 8.3 **Alzheimer's Society** – Befriending Scheme – placed on notice board

9. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS**

- 9.1 **Pocket Park** – R Spring advised that the gate was getting worse. One of the bench seat fixings is loose. – J Matts said that he would look at this before the spring.
- 9.2 **Allotments** – in good order
- 9.3 **Highways**- B Ball advised that the **speed watch boards** will be put up at the end of March. There is an activator sign in the village at the moment. **Speedwatch** will take place for 6 weeks from 27th June – 8th August. She stressed that more volunteers were needed. '**Parish Enforcement Gangs**' – B Ball advised that these are available to villages to carry out small jobs. She will prepare a list of jobs, such as cleaning of signs and white lines and asked that councillors advised her by Monday of any work that could be added to the list.

10. **LEAFLETS and CORRESPONDENCE** - to be circulated

A message from Tim Boswell
 East Midlands Fire and Rescue Control Centre
 DDC Musical Extravaganza
 Wd21 Community Panel Meeting Minutes

11. **Items for next month's Agenda**

Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.58pm