

RAVENSTONE WITH SNIBSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30TH MARCH 2017

Present: Councillors; Paul Tubb, Sheila Lunn, Val Pulford, David Welch and George Norley.
Cllr Terri Eynon and 9 members of the public

In attendance: Helen Chadwick, Clerk

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30 PM.

411/2017 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Cllr Pendery, Cllr Plant and PC Mark Arjoo

412/2017 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- Cllr Lunn declared an interest in item 415/2017 a. as she was in receipt of payment for expenses.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS – 10 minutes

- Following the police report a member of the public asked how it compared to previous months and whether any feedback was given to the police. *The Chair commented there was an increase in the number of reports made and as a parish council do ask about trends in the area and what is being done about it. The Chair also reminded members of the public that PC Mark Arjoo is available in between meetings so if anyone has any concerns he can be contacted.*
- Cllr Eynon asked what the parish council felt about the use of 106 monies for the proposed traffic calming on Coalville Lane and whether they felt it would be a good use of money or whether they would support her plan of putting it on hold and waiting to see if the situation resolves itself. Councillors confirmed that they agreed that they hoped the situation would resolve itself but that traffic calming will remain an option in the future.
- Cllr Eynon commented on the emissions from the lagoons and confirmed that this is the responsibility of Leicestershire County Council and that has been in contact with them following numerous complaints. *The Chair confirmed that the company in question have done a lot to rectify the smell and it is believed that the third and final phase of the work will be carried out in August.*
- A member of the public asked what is being done about the problems linked to the lagoons, in particular, the speed and number of vehicles using Church Lane. *The Chair reported that the parish council are fully aware of the number of vehicles and have submitted several complaints regarding the speed and volume of traffic on Church Lane to various parties and will continue to do so.*

- A member of the public asked about the availability of the allotments in the village. *The clerk confirmed that we had initially been told that the allotments would be available at the end of April, however, there has been a delay. The clerk reminded members of the public that if anyone is interested in an allotment to contact her so that they can be added to the waiting list.*
- A member of the public asked whether section 106 monies will be available following the approval of 19 houses off Ibstock Road. *The Chair reported that if permission is granted then the parish council will enter discussions with the developer.*
- A member of the public asked about the website and when it was going to be available. *The clerk reported that there have been delays with the website and it is hoped that it will be available by the end of April or by the May meeting at the latest. In the meantime any one that requires information the parish council can contact the clerk and that we do have a monthly circulation list for the agenda/minutes of meetings and that these are also put on the various noticeboards in the village.*

413/2017 – To receive County, District and Police reports

- The clerk circulated a copy of the District Councillor report prior to the meeting.
- In the absence of PC Mark Arjoo the Chair presented his report at the meeting.

414/2017 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 16th February 2017

The clerk circulated a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting and councillors agreed that they were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Resolved: The minutes were signed by PT as Chair.

415/2017 – Financial matters

a. Resolution to approve payments for March 2017 listed below:

The clerk presented the payments listed below for authorisation.

BACS TO:	AMOUNT:
Joanne Lee, play inspector salary	£124.80
Mandy Bradshaw, premises officer salary	£203.20
Helen Chadwick, clerks salary	£622.00
HMRC, PAYE	£375.08
C J Springthorpe, planting	£106.20
St Michael & All Angel's Church, floodlighting electricity	£240.00
REG, annual donation	£500.00
ADT, annual servicing	£339.55
SDI Garden Services, mowing	£458.00
Sheila Lunn, barrier key expenses	£10.50
TOTAL	£2,979.33

DIRECT DEBITS TO:	AMOUNT:
EON	£144.00
Severn Trent Water	£5.13
North West Leicestershire	£12.00
TOTAL	£161.13
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£3,140.46

Resolved: All payments were approved and signed by councillors.

b. Resolution to approve national wage rates for employees

The clerk reported that from the 1st April 2017 the new national minimum wage rate will be £7.50 and in accordance with Government legislation any one over the age of 25 should receive this increase. The clerk confirmed that the parish council has two members of staff who fall into this category and the annual increase will be £124.68 and £61.92, the increases have been included in the 2017/2018 budget.

Resolution: Cllr Tubb proposed the increase and this was seconded by Cllr Lunn. The clerk will write the members of staff and amend their direct debit.

c. Resolution to approve national salary award for clerk

The clerk reported that from the 1st April 2017 the new national salary award for clerks has increased and this will result in an annual increase of £74.64 to the clerks salary if accepted. The increases has been included in the 2017/2018 budget.

Resolution: Cllr Pulford proposed the increase and this was seconded by Cllr Lunn. The clerk will write the member of staff and amend their direct debit.

d. Update on bank mandate

The clerk reported that Cllr Geoff Plant was required to sign the Santander bank mandate before it the accounts details could be updated. As Cllr Plant was absent from the meeting it was agreed that the mandate form would be posted to him for him to sign prior to the next meeting.

e. Resolution to appoint internal auditor for 2016/2017

The clerk reminded councillors that the year end accounts for 2016/2017 will need to be audited before being submitted to Grant Thornton in June and requested permission to use an LRALC recognised internal auditor to carry this process out.

Resolved: That Cllr Pulford proposed that the clerk should be given permission to appoint an internal auditor in order to meet the June deadline and this was seconded by Cllr Lunn.

f. Recreation Ground Management Committee

The clerk reported that at the May meeting councillors would need to agree the membership for the working party and to arrange a meeting so that decisions can be made on the remit of the group, how often they will meet and the process for dealing with work.

g. NWLDC litter bin charge increase for 2017/2018

The clerk reported that she had received confirmation from NWLDC that the annual cost of servicing the parish council litter bins will increase from £2.70 to £2.75 per empty with effect from the 1st April 2017 and this equates to a 1.9% increase and is due primarily to

increases in salary costs arising from additional pension and superannuation liabilities. NWLDC have reported that there are other increased costs arising from vehicle purchasing costs, vehicle parts, tax, etc. They have been able to absorb most of the costs either by improving efficiencies or making other savings and therefore have been able to keep increases to a minimum.

416/2017 – Parish maintenance

a. Update on pavilion external light

The clerk is waiting to arrange a site visit with the contractor to finalise the additional worked required.

b. Playground reports and RoSPA inspection

The clerk reported that the playground reports had been received and that there were no urgent actions required. The annual RoSPA inspection will take place during May and a copy of the report will be circulated to councillors.

c. To discuss hedge cutting and agree actions

It was reported that there are various overhanging branches throughout the village as well as on some of the public footpaths. It was agreed that the clerk would review contracts to ascertain who has responsibility for which areas and to contact the appropriate provider to ensure that any works are carried out to make the areas safe.

d. To discuss mole hills and agree action

Cllr Lunn reported that there have been several complaints the mole hills that have appeared on the recreation ground, the Green and Leascroft. Councillors agreed that the clerk should source three quotes and submit them at the next meeting so that any works required could be agreed.

e. To discuss dog fouling and agree actions

Cllr Lunn reported that are ongoing complaints about the amount of dog fouling in the village and commented that she has been approached about involving in the school in some form of competition to help reduce the dog fouling. The clerk reported that she had also received a request for additional dog waste bins in the village. Councillors discussed this and agreed that additional litters bins may be a better option based on cost.

Resolution: Councillors agreed for Cllr Lunn to liaise with the school about the idea of a completion and that a survey should be carried of all the bins in the village so that we can see where the gaps are and look at purchasing additional bins.

417/2017 – To discuss outcomes from meeting with football club

The clerk reported that councillors had met with the football club to discuss their future plans as a club and ongoing maintenance at the recreation ground. The football club have raised concerns about the condition of the pitch and will look at the cost of levelling it out of season. Dog fouling remains an issue on the ground and the parish council will look at additional signage to reinforce the dog control orders. The football club have requested that a defibrillator is purchased for the recreation ground and the parish council agreed to investigate costs of funding sources. The football club reported that the dug outs are in need of repair and it was pointed out that under the terms of the licence these are the responsibility of the football

club. As previously discussed the parish council have given permission for 3 additional floodlights to be install at the recreation ground and will look at purchasing additional litter bins.

418/2017 – To discuss planning applications and prepare any response

Councillors reviewed and commented on the following planning applications:

- a. 13/00780/OUTM – erection of 50 dwellings, access roads, landscaping, open space, play space, allotments, woodland planting and suitable drainage (including pond) on land at Heather Lane, Ravenstone – *Councillors reviewed the updated planning application and agreed that the comments that were submitted at the time of the original planning application remained as well as additional comments from members of the public about the provision of additional services, an extension to the school to accommodate additional families, highways concerns and amended street sign with three storey town houses being built at the entrance to the site.*

419/2017 – To discuss agenda items for the next meeting

- Recreation Ground Management committee
- Annual meetings
- Planning
- Parish maintenance
- Finance
- External WC
- Speed watch
- Litter bins
- Allotments

420/2017 – Date of next meeting

The clerk confirmed that the date of the next meeting is Thursday 27th April 2017 and papers will be circulated prior to the meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:35 PM

AGREED AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING	
NAME:	
SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	