

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

RAVENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th APRIL 2022

Present

Cllr A Ayres (Chair)
Cllr B Hird
Cllr C Robinson

7 Members of the Parish

Cllr Ayres welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. To receive and note apologies for absence

Councillor Kilvington was unable to attend.

2. To receive 'Declarations of Interest' in items on the agenda

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th January 2022 were approved.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Open Forum

Dog fouling remains a problem and while notices in The Flyer and displayed around the village may help, residents need to encourage dog owners to be responsible for their pets.

Some repair of the lower track is soon to take place. However, the problems associated with the lower track remain unresolved - speeding, its use as a short cut and vehicles travelling on the grass resulting in the widening of the track. A suggestion has been made that a barrier i.e. a single leaf metal gate should be installed across the track on the corner by the Village Hall. Generally, the gate would not be locked. The intention would be to make the track inconvenient to those who use it as a short cut and so cause such traffic to keep to the main road. In addition, it may be necessary to consider installing knee rails at intervals along the track to deal with the damage to The Green.

It was noted that there are no school signs on the main road through the village or on the lower track.

6. Finance & Payments

Interest received since last meeting £4.93. Payments made for 2021 season Grass Cutting £1301.40(previous year £1270.80) to NYCC and for Insurance £593.85(previous year £567.21). The end of year balance £8885.77 in credit.

7. Planning Applications & Updates

Several planning applications await approval.

The latest published by Richmondshire Planning is for a 4-bedroom dwelling to be built at the back of the garden of The Forge, 11 Ravensworth. This will add more traffic to the hazardous Forge Farm bend.

Contact has been made with the architect involved in dealing with the application to convert the redundant chapel on the Green into a one-bedroom dwelling and he has agreed to liaise closely with the PC after permission is granted and before any work begins.

The possibility of plans being submitted by Stainton Quarry Limited to re-open Gayles Quarry was brought to the meeting's attention. In particular, the route proposed for the lorries involved – a maximum of 5 trips per day to and from the quarry – which would be through Ravensworth. The proposal, if successful, would create more pressure for a 20-mph limit through the village.

Ravensworth Nurseries successful application for a site for holiday lodges & caravans is subject to numerous development requirements including the following off-site mitigation measures –

The provision of an appropriately dimensioned footway to link the site with Mill Close in the centre of the village. The design and construction details of this footway will need to be agreed with the Planning Authority in consultation with the Highway Authority and **local Parish Council prior to any work commencing on site.**

A programme for the delivery of the footway must be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to construction works commencing on site and the works must be completed in accordance with the approved details and programme.

There is continued concern about the entry/exit to the new Forge Farm development.

8. Reports on Village Green & Hall

Matters related to The Green and the track had been covered in the Open Forum.

Having previously agreed to construct a small charity constitution for the village hall, it has become necessary due to the income exceeding £5,000 pa to move to the next level i.e. 'an unincorporated charity' which is suitable for charities that do not own the building or employ staff and do not have an annual income in excess of £250,000. Residents of Ravensworth are invited to become members of the charity. The closing date for application is 31 May 2022. After this date, the constitution can be formalised ready for approval by the Charity Commission.

Cllr Robinson reviewed the accounts which showed that the financial position of the Village Hall remained healthy with all running costs covered and completed works disbursed.

9. Any other Business

There will be a Picnic on The Green from 2pm on Saturday 4 June with music provided by Barnard Castle Brass band so that villagers can celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr Robinson suggested that the PC should draft a welcoming letter for new residents which should contain information about the village and encourage them to join the e-mail list.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 7pm.

The Meeting Closed at 20.29.