

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12th June 2014 in Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre at 7.30pm

Present Cllr Ernest Leach (chairman) Cllrs Helen Shields, James Richardson, Paul Capstick, Hilary Law and Alex Watts-Tobin
Clerk, Chris Elphick
County Councillor Libby Bateman
District Councillor Ian Torkington
Six members of the public

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Alison Morris

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8th May 2014 had been circulated and were signed by the chairman as a correct record.

Proposed Tree Planting by Natural England

Notification had been received from Natural England of a proposed scheme to plant indigenous trees and shrubs at various locations on Ravenstonedale Common in order to create habitat for wildlife including Black Grouse, Red Grouse and Red Squirrels.

Natural England (NE) had met with the commoners and the initial proposals were unacceptable to the majority. Mr Barry Williams, speaking on behalf of the Commoners, gave a comprehensive outline of the positive and negative effects on the environment and on the farmers. There would be substantial financial considerations and some would be affected more than others.

Revised plans are being drawn by NE to better accommodate the requirements of the Commoners.

Ravenstonedale High Chapel Community & Heritage Centre has been booked by Natural England for a public display and consultation session on Friday 11th July 2014 from 3.00pm to 7.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Fell End Broadband

Libby Bateman reported that phase 1 of the fibre-optic installation is complete and tested. The first property at Lytheside is due to be connected on or before the 20th June 2014. Others will be able to join the scheme shortly thereafter.

Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre

A meeting of the Management Committee had been held on 10th June 2014.

Regular activities of the parish council, history group, sewing circle continue on a regular basis. The Lune Spring Players used the hall for rehearsals over several weeks. Monthly history talks resume in September.

A boon day was arranged for Tuesday June 24th at 10.00am. Volunteers invited. Application has been made for a grant to fund the creation of an emergency exit from the main hall. Listed Building Consent will also be required from Eden District Council. This application has been made with the help of Garsdale Design Ltd.

Planning Applications

No. 14/0090 Proposed display of 2 no. hoarding signs
Type Advertisement Consent
Location Kings Head Hotel, Garshill, Ravenstonedale
Applicant Mr C Metcalfe-Gibson
Parish Council No objections **REFUSED**

Councillors expressed surprise at this decision, which had been made on the grounds of “non-proliferation”. It was noted that the main rival business in the village already has several signs in the same vicinity. There appeared to be a lack of consistency in this decision.

No. 14/0406 Extension to existing porch
Type Full Application
Location The Grange, Ravenstonedale
Applicant Mr & Mrs R Todd
Parish Council No objections

No. 14/0475 Change of use from agricultural land to domestic land erection of a garage with workshop above.
Type Full Application
Location Brunt Hill, Ravenstonedale
Applicant Mr & Mrs A Miller
Parish Council No objections

Finance

Clerk reported that the accounts for 2013-2014 with internal auditor Letter of thanks had been received from Marion Law for the donation made by the parish council to N-o-L Hall funds

Accounts Paid prior to meeting

C J Elphick (Eurooffice – printer ink)	£	88.64
TS Trenching (balance)	£	11,676.00
BT Phone 23000	£	64.80

Accounts for Payment

C J Elphick (Month 3)	£	480.00
e-on (electricity)	£	76.56 (Estimated a/c)
Keith Pratt (Roof repairs)	£	130.62
C J Elphick (Admin. Expenses to 30/06/14)	£	238.15

Footway Lighting – Ravenstonedale Parish

Notification had been received from EDC that the re-assessment of footway lighting had been agreed at a meeting on 20th February 2014. The proposals for Ravenstonedale and Newbiggin-on-Lune have not yet been notified to the parish council. The Clerk will make contact with the newly appointed Project Officer to arrange a site meeting and agree the proposals. Alex Watts-Tobin and District Councillor to be invited to the meeting.

Public Participation

Libby Bateman reported that proposed cuts to the local bus services had not yet been resolved.

There will be a debriefing meeting for the Appleby Fair arrangements at Appleby Town Hall on Monday 21st July.

It was reported that Ravenstonedale School had its pupil numbers depleted to such an extent that closure was likely to be imminent.

Ernest Leach reminded that the Ravenstonedale Educational Foundation should include two parish council appointees. Hilary Law and James Richardson volunteered their services. If agreed, this could be confirmed at the July PC meeting.

It was noted that, in the event of the school ceasing to use the Millennium Field, there would need to be reconsideration of the grass cutting arrangements, currently paid or by the school. This to be discussed with the Millennium Field Committee.

Publications & Correspondence Received

CALC Circular – June 2014

Kirkby Stephen Newsletter May 2014

Date of next meeting Thursday 10th July 2014

Signed _____ Chairman Date 10th July 2014