

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2016

in Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre at 7.30pm

Present - Councillor Ernest Leach (Chairman) Cllrs. Helen Shields, Paul Capstick
Hilary Law, Richard Hunter and James Richardson.
County Councillor, Libby Bateman
Clerk, Chris Elphick
Three members of the public.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Alison Morriss

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda. Cllr Capstick noted that he lived adjacent to the Gracette Moor site but it was ruled that adverse interest did not apply since the item was to receive a report of actions taken.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 13th October 2016 had been circulated and were signed by the chairman as a correct record.

Gracete Moor, Newbiggin-on-Lune

Complaints had been received from neighbours regarding, possibly illegal, "private parties" having taken place at Gracete Moor, CA17 4ND over the past two years. The more recent occasions, including the "Summer Solstice" which featured excessively loud music, 24 hours a day for five days. The event had been advertised on social media and was reportedly attended by 200 people. Further events were planned. Having received evidence of the advertising for the events, the Clerk reported the matter to Eden District Council Environment Department for appropriate action.

Prior to the parish council meeting the Clerk had received a written apology for the disturbances from the owner of Gracete Moor, Mr Austin Thistlethwaite plus an assurance that no similar events would take place "in the foreseeable future".

Councillors approved the actions taken. The matter remains with Eden District Council as it appears there have been breaches of the Licensing Act 2003. The Act covers the noise, public nuisance, health and safety and the prevention of crime and disorder etc.

Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre

Upper Room Refurbishment

Clerk reported that the new sliding glass partition had been installed and the re-cladding of the walls with reeded MDF board is well in hand. Cllr Shields, with assistance from Ann & Bill Wappett had decorated the new panelling and removed surplus items to the EDC refuse disposal site. Electrical installation of new sockets and emergency lighting was in hand.

New flooring, hot water cylinder and kitchen units are the next items.

Play Areas

The annual, independent inspection reports had been carried out. No major problems were recorded at the Newbiggin-on-Lune or Scandal Beck sites.

Great North Air Ambulance

A request for funding had been received from the Great North Air Ambulance Service. The Council supports this invaluable service on an annual basis. It was noted that a donation of £200.00 had been made in January 2016.

The request to be taken forward to the next meeting in January 2017.

Planning

No new applications or decisions had been received since last meeting.

At the October meeting of the council it had been suggested that it would be better for clarity if planning applications could be displayed at meetings on a screen for all to see. Clerk to investigate.

Coincidentally, it was reported within days, that Eden District Council had set up a fund for the purpose of equipping smaller councils with projectors for this purpose. The fund to be administered by CALC. On enquiry, there is a question as to whether Ravenstonedale will qualify for this grant, as planning in the parish is now administered by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. To be continued.

Finance

Sums Received

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| HMRC (VAT reclaim) | £ 494.94 |
|--------------------|----------|

Accounts paid prior to meeting

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| MDG Retail (replacement Hall Clock) | £ 66.95 |
| Play Inspection Company | £ 150.00 |
| Printerinks | £ 51.23 |

Accounts for Payment

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Steve Hopps (C&HC Outside painting) | £ 824.15 |
| C J Elphick (Month 8) | £ 586.40 |
| HMRC (Month 8) | £ 28.00 |
| C J Elphick (expenses to 10/11/16) | £ 171.00 |

The foregoing accounts were approved for payment.

Correspondence & Publications received

CALC Circular, November 2016 (Circulated)
Council Matters (Insurance)
Clerks & Councils Direct
KS "Good Neighbours" leaflets

Public Participation

Two members of the public who had an interest in the Gracete Moor problems expressed satisfaction at the Parish Council's handling of the matter.

Cllr Richardson queried why no payment had been made to Newbiggin-on-Lune Public Hall despite provision having been made during the preparation of the current year's budget.

The Clerk/RFO responded that it is a requirement that any grant made to outside bodies must, in accordance with Financial Regulations, be for a specific purpose. Application, accompanied by a copy of the applicant's latest accounts and specifying the purpose had not been received.

Improved Broadband Speeds. Notification was received that a new Superfast Broadband Cabinet had been activated at Coldbeck. This will give improved performance in a radius of approximately two kilometres, which includes the villages of Ravenstonedale and Newbiggin-on-Lune.

A letter was received from Carl Lis, Chairman of YDNPA, explaining the operation of the Northern and Southern National Park "Parish Forums". Meetings are held twice annually for each area, at Hawes or Bainbridge or Grassington and Settle area respectively.

Alternative suggestions were presented for the newly annexed Western Parishes for the future:

Join with the existing North or South meetings or

Create a separate round of meetings based on Sedbergh and Orton.

Having consulted a map of the relevant areas within the park, Councillors present opted unanimously for the latter option. Clerk to advise YDNPA accordingly.

There was discussion regarding the desirability and practicality of installing a Defibrillator in the village or nearby. The existing facility is located within the Black Swan and therefore only available during opening hours. Further enquiries to be made regarding suitable locations.

Date of next meeting Thursday 12th January 2017

Signed

Chairman

Date 12th January 2017