

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2017 in Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre at 7.30pm

Present Cllr. Ernest Leach (Chairman) Cllrs. Helen Shields and Hilary Law
County Councillor, the Revd. Phil Dew
Clerk. Chris Elphick

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. James Richardson, Paul Capstick and District Councillor Angela Meadowcroft

Declarations of Interest

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

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8th June 2017 had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Summer Solstice event at Larks Meadow Farm (formerly Gracete Moor)

A number of complaints from neighbours had been received by the parish council following an unlicensed event at this location in June 2016,. These had been passed on to the relevant authorities.

For the event in June 2017 a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) had been obtained from the licensing authority and its terms and conditions were complied with. Neighbours, the Licensing Authority and Police were all satisfied with the conduct and no nuisance was perceived.

Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre

The Management Committee held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 27th June 2017.

The Chairman reported a successful and productive year which is reflected in the balance sheet.

Substantial grant funding had been received from the Yorkshire Dales National Park's Sustainable Development Fund towards the cost of renovating and upgrading the Upper Meeting Room.

Regular users of the hall and meeting rooms include the Parish Council, History Group, Sewing & Craft Group, Lune Spring Players, Howgill Harriers, Pilates Classes, YDNPA, FLD, Exhibitions, Childrens' Parties, etc. It is becoming a popular local community venue.

With the increased use it has become necessary to employ a site manager/ caretaker to ensure that the premises are kept in good condition for the users.

This post has been filled by Ann Wappett who has made a significant difference to general cleanliness of building

There have been enquiries about booking the hall for other groups but these are limited due to the lack of toilet facilities. Such enquiries have been referred to Newbiggin-on-Lune Public Hall.

There now needs to be a concerted effort to secure funding for the extension, to include toilets and disability access to upstairs.

The Treasurer presented a financial statement for the year to 31st March 2017 which

showed a substantial increase in turnover resulting in an increased year-end balance at £4,837.

Proposals are in hand for improvements to the main hall lighting & audio absorption.

Highways

A local resident had tripped and been injured due to a recessed drain cover by the post box in Ravenstonedale. This information had been passed to the area highways engineer and the item was promptly attended to.

Planning

Application No. **E/12/16** Barn conversion at Brownber Farm had been withdrawn.

Application No. **E/12/14/LB** Listed Building Consent to re-roof both elevations, rebuild chimney and replace 9 No. windows with individual double glazed unit panes.

Location Town Head Cottage, Ravenstonedale

Parish Council No objections or comment.

Application No. **E/12/20** Full planning permission for change of use of agricultural land and operational development for erection of a residential garage and workshop.

Location The Wath, Wath Lane, Newbiggin-on-Lune.

Parish Council No objections or comment

Finance

It was reported that the accounts for 2016-2017 had been sent to the external auditor. Thanks were expressed to Michael Metcalfe-Gibson for his internal audit work.

A letter of thanks had been received for the council's donation towards provision of an additional classroom at Kirkby Stephen Primary School.

Accounts Paid prior to meeting

E-on electricity	£ 84.84
Avern Cleaning Services (Henry)	£106.98
Keys	£ 9.85

Accounts for Payment

C J Elphick (salary Month 4)	
Clerk's admin expenses	£234.08
Malcolm Sedgwick (Upper Room completion)	£570.64

Public Participation

County Councillor the Revd. Phil Dew raised some pertinent questions regarding parish council involvement in local issues.

1. Tarn Bridge. It was noted that, in January 2015, Cumbria Highways engineers had proposed to demolish the bridge due to it being structurally unsound and not economically repairable. The proposal was then to install a replacement wooden footbridge.

The parish council had accepted this proposal as a cost effective, practical solution.

A group of local residents, "Friends of Tarn Gill Bridge", has since been campaigning for the retention of the bridge. See minute of RPC meeting March 2015.

2. Proposed Smardale Car Park. Cllr Dew enquired if the parish council was aware of the parking problems at Smardale Viaduct due to its popularity as a tourist venue. No official approach had been made to the PC and no discussion had taken place regarding the provision of a car park at the Newbiggin-on-Lune end of Smardale Gill Nature Reserve'

3. Hospital Transport and GPs. Cllr Dew related that he had visited the local GP practice and spoken to the practice manager - Andrew Pearce - who informed me that the Upper Eden Medical Practice has a full complement of staff and there are no plans to reduce the service - but there is a problem with missed appointments which has led to the loss of the equivalent of twenty three days of GP time in the past seven months. (See Appendix 1)

Publications & Correspondence Received

Clerks & Councils Direct

Clerk magazine

Minutes of Tripartite meeting of County, District & Parish Councils (Circulated)

Cllr Mary Robinson – Nominations for local honours.

ACT Meeting - Neighbourhood & Community Planning, KS Rugby Club 17/07/17

Date of next meeting Thursday 14th September 2017

Signed

Chairman

Date 14th September 2017