

RAVENSTONEDALE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 10th May 2018
in Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre
following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm

Present Cllr. Ernest Leach (Chairman) Cllrs. Hilary Law, James Richardson, Richard Hunter and Helen Shields.
County Councillor Phil Dew
Clerk. Chris Elphick
2 Members of the Public

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

Election of Chairman for the year 2018-2019

The retiring chairman invited nominations for the post of Chairman for the year 2018-2019 and vacated the chair.

Ernest Leach was the only nomination and was elected unanimously. Cllr Leach signed a declaration of Acceptance of Office, resumed the Chair and invited nominations for the post of Vice-Chairman.

Hilary Law was the only nomination and was elected unanimously. Cllr Law signed a declaration of Acceptance of Office

Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Richardson declared a personal interest in planning application no. E/12/32A as he is the applicant. There were no other declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12th April 2018 had been circulated and were signed by the chairman as a correct record

Report of a meeting of the “Western Dales” parishes held on 16th April 2018

Cllr James Richardson had attended the meeting and found it useful for communication with councillors from other parishes and members of the YDNPA committee and staff. Cllr Richardson’s verbal report coincided almost exactly with the official minutes of the meeting and which are attached as **Appendix 1** to these minutes.

Registration with Information Commissioners Office and GDPR

The Clerk reported that, following considerable quantities of confusing instructions, Ravenstonedale Parish Council is now registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) as required by the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which will come into force on 25th May 2018.

Ravenstonedale Community & Heritage Centre

The Clerk reported that the existing planning consents for a two storey extension to the Community & Heritage Centre would expire shortly if not renewed. Barbara Hartley, of Garsdale Design Ltd who produced all the drawings for the original application has been asked to make the new application.

It was noted that full credit of £1068 for the EDC Non-Domestic Rate on the C&HC has been received.

Planning Applications

No. E/12/32A	Removal of Local Occupancy condition imposed in 1997 under EDC application No.5/97/0254
Location	Hill Top Barn N-o-L
Applicant	Mr J Richardson
Parish Council	<u>Support this application.</u> This is a re-application of No. E/12/32 which had been supported by the parish council but refused by the YDNPA earlier this year. The "Local Occupancy" condition had been imposed more than twenty years ago in 1997 under a now extinguished policy of Eden District Council ref. BE25. Current policy makes no such provision and no less than three recent, similar, local applications have had no such condition attached. It is considered therefore that the "local occupancy" condition is considered unreasonable.

Notification - Tree Works – Stonethwaite House, Ravenstonedale

No. E/12/37	Change of use of Coach House to Dwelling
Location	Brownber House, Newbiggin-on-Lune
Applicant	Littini Newcombe & Ruth Stickings
Parish Council	No objections

No. E/12/17A	External cantilever balcony
Location	Eelands, Ravenstonedale REFUSED

Garden Waste Skip

Eden District Council has agreed to provide a monthly garden waste skip outside the school for the summer season 2018, commencing April, at no cost to the parish council.

Eden District Council – Devolution of Services

A revised Street Lighting contract format has been agreed between EDC and NALC. Current advice from Cumbria Association of Local Councils (CALC) is to sign the new contract to sign before 31st May 2018. No contract had been received prior to this meeting.

12 Finance

Audit 2017-2018

The Clerk presented copies of the Draft accounts for consideration. Cllr Hunter enquired for details of repair works carried out to the Community & Heritage Centre. In the absence of the immediate availability of this detail it is now noted that the major expense had been for the refurbishment of the main hall stained glass leaded windows which required repair of rotted timbers, replacement of opening sashes, some stained glass plus re-puttying and painting throughout at a cost of £2708.05

Sums Received

Precept & EDC rebate	£26,315.00
PAYE Credit note (to be deducted from payments)	£102.40
Able Memorials (Admin re. graveyard)	£ 27.00

Accounts Paid prior to meeting

Norton Data Protection	£ 44.99
Dales Computing Ltd (Data Protection works)	£ 40.00
Information Commissioners Office	£ 35.00
Amazon. HP printer ink	£ 54.10

Accounts for Payment

Clerk's Admin Expenses to 10/05/17	£ 48.60
C J Elphick (Month 2)	£ 577.20
HMRC (Month 2)	£ 37.20
e-on	£ 119.60
CALC Annual Subscription	£ 180.54

The foregoing accounts were approved for payment.

Parking & Road Pollution

It was reported that the white lines recently installed by Highways at Town Foot had resulted in improved traffic flow and access for larger vehicles including the gritter. There has recently been considerable oil pollution from parked vehicles, particularly outside the former High Chapel.

Election of Parish Member to YDNPA.

Following the local council elections in May, it will be necessary to appoint a parish council member to represent western parishes on the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. The current member, Ian McPherson of Sedbergh Parish Council, has indicated his willingness to continue if re-elected. Information & application forms are available from YDNPA or online.

Annual Update of Standing Orders, etc.

The Clerk noted that revised formats for model Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and other essential policy documents, reflecting current legislation had been received from NALC. These should be customised as required to reflect Ravenstonedale's requirements. Clerk will provide draft documentation for consideration by the council or a committee to be appointed.

Public Participation

County Councillor Phil Dew presented a report of his activities in the area on behalf of the local councils he represents. See Appendix.

Correspondence received

CALC Newsletter May 2018 (Circulated)
EDC Visit Eden - Newsletter

Staff Matters (Public may be excluded)

It was **resolved** that the Clerk's Salary be revised in accordance with NALC recommendations from 1st April 2018

It was resolved that the position of Assistant Clerk should be created to train for the substantive post of Clerk in the near future. This would enable a gradual changeover for this increasingly complex position. Clerk and Chairman to create Advertisement.

The Appointment of a Data Protection Officer has now been rendered unnecessary due to a last-minute amendment of the Data Protection Bill 2017-2019 which has yet to receive the Royal Assent.

Date of next meeting Thursday 14th June 2018

Signed

Chairman

Date 14th June 2018

Appendix 1

Report to Ravenstonedale Parish Council 10 May, 2018 - Phil Dew

Highways

I met with Highways England and Cumbria Constabulary on Wednesday, 9 May, 2018, to discuss diversion arrangements following closure of the A66 - and in particular the problem of high-sided vehicles getting stuck at Midland Hill Bridge. Highways England are reviewing their policy and making plans to improve signage on the A66.

Highways England is carrying out major road repairs on the A66 in September/October and the road will be closed for seven consecutive weekends. HGVs will be diverted via the A69 and light vehicles via the A685. I will be enquiring about how the HGV ban is going to be enforced at a meeting with officers on Friday, 11 May, 2018.

A Kirkby Stephen bypass is back on the agenda. The suggestion is that the A685 could be used as an A66 relief road for vehicles ~ including HGV s ~ intending to head south on the M6 - which they would then access at J38 rather than J40. This is a relatively cheap way of reducing pressure on the Kemplay roundabout and one which I oppose.

Four teams of highways operatives are currently assigned to filling potholes. A team visited Ravenstonedale recently with variable success. A jet-patcher, known as Velocity, is to be hired to speed up the process. I would like to see CCC train local volunteers to fill potholes.

Appleby Heritage Centre

Appleby Heritage Centre is facing an uncertain future. A proposed merger with the Oakley Trust has fallen through at the last minute. Rory Stewart visited the Centre on Friday, 4 May, 2018, and is asking government ministers to review the rules on apprenticeship training. Meetings are taking place with EDC to try and secure financial support. The loss of AHC would be a significant blow to the area.

Extreme Weather

A Cumbria Resilience Forum was held last week to discuss the lessons to be learned from the recent extreme weather events. I asked the forum to consider providing: (1) liability cover to farmers clearing roads (2) snow warning signs for minor roads and (3) grit in bulk to village communities. I have yet to hear the outcome