

# Ramsgreave Parish Council

## **(Draft) Minutes of Ramsgreave Parish Council Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 19:30 at Wilpshire Methodist Church.**

**Present:** Kathryn Berzins, Peter Ainsworth, Pat young, Mike Hill (RFO)

The Chair welcomed Michael Hill to the meeting. Members were reminded that Mike has been recruited as the new Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Office to replace Rachel Greenwood who as they will recall stepped down as Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer in early January. Members were also informed of Mike's contact details which are as set out below:

Address: 14 Longridge Road, Chipping, Preston Lancashire, PR32D,

email address: clerk.ramsgreavepc@gmail.com

Mobile: 07855 183 444.

**ITEM 1           Apologies for Absence:** Kathryn Webster, Lindsay Wright.

**ITEM 2           Declarations of interest**

a) Register of interest

b) To declare any personal or prejudicial interests on items on the agenda

None declared.

**ITEM 3           To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Council held November 2022 Minutes from last meeting approved.**

**ITEM 4           Accounts**

Resolved at council to approve the report and approve the schedule of payments as below:

1 5798434 Sarah Raven seeds via Councillor Wright 23.45 Lottery Fund

2 2000212492 Primrose via Councillor Berzins 244.93 Lottery Fund

3 Various via Councillor Berzins 157.82 Lottery Fund

4 Wilpshire Methodist Church 130.00 General Administration

**ITEM 5           Move to internet banking**

Resolved that the council's Responsible Financial Officer will transfer the PC banking from Natwest to online banking with Unity, specialists in local government accounts. This will allow full internet banking for a service charge of £36 per annum. All councillors will have the option to be signatories and require a log in. Two councillors will authorise each payment, payments will be initiated by the RFO.

**ITEM 6           Planning – To consider any planning applications received.**

No planning matters to discuss.

**ITEM 7           Highways and traffic issues**

We had been told there were free traffic monitoring devices but this is not the case, although RVBC are now providing grants to support hire. A back plate is required to be fitted first and then the device monitors traffic speed and volume for eight days at a time, data fed back to PC. KB will contact Sarah Wells

to apply for a grant for part of the costs for the parish. We will also identify possible posts to mount the SPID on. If there are none suitable then they need to be installed at additional cost.

#### **ITEM 8            PROWs**

PROW 1 - on the railway bridge outside the allotment is very potholed. There have been concerns raised from a wheelchair user about inaccessibility. KB had contacted LCC to arrange delivery of road planings at no charge so volunteers could fill the holes as part of the allotment works. The planning went missing and LCC would not provide any more. Barrow PC have planings they no longer need and have said Ramsgreave can have them. Lengthsman has provided a quote to collect the planings and complete the work at a cost of £362. Council resolved to accept this quote. The payment will come from the PROW ringfenced fund.

PROW 12 – the aim is to install a self-closing steel gate next to the full sized gate at the end of Isle of Man to improve accessibility to this PROW after requests from residents with limited mobility. KB has spoken to the landowner who is amenable if the tenant farmer agrees. KB has discussed with the farmer who is amenable. KB is waiting to hear back from the landowner. Once he gives approval a quote will be sought from our PROW contractor and a grant application submitted to Lancashire Environment Fund. KB has collected evidence from residents that the installation is required.

#### **ITEM 9 Outstanding repairs report**

This list currently includes two missing bollards by the station which are a serious trip hazard, a bleached out weak bridge sign by the station. Numerous blocked drains and requests for grit bins on Moorfield and Mayfield. KB will follow up, once again, with LCC.

#### **ITEM 10           Lengthsman duties**

None to report other than footpath repair.

#### **ITEM 11           Public engagement - newsletter, notice boards, social media**

Invoice for newsletter was presented and resolved a cheque would be provided for no more than £110. Newsletter will be delivered to every home in the parish by councillors and volunteers. Notice board is regularly updated, website is regularly updated. Social media continues to be the most effective way of sharing information rapidly. It was also noted that councillors should have a separate council email address. RFO to investigate costs of this for next meeting.

#### **ITEM 12           Commemorations**

Applying to RVBC for grant to fund refreshments during the Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> afternoon for volunteers and visitors at the allotment.

#### **ITEM 13           Officers Reports**

Allotment report presented to council and appended to minutes. Council approved future purchases of sand, mortar, compost and chipper hire.

#### **ITEM 14           Volunteers: litter picking and gardening group**

Both groups continue to carry out work around the parish. Planters have been refreshed with bulbs for the spring. The monthly litter pick continues to be carried out on the first Sunday of the month.

#### **ITEM 15           Allotment update**

See officers report, presented and accepted by council including future purchases as detailed.

#### **ITEM 16           Feedback from other meetings**

We have obtained new dog fouling posters from RVBC, these will be installed in problematic areas.

The elections will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, the RFO will administer the required forms.

**ITEM 17          Recruiting of new councillor**

PA is still deciding whether to stand down at the next election.

**ITEM 18          New policies for adoption: Equal opportunities, Grievance, Health and Safety.**

Adoption of all policies agreed. Review date in May 2025.

**ITEM 19          Date of next meetings**

9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 19.30 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 19.30 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 19.30

**Meeting closed 20.45**