**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Rawcliffe held on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at St James' Church, The Green, Rawcliffe at 6.30pm**

**Present**Councillor S. Wade (in the chair), Councillor P.A. Sykes, Councillor. J. Emberton-Leveson, Councillor. S. Harris , Councillor.E. Gleeson, Councillor. C. Wade

6 Members of the public

1. **Minutes of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting**

These were distributed and signed as a true copy during the Parish Council meeting April 2023.

2. **Chairman's Report**

On the 4th May 2023 we had an uncontested election where each councillor had to apply for the position of councillor for another 4-year term, we had three new councillors join us at this election Councillor Gleeson, Councillor Hiles and Councillor Chris Wade. In September we Co-opted Councillor Cowling onto the council. We still have one vacancy so if anyone is interested or you know of anyone that may be interested then please see the handout that has been made available

What the Parish Council has done this year

* Parish Handyman employed that has completed many tasks to make the villages more cared for.
* After supporting many residents views and concerns, the Fusion plant that was planned for Rawcliffe Road was declined as a suitable site.
* Circus held on the green for the first time in over 40 years and was very well received with sell out shows, they are returning this year.
* Bunting to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III decorated both villages
* Beacon lighting on the Coronation Day on the Green
* Internal and External Audits completed and passed
* Tidying of historic graves in the Cemetery with new stones and weed removal which is currently ongoing
* Renovation of benches on the green
* New Grass cutting Tender drawn up with new contractor engaged from March 1st 2024
* In October four Parish Councillors met with some representatives from the Metsa group who had identified the site on Rawcliffe road as a possible location for their new tissue factory. It is still in consultation stages but already the road layout has been developed due to concerns we raised. We will continue to monitor the progress of this.
* Community Speed Watch has continued and further training has been undertaken with more volunteers. This is headed by Parish Councillors
* Following positive feedback, the Christmas tree lamppost lights were installed for another year in Rawcliffe Bridge
* Installation of Temporary toilet facility at Rawcliffe Bridge Playing Fields for football teams to use
* Replacement works carried out at Rawcliffe play park due to deterioration of existing equipment
* Road signs purchased to aid road closures etc for community events
* Deadwood removed from trees on Parish land with further tree works to shape the trees carried out under planning permission
* Replacement grit bins in place of damaged or unusable ones
* Setting of the Parish Precept of a 5% increase for 2024/2025
* Held the first Police surgery in Rawcliffe with more planned
* Working with ERSAG (East Riding Safety Advisory Group) which comprises of ERYC, Humberside Police, Ambulance service and other agencies to ensure community events can take place due to a change in legislation
* Provided grants to
* Rawcliffe Parish Events Committee for the Christmas Fayre and Festival
* Rawcliffe PTA for new books
* Rawcliffe United for new equipment
* Rawcliffe and Rawcliffe Bridge Pride Committee for Pride events
* Rawcliffe Village Hall Committee for new lighting and kitchen improvements
* Rawcliffe Table Tennis Club to help with its start up

Together Parish Councillors and Council staff have attending training and meetings to discuss;

* Internal Drainage Board
* Safer Roads Humber
* Play Park Safety Training
* Planning Training
* Speedwatch Training
* Tree Officer to discuss tree safety in the parish
* Chairs Training and Networking
* Role of a Councillors Training
* Cemetery Training
* ERNLCCA conference

Thank you………. Firstly, to Vicky, our Clerk, who isn’t with us this evening but is a great support with fantastic knowledge

Secondly to each one of the councillors that have given their time voluntarily to work for the good of the parish over the last year. Often a thankless job but they still carry on and that is to be admired. I am proud to sit as Chair of such a hardworking, helpful, and friendly council.

Thirdly, thank you to our events Committee, they work tirelessly as volunteers to create such wonderful events for the community with our support.

Last of all, thank you to our residents, those here tonight that come and support us, make suggestions, and offer advice, it is always welcome, and to those residents that maybe do not come to meetings but are always happy to feedback on how pleased they are with what is happening within the parish. It is always good to hear that we are having a positive impact on the community.

**3. To consider and act on any correspondence received**

There is no correspondence.

**4.To discuss any questions from the floor**

* A resident thanked the Parish Council for the work carried out in the Parish on behalf of the residents.
* How many meetings are Parish Councillors allowed to miss before they cease to be a Parish Councillor. 6 months but if the reason for their absence is approved by the Parish Council this rule does not apply.
* **Precept** - why was this increased above the suggested average and why were reserves not being used. Increase of expenses for the forthcoming year. The new Quinquennial report has been received and works will be required to be carried out which are highlighted within this report.
* **Parish Council Website** - it was suggested that this needs updating as soon as possible to include minutes and accounts. This was agreed and will be an Agenda Item in the months to come.
* **Parish Plan** - suggested that a Parish Plan should be considered.
* **Disabled Access** at either end of the Church Path - Parish Council held a site meeting with ERYC who welcomed the proposal and stated that they would be pleased to help with some of the funding for the work. Unfortunately the Parish Council could not go ahead until the various Church Authorities gave permission. This has not yet been received.
* **Litter bins** - two are on order.
* **Metal Tree Guards** - Tree maintenance work from the tree surgeons is imminent and at this point the tree guards will be removed. Their work is done and no further protection will be required. The plaque on the Commemorative tree will be preserved.
* **Cemetery & Graveyard** - maintenance works in these two areas continue to be ongoing.
* **Police and Parish Council Liaison meeting** - 3 members of the public together with some members of the Parish Council attended. It was suggested that a similar liaison meeting should take place in the summer months.
* **Metsa** - concern was shown regarding this project. There were many representatives of the Council and residents of the Parish at the recent consultation meeting with representatives of Metsa. Initial concerns regarding traffic and road set up are still ongoing and progressing. There will be a further consultation in summer 2024.

**5. Close the meeting**

The Chairman thanked all those residents who attended this evenings meeting. Any issues brought to the attention of the Parish Council will be addressed on various agenda throughout the year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.10pm