

Ravenshead Parish Council

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all residents from Ravenshead Parish Council.

2023 looks to be a significant year at the Leisure Centre as we embark on an ambitious project to update and refurbish the facilities. Work is expected to begin in April and last for around four months. We hope to keep as many of the existing facilities open whilst the work takes place. Further information will follow, as we await confirmation of grant applications. A new Leisure Centre website which will include an on-line booking system is due to be launched very soon. Again, watch this space.

Christmas lights switch on event

The Christmas lights switch on last December proved to be another huge success. In excess of 400 residents attended and Santa and the Round Table were kept very busy, handing out presents to over 150 children. The grotto, which was installed by the Scouts, was beautifully decorated inside once again by Stephen Reddish. Thank you to all those who attended and in particular to my fellow Parish Councillors and staff for organising the event, alongside the Village Hall Management Committee. There was a great children's disco inside and additional musical entertainment from Ravenshead Swing Band. The music outside was particularly enjoyed by the young children, especially when the artificial snow machine was operating. Thank you to the Vicar for the blessing and to the High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire for switching the lights on. The bar and the mulled wine were very popular as were the hot drinks and mince pies served by the WI. The raffle income helped to offset some of the costs due to the fantastic prizes of hampers that were filled with donations from local businesses. We thank you all.

Leisure Centre Play Park

The Parish Council is delighted to have received a grant of £34,983 from the FCC Communities Fund. The money will be used to replace the existing play unit in the play park at the Leisure Centre. The old unit has been in place for over 20 years and previously was in use at the Hutt PH. Special thanks goes to Cllr. Carol Wright for her hard work alongside our Parish Clerks, in securing the money. Installation is due to begin once the weather improves.

Parking on pavements and vehicles obstructing bin lorries and emergency vehicles

We have been informed recently about further examples of vehicles parking on pavements and then subsequently preventing those in mobility scooters and children in prams and push chairs from passing without having to step out onto the road. This has been a particular issue on Main Road and Sheepwalk Lane. Please consider others when parking and allow enough space for pedestrians and other users to pass.

A number of residents have expressed concern over missed refuse bin collections due to the bin lorries being unable to access their properties. Gedling Borough Council are aware that on certain narrow streets, vehicles are parked opposite each other only allowing a narrow gap which the bin lorry cannot pass through. Offending residents will be contacted by Neighbourhood Wardens initially, hopefully no enforcement action will be required. Please remember that if a bin lorry struggles to pass through, so would a fire engine and other emergency vehicles.

On the matter of inconsiderate parking, I am pleased to report that due to the intervention of County Councillor Chris Barnfather, a consultation is currently being undertaken looking at a proposal to install double yellow lines on road junctions that join Haddon Road. This is to ensure good visibility for both pedestrians and drivers.

Community Speedwatch Scheme

Nottinghamshire Police have contacted the Parish Council recently about reinstating the very successful Community Speedwatch Group, to monitor speeding on roads in and around the village. They are hoping for volunteers who would need to spend an hour or so, at a time convenient to themselves, working with others. Full training will be given and the equipment will be provided. If you are interested, please either leave your contact details with the Parish Council at office@ravensheadpc.org.uk or directly with the Police at CSW@Notts.Police.uk. Hopefully members of the original group will volunteer again, as this new version is simpler to organise than the previous one, and new members will also step forward.

Parish Council

Please remember that as volunteers we do our best to serve the residents of Ravenshead. If we are not the local authority responsible for services that you may need assistance with, our Parish Clerks should be able to point you in the right direction. They can be contacted at office@ravensheadpc.org.uk or on 01623 490035.

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council