

Ravenshead Parish Council

Doctors Surgery update

A number of residents have contacted me personally about issues relating to the Abbey Medical Practice, in particular, about lengthy waits when telephoning the surgery. Having spoken to the Practice Manager, she would like to reassure residents that the situation is improving.

A completely new telephone system is now in place which now means that you will no longer lose your place in the queue, as happened previously. If you call and there is a lengthy queue, there is a facility to press button 1, and you will be called back. Waiting times are always at their busiest early in the morning, however it is relatively easy to get through quickly, later in the day.

The table below has been supplied to me by the surgery and it indicates the high level of demand.

Month	Total Inbound Calls	Calls Answered	Average Queue Time
February	11548	7339	9m 19s
March	13178	8164	11m 0s
April	10169	6637	8m 1s
May	12026	6973	11m 10s

Residents who feel confident booking a non-urgent appointment via the surgery website, may find it easier to make an appointment, at a date and time to suit themselves. Apparently, urgent appointments are always assessed by senior doctors, before agreeing the next course of action through a triage system. The message, as always from the NHS, is to think carefully about who is the best person to offer advice for non-urgent ailments. The local pharmacy may be the solution or alternatively call 111.

Flooding issues

There have been a number of very heavy downpours in recent weeks, leading to flooding issues around the village. County Councillor Chris Barnfather has very promptly arranged for remedial work to be undertaken, particularly around the area of the bend on the road to Blidworth near to Fairview Farm. Other work is due to be undertaken near to the Little John PH which unfortunately was also flooded. If you were affected by the rain recently, please do get in touch so that we can contact the highways authorities to help resolve any issues.

Dog Fouling

Once again, irresponsible dog owners are allowing animals to foul the playing fields at the Leisure Centre and the Ravenshead Common. **Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Leisure Centre site.** Councillors routinely challenge owners, but are often faced with abusive responses. Please think of others and take your animals elsewhere. There are numerous locations close to the village where animals can be exercised without bringing them onto an area where children play. Why should our volunteers on the Common, be faced with dog mess when cutting the grass and planting trees and flowers?

Ravenshead Litter Force

Thank you once again to all the volunteers, including residents and Councillors, who recently collected 20+ bags of rubbish and various car parts, from surrounding village roads. Please contact the Parish Clerks if you would like to be involved in future collections.

Ravenshead in Bloom

Thank you also to all those who play their part in making the village look so wonderfully colourful with tubs and planters full of summer plants. The telephone box in the precinct is looking at its best this year with red, white and blue plants, in keeping with the Coronation theme. The display at the end of Chapel Lane always looks fantastic as do the planters at the Leisure Centre and those in the precinct. There are also other lovely displays around the village. If you have been involved in planting and/or watering any of the flowers, a big thank you to you on behalf of the Parish Council and all residents.

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council