

Ravenshead Parish Council

Save the Date – Ravenshead's 60th Birthday celebration

Ravenshead will officially be 60 on Saturday 20th June. To celebrate the naming of our village 60 years ago, we will be organising a village picnic on the Village Hall lawn, 1.00pm-5.00pm. Further details about the entertainment etc will be in future editions of the newsletter.

Local Government Reorganisation

A decision by the government regarding the new format of local councils is due to be made and announced this summer. Residents are able to comment on one of the three proposed options via this link which can be accessed on the Gedling Borough Council website [Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#) Please do take the time to comment on your preferred option, whether that is joining with the City or remaining in the County. The view of the Parish Council is that we should remain within the County and are opposed to the stance taken by Reform County Councillors, who would like to see Ravenshead as part of a new City Council

Council Tax - village precept

Residents will be aware that the Council Tax bill which will be landing on your door mat in a few week's time, consists of various elements. The bulk of the payment goes to Nottinghamshire County Council with smaller payments to Gedling Borough Council, the Fire Authority and to the Police and Crime Commissioner. A very small part will go to the Parish Council to run the facilities which we provide. These include the Leisure Centre, we are so lucky to have such a fantastic facility in our village, the envy of many other communities. In addition, the three play parks are maintained and the support is given to Village events such as the Christmas Lights and Remembrance Day. Blue grit bins are refilled in preparation for Winter and maintenance work is undertaken at our two open spaces, the Ravenshead Common and the Ridgewood Drive woodland.

At our January Parish Council meeting, Councillors were presented with several options regarding setting a balanced budget for 2026/27. A decision was made to put forward a proposal to increase the village element of the council tax by a modest amount. For a typical Band D property, this will result in an increase of 4.5p a week or £2.39 a year, at 3.94%. With inflation still running at a similar level, particularly for utility bills, this was considered by Parish Councillors to be a necessary increase. As mentioned previously, no financial support is given from Gedling Borough Council towards the cost of providing facilities within Ravenshead, this has to be found from the precept.

We believe that this provides excellent value for money, especially compared with other local villages. As an example, the precept charged in Linby is £13 more a year for a band D property,

£25 more in Papplewick, £32 more in Woodborough, £55 more in Calverton and £98 more than Ravenshead in Burton Joyce. We could provide more facilities, but these would come at a cost to you as residents. Ravenshead Parish Council looks to continue to provide services and facilities without taxing residents more than is necessary.

Pot Holes

Aren't we all fed up with the pot holes in our roads? Parish Councillors and your District and County Councillors continue to lobby the Reform administration at County Hall, as well as reporting as many as we can. Your frustrations are shared and we will keep asking why less money is being invested in repairs than under the previous Conservative administration.

Further Leisure Centre improvements

On a more positive note, we are delighted to have received a grant from the Football Foundation, to replace the old and tired kitchen at the Leisure Centre. The kitchen will be provided free of charge by Howdens with just the installation payment required. To keep the cost down, Councillors will be doing some of the removal of the previous kitchen themselves.

We have also, thanks to County Councillor Stuart Bestwick, received a grant of £18500 from the County Council local improvement fund. Tennis Court 2 is in urgent need of resurfacing, mainly due to tree roots penetrating the surface. This money will pay for the roots to be cut and a membrane installed to prevent this occurring again, before the surface is re-laid and marked.

Leisure Centre Bookings

Further to my comments last month about an increase in Leisure Centre Bookings after the refurbishment, slots for birthday parties are filling up fast. Do look on the Leisure Centre website which has updated photographs, www.ravensheadleisure.co.uk for more details, or contact the booking office at bookings@ravensheadpc.org.uk or telephone 01623 490035

Marjorie Eyre RIP

Ravenshead Parish Council was saddened to read in the February edition of the Newsletter of the passing of one of our founder Parish Councillors. Marjorie was one of the initial Parish Councillors when the Parish Council was formed in 1987. A minutes silence was held at our February meeting.

Martin Smith

Chairman, Ravenshead Parish Council