MINUTES of the ANNUAL RANSKILL PARISH MEETING
held at the BOWLS CLUB, STATION ROAD
WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2026 at 7:00pm

PRESENT:
Chair: D. Simpson
Councillors: L. Shaw, M. Pryce, A. Garner, J. Elliott
Clerk: B. Kinsey
Members of the public: There were no members of the public attending.

01/0526APM: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs P. Brown, J. Peel. D. Cllr A. McCallum, C. Cllr M. Robertson

02/0526APM DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS: None

03/0526APM: CHAIR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026
Over the past 12 months the Parish Council has completed or significantly progressed a couple of major projects.
The refurbishment of the play equipment in the village park has begun with the installation of the new tree climber last autumn followed by the new climbing wall earlier this year. Both have proved to be extremely popular and will hopefully be well used for many years.

The solar lighting projects along the Jubilee Pathway and the green on Oakes Close have finally been completed following some issues with incorrect parts from the suppliers and the feedback received from residents has been overwhelmingly positive.

All of these have been funded by the Parish Council with the exception of very welcome National Lottery funding towards the climbing wall, for which support from the community had to be shown. Excellent work from Cllrs Pryce and Elliott in gathering this.

Work continues to secure further funding to continue works in the park.

While there has not been a village festival for the last couple of years, the Parish Council has been happy to support the festival committees hard work to reinvigorate this and have pledged significant funding to help enable this. The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers who are busily working towards the event in June, particularly Cllrs Peel and Pryce for their contributions.

There are also plans progressing to expand and improve the Christmas lights for the village, hopefully in time for this year's switch on.

Financially it has been another strong year for the Parish Council and despite significant expenditure we end the year in an excellent position.
My thanks once again to all my fellow councillors for their hard work over the past year, including Cllr Bing who has stepped down from the council. I hope that we will welcome new members shortly to fill the 2 vacancies. Thanks also to our new County Councillor Mike Robertson for his help so far.

04/0526APM: FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026
The year to March 2026 saw the Parish Council slightly decrease its year end cash position from £119,475 to £118,558, being comprised of: -

Restricted CIL: £50,416
General reserve: £68,142

Further CIL funds and included in the above were received in March of £41,123.

The PC's share of the Joint Burial cash funds included in the above reserve amounts to £4,728 (at 70%).

At the same time expenditure from CIL funds during the year was £55,215 comprising in cost order and excluding VAT: -

Tree Climber, new playground equipment	£20,480
Solar Lighting	£19,685
Monkey Challenge, new playground equipment	£7,950
Spinmee roundabout, new bearing	£2,084
Electrical supply to trees	£1,095
Removal of 4 trees on Jubilee Way	£800
Canopy lift - Oakes Close	£600
Repair basket swing, new safety matting	£525
Grass seeding - Jubilee Way	£490
Relocate village gateway sign	£480
Replace guard fence in playground	£360
Playground plaque refurbishment	£350
Dog bag dispenser	£172
Replacement wheel for play car	£144

Regarding the budget for 2025-26 and excluding restricted funds, VAT refunds, short term investment interest and incoming grants, variances were as follows: -

- Income was £655 above budget. Mainly due to an overdue mowing grant from BDC from the previous year.
- Expenditure was £2,845 below budget. Mainly due to an underspend of £2,901 on mowing during the season, £404 underspend on playground maintenance, £878 less in office & administration, no legal fees. There was an overspend of £705 compared to budget on S137 grants (The Star) overdue from the previous year.

S137 Grants were £2,705, amounting to: -
£175 North Notts Responders
£1,080 Marquees for the Ranskill festival
£1,450 The Star

Due to prudent investing in high income short term bonds and 95 day notice accounts, the PC received an amount, outside of the budget, of £3,388 bank interest. At the year end £113,817 was invested.
Capital will remain invested in the coming year, subject to further projects being initiated, the funds will be drawn down as necessary.
During the coming year, the PC intends to find other sources of funding to replace much of the older play equipment in the park.
Due to pressure from increasing costs, the precept was increased by 7.6% for the 2026-27 financial year.

RANSKILL & TORWORTH JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The year opened with cash reserves of £5,238 and closed with £6,755.

There was a higher level of activity in the year with 8 burials and internments of ashes, resulting in an income of £1,125 over budget. VAT recovery from the previous year of £575, interest of £51 and the usual contributions from the PCs of £210.00 TPC and £490.00 RPC bringing total income to £4,952.

Expenditure was only £81 under budget at £3,012.

This resulted in a net cash gain of £1,517.

During the year a memorial safety inspection was commissioned at a cost of £785, the previous inspection was in 2020. There were 187 memorials tested, of which 25 are risk category 1, in need of immediate repair, 28 in risk category 2, the remainder are considered safe.

The committee is also in touch with the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham to ask for a further consecration ceremony.

05/0525: PUBLIC FORUM FOR QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS

No residents or members of the public attended the meeting.

It was resolved to accept the reports, proposed Cllr. Shaw and seconded by Cllr. Elliott. **Carried**.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

Signed as a true record: -

Chair: D. Simpson