



Balderton Parish Council Amenities Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7pm

Attendees:

Balderton Parish Councillors: Vanessa Bracegirdle, Ronalie Bright, Jane Buxton, Karen Callingham, Simon Forde, Debbie Moore (Chair), Dean Scott, and Joy Sellars

Staff: James Brown (Head Groundsman), Marion Fox Goddard (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

Public: 3 residents joined the meeting

Meeting agenda pack with reports can be found on our website:

<https://www.baldertonparishcouncil.gov.uk>

12. Declarations to record the meeting

The clerk recorded the meeting.

13. Apologies for absence - Mandie Elson

14. Declarations of interest

Simon Forde – Newark and Sherwood District Council Councillor.

15. Public Open Forum

A resident suggested an all-weather path around the perimeter of Coronation Street Park with benefits to joggers, disabled access, sports providers.

16. Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on February 12th, 2025

The minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate record and Councillor Moore duly signed them.

17. Clerk's update¹

The following report was noted.

	Item	Update
1	Millennium Clock	The consultation on whether to proceed with a replacement clock is under consultation. The consultation went out in the March newsletter and reminders have been added to Facebook. So far we have had 59 responses. Results will be brought to a Full Council meeting so the council can decide whether to proceed, considering residents' feedback.
2	Lake	Covenant – Clerk will bring a report to full council – date to be confirmed.

¹ Note: *Italics indicate where report has been updated (verbal during meeting) since agenda pack issued.*

	Item	Update
		See item 22.
3	Allotments	Since the last meeting 2 allotment holders requested to reduce the size of their allotments (1 by a half and 1 by a quarter). The plots have been relet, so we have 2 new allotment holders.
4	Safer Streets	The community organising/neighbourhood watch training sessions have been completed and went well. The graffiti project with local young people and artists went very well and the artwork cannot be missed on the grounds shed in the car park.
5	Church Wall	In February we spent a day cleaning up the site. The reports that we initially received from the architect have been updated to include the bulge on the wall on Main Street and updated quotes from 2 supplier have been received. We are due to apply to the National Lottery for funding.
6	Memorial safety testing/Cemetery management.	Following the hand tests were done on memorials in Mount Road Cemetery 13 of the 55 unstable ones have been repaired. We will be rechecking them to ensure the staked are still secure and that the repaired ones can be marked secure on our records.
7	Village Centre	<p>The Disability Access Survey for the Village Centre and Coronation Street has been completed. This will be considered by full council for prioritisation along with the community feedback on priorities so an action plan can be done.</p> <p>Repairs to the electronic main gate at Coronation Street Park have been ordered.</p> <p>External CCTV signage has been put up to let users know it is there.</p>
8	Litter pick	The next community litter pick is planned for Sunday 6 th July. Members of the community will be invited to join councillors to help tidy up Balderton via a Facebook post and posters. Cllr Moore will lead on organising this.
9	Defibrillators	A new defibrillator is up and running at Chuter Ede School.
10	Village Trail	The benches have been installed although one on Queen Street is being moved slightly following feedback received. The lectern installation is almost complete with positive feedback from residents. Newark Civic Trust have also expressed interest in the trail so the PR that we have done is helping spread local knowledge of trail.
11	Cemetery	Two more memorial benches were installed last month. The new system is working well. Thank you to everyone involved.
12	Bowling Green	<i>The watering system has a leak. The Head Groundsman has arranged for a contractor to look at this so we can get it fixed as some as possible.</i>

18. Allotment Sub-Committee minutes and recommendations

The committee noted the draft minutes for the subcommittee held on April 7th, 2025, and agreed to recommend to full council that non-Balderton allotment offer should be at double the rate Balderton residents pay.

19. Consideration of requests for dog bins

The committee considered two suggested locations for new dog bins, considering proximity of other bins nearby and the cost of providing bins. The following decisions were made:

- a. Mallard Green – The committee unanimously disagreed to install a bin.
- b. Lacey Green/Southfield Road/Queen Street (grass area where they meet) – 7 committee members were in favour, 1 abstained. Delivery of a bin in this location is subject to permission of the landowner.

20. Balderton Bowls Club request for handrails update

The committee discussed the solution being suggested by the bowls club. Queries were raised regarding insurance, warranty, maintenance. The clerk will contact the bowls club to discuss this to move this forward.

21. St Giles closed churchyard maintenance update

The committee noted that a clear up day has been held, and dates² have been set to do some repairs on the broken-down wall. Councillors to let the Clerk know if they can take part.

22. Balderton Lake maintenance and activity update

The committee noted the update. The Head Groundsman confirmed that all the bug/bee boxes have been put up and some of the Blue tit boxes. The bird boxes need an extra strip of wood adding to enable fixing them on the trees. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will be fund raising at the lake over the Easter weekend. A query was raised regarding Owl Boxes – The Head Groundman confirmed we have some.

23. Macmillan Coffee morning

The committee agreed to hold this in conjunction with the meet and greet session on Saturday 20th September 2025.

24. Correspondence

- a. Consideration of introducing Happy to Chat benches – the committee agreed that this is a good idea, and plaques could be added to some of our current benches.
- b. Grove Angling Club minutes from their Annual General Meeting on 2.3.25 – noted.
- c. Consideration of whether to apply for a VE Day Grant – Cllr Buxton offered to complete the application form for funds towards the Veterans event that is being organised.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

² May 7th and 8th, June 10th and 11th