

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday June 28th 2023 at 7.00pm

**PRESENT** Councillors Jane Buxton (Chairman), Gill Lee (Vice Chairman), Vanessa Bracegirdle, Kath Desborough, Roy Fairbairn, Simon Forde, Jean Hall, Leigh Marshall, Mac Mallard, Debbie Moore, Joy Sellars and Ronnie White

with County Councillors Keith Girling, Johnno Lee and Sam Smith, Head Groundsman James Brown, three members of the public, the Clerical Assistant and Clerk.

The Chairman advised all present that the meeting was being recorded.

### 4513 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Karen Callingham, Mandie Elson, Robert Green and District Cllr Emma Oldham.

### 4514 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Simon Forde and Jean Hall as serving members of Newark & Sherwood District Council declared a personal interest to any issue relating to the District Council.

### 4515 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments relating to scheduled agenda items. No-one present wished to address the Council and the Chairman re-opened the meeting.

### 4516 **Reports from Representatives**

District Councillor Forde circulated a report outlining his activities since the last meeting, his appointment to, and responsibilities of various District Council committees, and his intentions as one of the Parish Council footpaths officers.

District Cllr Oldham had provided, in her absence, a written report of her activities since the last meeting including highlighting public concerns and opposition to the planning application for a residential development on land off Lowfield Lane

District Cllr Hall informed that she has secured a number of additional litter bins for the Stafford Avenue area. Lidl has undertaken to replace the damaged bollards for the store car park and this will be regularly expedited. A Heron Way resident has offered to provide a source of electricity to enable a CCTV camera to be installed near to the car park and picnic bench area – this issue was referred to the Amenities Committee meeting for discussion.

County Cllr Smith advised that the first of the routine street weed spraying programmes was delayed slightly but is now underway. He has asked the authority to look into the possibility of installing plastic mesh onto the grassed verges of Fairfield Avenue where parents park at drop off and collection times for John Hunt Primary School. Resurfacing work is scheduled to start on Barnby Road at the end of July. An overgrown hedge and large area of brambles will be removed which run between the Horticultural Unit behind St. Giles Church Hall and Knotts Court. He has made financial contributions to both the Balderton Methodist Church for their community café and the Newark U3A which meets monthly in the Village Centre. Enforcement action is being undertaken against parking on double yellow lines outside Chuter Ede Primary School. His opposition to, and fight against the planning application for a residential development on land at Highfields School continues.

County and District Cllr Lee reported that he has asked the County Council authority to consider installing double yellow lines on Belvoir Road next to Sainsburys to ease parking problems. He has arranged for speed monitoring lines to be installed on Hawton Lane to measure actual speeds and determine whether additional speed calming measures are necessary. He has requested parking enforcement action be taken against illegal parked vehicles outside Tesco on Main Street. He reminded members that if there is an appetite to provide a youth club for the village that the Council needs to consider this sooner rather than later as youth services have very restricted resources which get committed early. He advised that every year County Councillors are invited to submit priority majority highway repair schemes for their Wards and Parish Councils need to submit what they consider is a priority scheme to their local County members. He was unable to advise when the 30 m.p.h. speed limit on Hawton Lane would be implemented.

The Chairman asked District and County representatives if they would consider providing written reports for future meetings that could be circulated in advance to enable members to raise any questions. It was appreciated that representatives may still have last minute knowledge of issues they can only bring to members' attention verbally at the meetings.

4517 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> 2023, having been circulated previously were approved.

4518 **Clerk/Chairman's Update, actions and matters arising from the minutes.**

A printed update of ongoing issues was circulated and noted; the update is published with the minutes. The following issues were discussed, approved and/or agreed:

**a) Full Council**

**1. Re Minute 4506 Policy Working Party** Cllr Forde advised that members of the new Working Party (to be named the Policy Working Party) had met initially prior to the Full Council meeting and agreed a scope of priority issues to be reviewed, the first being Council Standing Orders. The Working Party's first meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**b) Amenities**

**1. Re Minute 3518.1 Heron Way Car Park** Cllr Moore pointed out that the minutes should have included that the committee agreed a security company be deployed as soon as possible to deploy the bollards every night at the car park. Cllr Forde advised that this

service may possibly be provided at a lower cost, by the contractor who locks the District Council Grove Street play area every night. This alternative option will be pursued and implemented if possible.

2. **Re Minute 3518.2 Variseeder** Members were provided with a basic cost to saving analysis for the machine and gave further discussion to purchasing the unit. It was,

AGREED with eight votes for, one against and three abstentions that the committee's recommendation to purchase the machine be approved.

c) **Planning**

4519 **Committee(s)**

The minutes of the following committees were confirmed as a true record and signed:

Amenities of June 6<sup>th</sup> 2023

Planning of June 14<sup>th</sup> 2023

4520 **Annual Parish Meeting Minutes**

Members reviewed a draft of the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on April 12<sup>th</sup> 2023. Cllr Callingham, in her absence, had raised a number of suggested minor Amendments to the minutes which will be re-drafted for circulating and noting at a future Council meeting.

4521 **CCTV For Playing Field and Village Centre**

Initial discussion was given to the purchase of a new CCTV camera system for the playing field and Village Centre, a quotation of £6275 for the same having been circulated following the Council's contractor advising that the existing system being in need of a considerable upgrade. Discussion was given to the benefits of CCTV cameras, insurance implications should it not be replaced etc. Enquiries will be made with the District Council to ascertain whether an audit of this Council's camera requirements could be undertaken and/or whether a system could be provided by the larger authority who has recently upgraded Newark town's system.

4522 **Financial Assistance**

Consideration was given to a written request for financial assistance from Newark & Sherwood Community & Voluntary Service for a grant towards the cost of expanding their Door 2 Door transport service. It was,

AGREED that a grant of £250 be made to the organisation.

4523 **Geocache**

Members gave further discussion to the request from two local girl guides to place a Geocache at the Lake. The Geocache should not be too close to the water and beyond the limestone path. Mr Brown was authorised to approve the exact location after liaising with the family concerned and members will be advised where that is once agreed.

4524 **Additional Meetings**

Members agreed that a meeting of the Amenities Committee will take place on July 12<sup>th</sup> and then a meeting of the Full Council on July 26<sup>th</sup>. The previous Schedule of Meetings will then resume as published with no scheduled evening meetings in August.

4525 **Financial Statements**

The details as published were correct, there being a total payment requirement of £28,733.69 for May 2023. Cllr Moore raised questions relating to the cost of e-mail addresses for members and cleaning costs; answers to these will be sought in due course.

4526 **Highways Faults**

The following faults/issues were raised for passing onto the relevant authority:  
No new issues were raised but clarification was sought from the County Councillors regarding liability issues of yellow and white paint marked potholes.

4527 **Clerk's Additional Information**

The following items of correspondence/information have been received and were noted:

1. An e-mail from a resident reporting another fire near to the picnic bench at Heron Way car park, asking when CCTV will be installed there to ease the anti-social behaviour.
2. A request from the Dance Studio proprietor seeking permission to install air conditioning in the building at her own expense. Members asked Cllr Fairbairn to review this issue initially from an energy efficiency point of view.
3. Notice of the Notts Association of Local Councils' (NALC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday September 11<sup>th</sup> 2023. Two members, Cllrs Buxton and Lee expressed an interest in being nominated to NALC's Executive Committee but there can only be one representative per Council. This issue will be discussed at the next Council meeting – nominations are required to be submitted by August 5<sup>th</sup> 2023.
4. Details from NALC of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day on June 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 where communities are encouraged to light a Beacon at 9.15pm .

4528 **Future Agenda Items**

1. The issue of a possible CCTV camera for the Heron Way car park area.
2. The issue of nominating a member for NALC's Executive Committee.

4529 **Exempt Item**

It was resolved that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the special nature of the information in the business to be transacted, any public and press be excluded from the meeting for the duration of this agenda item. Cllrs Desborough and White, members of the public and staff other than the Clerk left the meeting. A legal issue was duly discussed and agreed upon.

The meeting closed at approximately 9.15pm.