

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held remotely on Wednesday February 24th 2021 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Allen (Vice Chairman), Mrs Hurst, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mallard, Mayall B.E.M., Mrs Newstead and Newstead

with one members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

3267 **Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Roberts M.B.E., Scott and Ms White.

3268 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Mrs Brooks and Mrs Hurst, as serving members of Newark & Sherwood District Council, declared a personal interest to any issue relating to the District Council.

3269 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. A resident asked the Council to consider replacing the gate at Orchid Close, Lakeside with an alternative form of barrier that would allow adequate access for pushchairs and wheelchair users but still slow down cyclists along the pathway. He claimed that the gate and its closing mechanism, which is located behind his property, is noisy when used and that the constant noise is causing distress for his household.

The meeting re-opened. As the resident's request had been received in writing prior to the meeting and was a scheduled agenda item, members concurred with the Chairman's suggestion that the order of the published agenda be adjusted to discuss this request next.

3270 **Lakeside Gate**

Members gave consideration to the reported noisy gate at Orchid Close. The Head Groundsman advised that following receipt of the complaint a rubber barrier had recently been installed to 'buffer' the impact of the noise and collision of the gate. It was considered appropriate to monitor how effective this is for the next six weeks or so and review it at the next Committee meeting.

The resident was thanked for his attendance and he left at approximately 6.45pm.

3271 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

A printed update of ongoing issues was circulated and noted; the update is published with the minutes. The following issues were discussed from the update:

1. **Re Minute 3212 Pillar Clock** A response has still not been received to the second request made of Lidl as to whether the company would consider funding the clock repairs. It is understood that the damage was sustained to the clock while the store was being built. Members felt on balance that it was appropriate to allow a further couple of months for a response from the company when the impact of the pandemic should have eased slightly.
2. **Re Minute 3260 Allotment Water** A price to replace the traditional standpipes with push operated taps will be obtained to enable the committee to further consider this issue.
3. **Re Minute 363 Zip Wire** Collingham and Farndon Parish Councils had been approached for their opinions about zip wires on their play areas and had provided conflicting viewpoints, one claiming they attracted considerable unwanted attention and one saying they were very popular with little or no issues. An alternative scaled down version of a zip wire product has been sourced which should fit within the existing play area; details will be circulated to all committee members in readiness for further consideration at the next meeting.

3272 **Playing Field Flooding**

Members discussed the ongoing flooded areas of the playing field; this is the second year that the field has been under water in places for a sustained period of time. The Head Groundsman advised that it is still local opinion that there is a further contributory underlying factor for the flooding in addition to the extremely wet winter, despite Severn Trent's stance that there is no surface water course under the field. An old map of the village highlights an underground drain at the Warwick Road end of the field; further enquiries will be made with all statutory authorities to ensure that this is flowing freely and that water from the field does still run into it.

3273 **Grave Fees**

Discussion was given to the purchase price for an adjoining single depth grave in the event of a double depth grave not being possible due to the high water table. Members considered on balance that the second grave price should be the same as the original price.

3274 **Heron Way Car Park**

It has been brought to the Council's attention that a mini-bus seems to be permanently parked, including overnight, in a corner of the Heron Way car park at Lakeside. It is understood that the vehicle's owner lives adjacent to the car park and has been provided with a key to the removable bollards at the car park by one of the two residents' who was trusted with the keys, contravening the previously agreed procedures. Letters will be sent to the two original keyholders reminding them of the agreement and their undertaking, advising that if it is considered that the practice is being abused the Council's decision to install the bollards may be reversed. A letter will also be sent to the vehicle owner advising that the car park is not for private use and the vehicle cannot be permanently stored there.

3275 Highway Faults

Members were invited to raise any new issues or faults to pass onto relevant authorities:

- a) The poor state in general of Oak Drive and Lansbury Road/Wilfred Avenue. The Clerk understood that some work is scheduled to repair potholes on Oak Drive, but the Lansbury Road/Wilfred Avenue problem should be raised separately with the appropriate County Councillor for that Ward because this issue has been previously reported directly to the County Council who responded that the road condition did not meet the necessary criteria for any work.
- b) The poor state of the road at the junction of Barnby Road and Coddington Road which floods considerably during wet weather and is need of surface water drainage improvements.

3276 Correspondence and Information

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

- a) Some repeated requests have been made by residents for a litter bin in the Lansbury Road/Hawton Lane junction area to replace a dog waste bin which was removed some weeks ago. Cllr Mrs Hurst undertook to make enquiries with the District Council.
- b) The Grove Angling Club would like to discuss options following a site meeting with the Environment Agency representative concerning natural barriers, to prevent fish migrating into the pump pond area and to improve the angling at the Lake in general. The Clerk will make contact with the Club Chairman for further details.
- c) The District Council is undertaking a consultation on the Review of the Public Space Protection Order (Dog Controls). The closing date for completed questionnaires is April 30th 2021; copies of the Review will be circulated to all committee members.

3277 Future Agenda Items

No items were raised.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.45pm.