

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held in the Balderton Village Centre on Wednesday May 24th 2023 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Lydia Hurst (Outgoing Chairman in the chair for the start of the meeting) Vanessa Bracegirdle, Jane Buxton, Karen Callingham, Kath Desborough, Mandie Elson, Roy Fairbairn, Simon Forde, Robert Green, Gill Lee, Leigh Marshall, Mac Mallard, Debbie Moore, Joy Sellars and Ronnie White

with County Councillors Keith Girling and John Lee, District Cllr Emma Oldham, eighteen members of the public, the Deputy Clerk and Clerk.

The Chairman was asked to change the order of the agenda to take three items relating to the 2022/23 accounts first, in order that the outgoing Chairman sign the relevant papers. This was agreed with fourteen votes for and one against.

4492 Annual Internal Auditor's Report

Copies of the Annual Internal Auditor's Report for 2022/23 had been previously circulated; these were formally noted.

4493 Annual Governance Statement

Copies of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022/23 had been previously circulated; these were duly approved and it was,

AGREED to authorise that the Chairman and Clerk sign Section 1 of the AGAR.

4494 AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022/23

The Responsible Financial Officer had prepared, signed and circulated Section 2, the Accounting Statements for members' consideration. These were considered and approved, and it was,

AGREED that they be signed by the Chairman.

4495 Chairman

Two nominations were received for Cllrs Jane Buxton and Gill Lee. A paper vote was undertaken with nine votes for Cllr Buxton and six votes for Cllr Lee. Cllr Buxton was therefore declared Chairman. The outgoing Chairman gave a speech before inviting Cllr Buxton to take the chair and sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the Chairmanship which was duly done. She thanked her fellow Councillors for their support in electing her as Chairman, and thanked Lydia Hurst for all she had done.

4496 **Vice Chairman**

Two nomination were received for Cllrs Gill Lee and Joy Sellars. A paper vote was taken with eight votes for Cllr Lee and seven for Cllr Sellars. Cllr Lee was therefore declared Vice Chairman; she thanked members for their support.

4497 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from County Cllr Sam Smith.

4498 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Forde and Hall (as serving members of the District Council) declared a personal interest to any issue relating to Newark & Sherwood District Council. Cllr Fairbairn (as an allotment holder) declared a personal interest to minute reference 4501 - appointment of the Allotment sub-committee.

4499 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. Two residents raised their concerns about anti-social behaviour on the Lidl car park caused by speeding vehicles, loud music etc. It is understood that the store should close off the car park to vehicles overnight but this does not happen.

One resident congratulated the new Council following the recent local elections.

The meeting re-opened; enquiries will be made regarding Lidl's obligations to secure the car park from unauthorised users before the next Council meeting.

4500 **Representatives**

The following representatives were appointed:

British Gypsum Liaison Group

Cllrs Forde and Green.

4501 **Committees**

The committee members and officers are as follows:

Amenities Committee Councillors Bracegirdle, Callingham, Elson, Fairbairn, Forde, Green, Hall, Mallard Marshall, Moore, Sellars and White.

Planning Committee Councillors Bracegirdle, Callingham, Elson, Fairbairn, Forde, Green, Hall, Mallard, Marshall, Moore and Sellars.

Council Review Committee Councillors Moore and White.

Allotment Sub Committee Councillors Fairbairn, Marshall and Sellars.

Lakeside Working Party Councillors Bracegirdle, Callingham, Elson, Marshall and Sellars.

Renewable Energy Working Party Councillors Fairbairn and Moore

(The Chairman and Vice Chairman are ex-officio on all committees).

Footpaths Officers Councillors Forde, Hall and Marshall.
Emergency Officer Councillor White.
Safety Officer Councillor White.
Flood Store Key Holders Councillors Buxton and Mallard.

4502 **Reports from Representatives**

The Chairman with fellow members support decided to alter the order of the published agenda to take this item next.

County Cllr Girling congratulated Cllr Buxton on her election as Chairman and advised that he is looking forward to working alongside both returning and newly elected members. He encouraged all members to try the County Council's interactive App 'Mynottsapp' which is useful for reporting routine highways issues such as faulty street lights, potholes, overgrown vegetation etc., as well as being a great source of information.

County Cllr Lee gave an outline of youth club provision costs which newly elected members had previously expressed an intention to explore for Balderton. He also advised that this can take at least a year to secure as the County Council's youth service resources are quite limited. He also reported that the year-long Staple Lane road closure planned to construct the planned southern relief road has been postponed. He asked Cllr Callingham to provide details of a complaint she had received about speeding cars and hazardous on Hawton Lane/Meadow Road near to the newsagent shop.

County Cllrs Girling and Lee, and District Cllr Oldham left the meeting at this point (approximately 7.35pm).

4503 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday April 5th 2023, having been circulated previously were approved, confirmed as a true record and signed.

4504 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

An update of ongoing matters from the minutes of the previous Council meeting and subsequent committee meetings was circulated and noted. Updates circulated prior to each committee meeting had been included with the minutes. The following issues were discussed:-

a) Council

1. **Re Minute 4489c Annual Parish Meeting** The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting on April 12th 2023 will be circulated at the next meeting of the Full Council for noting only, and will then be referred for approval at the next meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting.

b) Planning

c) Amenities

1. **Re Minute 3503 Heron Way Car Park** Further clarification will be sought from the local security company regarding any minimum contract time, how soon the

service could realistically be implemented etc. and the issue will be given further consideration.

2. **Re Minute 3504 Allotments** Cllr Fairbairn advised that he had suggested that new tenants pay three years rent up front, not two as recorded in the minutes. Members asked that this issue be referred to the Allotment sub-committee for further consideration.
3. **Re Minute 3505 Variseeder** Members were not prepared at this stage to approve the committee's recommendation to purchase an over seeding machine and asked that the issue be discussed again at the next Full Council meeting.
4. **Re Minute 3506 Coronation Planters for Schools** Members were not prepared at this stage to approve the committee's recommendation to purchase commemorative planters for the four village primary schools and asked that it be given further discussion at the next Amenities Committee meeting

4505 **Committees**

The minutes of the following committees were confirmed as a true record and signed:
Planning of April 17th 2023
Amenities of April 26th 2023

4506 **New Working Party**

Cllr Forde had proposed that a small working party be formed to review delegation arrangements, terms of reference for committees, standing order reviews, contracts, byelaws, a vision for the Council, staff needs and contracts, outline budgets etc. Members agreed to this suggestion and the following working party was appointed: Cllrs Fairbairn, Forde, Moore and White. The working party hoped to hold an initial meeting and report back to the next Full Council meeting if at all possible.

4507 **Meeting Start Times**

Consideration was given to a proposal that evening scheduled meeting times be changed from 6.30pm to 7pm to allow greater opportunity for any working Councillors to attend. It was,

AGREED with fourteen votes for and one against that this be implemented for a trial period of twelve months.

4508 **Financial Statement**

The details as published were correct, there being a total payment requirement of £55,466.20 for March and £39,035.99 for April 2023.

4509 **Highways Faults**

The following fault/issue was raised for passing on to the relevant authority: Cllr Green asked that enquiries be made to ascertain who owns the land at the corner of Jericho Road and Hawton Lane as the land is often subject to fly tipping.

4510 **Clerk's Additional Information**

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

- 1) An e-mail from a resident regarding ongoing anti-social behaviour issues on the Lidl car park (the resident concerned had addressed the Council during the public session earlier in the meeting).
- 2) A report of fly tipping on Chaucer Road which has since been cleared.
- 3) An invitation for Councillors to attend the County Council's Civic Service on June 25th 2023 in Southwell Minster at 3pm.
- 4) Chuter Ede Primary School has advised that it can no longer provide a power supply to the defibrillator located on its external fence so an alternative site needs to be secured before the colder weather. Enquiries will be made with the retail outlets on Brisbane Court.

4511 **Future Agenda Items**

- a) Some of the allocated Community Infrastructure Fund money needs to be spent during the current financial year; this will be included on a future agenda to discuss possible options.
- b) Cllr Bracegirdle raised the problem of rats in the Catkin Way vicinity of the Lake. This issue was considered to be too pressing to leave to another meeting and the Clerk was asked to liaise with Environmental Services at the District Council about the problem to see if any measures can be taken.
- c) The Chairman suggested a change to the published schedule of meetings; i.e. that the Amenities Committee meeting on June 28th be changed to one of the Full Council; members supported this proposal.

4512 **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 Deputy Clerk left the meeting. A legal issue was duly discussed and agreed upon.

The meeting closed at approximately 9.15pm,
members having agreed during the course of the meeting that the maximum duration
time be extended from two hours (as stated in Standing Orders), to allow the business
on the published agenda to be concluded.