

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday January 11th 2023 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Allen (Chairman) Mrs Brooks (Vice Chairman), Mrs Batey, Gloster, Mrs Hurst, Green, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mallard, Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Roberts M.B.E. and Ms White

with five members of the public, the Clerk and Clerical Assistant.

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

3462 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Fairbairn and Head Groundsman Mr Brown.

3463 **Declarations of Interest**

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

3464 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments regarding scheduled agenda items:
A resident from the Friends of Balderton Group spoke about a request for notice boards which will be used to promote local activities and be a source of information for those without internet access.

The resident was thanked and the meeting re-opened at approximately 6.35pm.

3465 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

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

1. **Re Minute 3444 Flood Store** The District Council has confirmed that the flood store which was originally donated by the County Council, is now considered to be the property of this Council and members could therefore decide to relocate it. This issue will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

3466 **Playing Field Flooding**

Since the Masefield Crescent drain was de-silted, there seems to have been an overall improvement to the playing field drainage despite a relatively wet winter. No football matches have yet had to be cancelled due to flooding. However, the field is still quite boggy around some of the perimeter and members asked that future consideration be given to installing paths across certain areas to provide improved access at wet times, particularly for wheelchair users.

3467 **Littering around Lakeside**

Photographs were circulated of litter found and collected by residents at Lakeside. Some of the waste left in litter bins can be traced back to local residences as it includes address details. Councillors agreed that collecting such evidence for Newark & Sherwood District Council, the waste management authority, would be a good way forward to try and deter further fly tipping. Cllr Ms White advised that W.I.S.E. has patrolled Balderton for 188 hours and issued 146 fixed penalty tickets for both littering and dog order offences. The Chairman thanked the public for the community litter picks and it was agreed that a request be submitted to the District Council for further litter picking equipment. The District Council signs which advise people of the Designated Public Place Order for the Lake, relating to anti-social behaviour and alcohol misuse, are very faded and need replacing; this has been brought to the authority's attention before but will be requested again.

Members also spoke about the littering problems on the playing field, particularly the waste left behind after football matches, mainly from spectators. All teams and the local football league will be contacted and reminded of their responsibilities.

3468 **Community Notice Board**

Consideration was given to the request from 'Friends of Balderton' to install two notice boards around the Lake. Too many boards there could result in an overcrowded appearance and an alternative suggestion was made that the Council condense the contents of its two existing Lakeside noticeboards into one, and donate the other for authorised community use. All notices would be Council approved before displaying. Enquiries will be made to see if this can be accommodated, and if not, a price for a matching noticeboard will be obtained. The need for further community notice boards elsewhere in the village other than Lakeside was raised, although both Tesco and the Post Office allow local notices to be displayed in-store free of charge.

3469 **Millennium Tower Clock**

Further discussion was given to the possible use of the tower clock located at the Lidl/Lakeside Shopping Centre. Cllr Mrs Hurst advised that she had contacted the Horological Society at Upton for further repair costs. As there will be a cost to the Council even if the structure is only removed and the electrical supply capped off, members asked that a firm quote be obtained to do that. Further consideration can then be given whether to remove it, repair it or change its face to show the village coat of arms which was a suggested alternative use for the structure.

3470 **Highway Issues**

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

- a) None of the streetlights between the Hawton Lane bridge and Bowbridge Road are working.
- b) There is flooding on London Road near to the junction with Staple Lane opposite The Hawthorns property.
- c) Parking near to and on the roads around Chuter Ede Primary School is again getting increasingly dangerous at school drop off and collection times. This will be raised with County Councillors at the Full Council meeting.

3471 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) The wooden fence around Heron Way car park needs replacing at an estimated cost of £530 for the necessary materials (work to be undertaken by the groundsmen). Members approved this expenditure. Further costs are being obtained to continue the resurfacing work to the limestone path around the Lake, this time from Heron Way car park to Rowan Way. This should be received in readiness for the next committee meeting.
- b) Notice that Staple Lane from its junction with Jericho Road to its junction with Middlebeck Way will be closed for construction works for the A1 access relief road, from Monday January 30th 2023 to Thursday March 21st 2024. Work will be also carried out between 8am and 5pm from Monday January 16th to Sunday January 29th for vegetation clearance and survey works.
- c) Notice that works will take place on Hawton Lane adjacent to the Nelson Road junction by Severn Trent Water from Monday January 16th 2023 to Wednesday January 18th 2023.
- d) The latest Stakeholder Update from Temp. Inspector Ward of Newark Police, and the latest ASB Newsletter from the District Council, both outlining recent activities.
- e) The Environment Agency has been approached for advice regarding the Lake bank erosion at Orchid Close. Funding opportunities will be explored in the interim for necessary works to the land which is expected to run into several thousands of pounds.

3472 **Future Agenda Items**

No further items were raised other than the possible re-location of the flood store.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.25pm.