

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday December 14th 2022 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Hurst (Chairman), Mrs Lee (Vice Chairman), Allen, Mrs Batey, Mrs Brooks, Green, Lynch, Mallard, Roberts M.B.E and Ms White, with County Cllrs Girling and Smith, six members of the public, the Clerk and Clerical Assistant.

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

4435 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fairbairn, Gloster, Newstead and Mrs Newstead and County Cllr Lee

4436 **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 issue relating to the District Council.

4437 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments relating to scheduled agenda items. Questions were raised relating to Cllrs Scott's resignation from the Council and the showering facilities; the Clerk advised that these issues would be addressed in the Clerk/Chairman's comments section of the meeting. One resident asked a question relating to the Council's Terms of Reference. One resident questioned the validity of an entry in the Council minutes of November 2nd where the Chairman spoke about a moonlit vigil at the Lake, and also thanked District Councillors for a new litter bin installed on Rowan Way.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting at approximately 6.40pm.

4438 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday November 2nd 2022, having been circulated previously were approved, confirmed as a true record and signed.

4439 **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:

a) Amenities

- 1. Re Minute 3458 Showers** Water flow restrictors will be installed to the taps and showers as recommended by the Renewable Energy Working Party.
- 2. Re Minute 3460 Councillor Resignation** Following Tom Scott's resignation from the Council, notices will be published notifying the casual vacancy this creates on the Balderton North Ward. A bi-election cannot be called as there is less than six months to go before the scheduled local elections in May 2023, but members may still co-opt a Councillor for the remainder of the current term of office.

4440 **Committees**

The minutes of the following committees were confirmed as a true record and signed:
Planning of November 28th 2022
Amenities of November 30th 2022

4441 **Budget for 2023/24**

Members gave further discussion to budgetary requirements for the next financial year. Setting the precept was deferred until the January Full Council meeting by which time the District Council should have provided the Tax Base figure for 2023 to enable more accurate calculation options for any proposed increases.

4442 **Terms of Reference Working Party**

The recommendations made by the Terms of Reference Working Party, copies having been previously circulated, were unanimously approved. It was pointed out that all recommendations made by any committee, sub-committee or working party have to be approved, or otherwise, by the Full Council.

4443 **Financial Statement**

The details as published were correct, there being a total payment requirement of £36501.54 for October 2022.

4444 **Reports from Representatives**

Cllr Ms White reported that Robert Jenrick has two trees to donate within his constituency which have originated from the Royal Estates and he has kindly agreed that one of these be donated for planting in Balderton.

County Cllr Smith reported that:

The additional £15 million investment made by the County Council for road improvements is really starting to show through local road resurfacing and repairs.

Enquiries are ongoing about the persistent flooding situation at the junction of Coronation Street and London Road both during and after heavy rain.

Main Street near to the railway bridge has been put forward for a road resurfacing project.

He has submitted a request that the County Council withdraw their agreement with

Highfields School if the latest planning application for a residential development on the site is again refused by the District Council.

County Cllr Girling advised that:

As the relevant Cabinet Member for the County Council he can order the Highfield School land issue as mentioned by Cllr Smith be considered for withdrawal if it is refused planning permission. This is because there is a clause in the original agreement but any such decision has to be made within a certain timescale. Consultation would then be needed to determine what to do with the land.

The County Council is currently considering its budget options for the next financial year and is facing some tough decisions.

4445 **Highways Faults**

The following faults/issues were raised for passing onto the relevant authority:

- a) There are some trees near to Brisbane Court in need of pruning. This will be looked at by County Cllr Smith who is scheduled to be there next week to plant two donated Horse Chestnut Trees.
- b) There are several large potholes on London Road southbound by the Lidl store.
- c) A road/pavement leaf sweep is required on London Road near to the children's nursery and junction with Baines Avenue.

4446 **Clerk's Additional Information**

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

- a) Notice of proposed upgrade works to the telecom base station near to the Lidl store on London Road. Cllr Girling urged members to closely review the plans to ensure the installation will not impair vision for vehicles exiting onto London Road from the shopping centre because a similar upgrade on Grange Road in Newark has caused considerable issues for drivers.
- b) A Christmas card for the Council from Robert Jenrick M.P. The card has been designed by a Balderton Orchard School pupil.

4447 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Mrs Lee asked that the option of members holding face to face surgeries for residents be given future consideration.

Cllr Allen asked that advice be sought to ensure the Council is doing all it can to protect visitors to the Lake during very cold spells of weather when the water can, at times freeze over. Recent tragedies at a lake in Solihull are a sad reminder of the hazards of frozen water. Local schools should be contacted to remind pupils of the hazards.

Seasonal greetings were exchanged
and the meeting closed at approximately 7.25pm.