

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022 at 6.30pm

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

with four members of the public and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs Gloster and Lynch.

### 7411 **Payments**

All payments were approved and authorised; a list of these is published with the minutes.

### 7412 **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.

### 7413 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments but the residents present did not wish to speak.

### 7414 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

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

**1. Re Minute 7379 Grant Application** The District Council has requested additional information relating to the submitted bid for a CCTV camera on a lamp post column at the Macaulay Drive end of the playing field and Public Footpath 1, indicating that the application is being favourably considered.

### 7415 **Council Office Ventilation**

Members gave further consideration to installing a heat recovery ventilation system to provide tempered fresh air into the Council Office. Three quotations had been received and circulated to members prior to the meeting for reviewing. Members expressed their concern at the cost, and though not refusing the request entirely at this stage, asked whether alternatives could be explored such as purchasing a portable ioniser unit.

7416 **Committee Terms of Reference**

Members gave consideration to introducing Terms of Reference for Committees following a recommendation made by the Internal Auditor. An example of such a document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members considered on balance that adopting Terms of Reference for Council's committees would be beneficial and that a Working Party should be created to commence this task. Formation of the Working Party will be included as an agenda item for next week's Full Council meeting.

7417 **Council Standing Orders**

Members were scheduled to undertake a review of Standing Orders as recommended by the Internal Auditor but agreed to defer this item to the next committee meeting thereby allowing members a greater opportunity to fully consider the current document.

7418 **Council Financial Regulations**

Members were also scheduled to undertake a review of Financial Regulations as recommended by the Internal Auditor but agreed to defer this item to the next committee meeting thereby allowing members a greater opportunity to fully consider the current document.

7419 **Jubilee Working Party**

Members of the Working Party sought funding approval from the committee up to a maximum of £2000 to undertake the following projects to celebrate The Queen's Platinum celebrations:

- a) The planting of 70 trees throughout the village including a special one (possibly an Oak Tree originating from the Major Oak supplied by the County Council) by the Chairman as part of The Queen's Green Canopy Project.
- b) Creating red white and blue planting schemes at the two Gateway signs to the village with bedding plants, bunting and flags.
- c) Installing a bespoke external clock in the apex of the Dance Studio building on the playing field.

7420 **Public Footpath 1**

Consideration was given to asking the District Council to close the public footpath that runs outside the perimeter of the playing field to try and ease anti-social behaviour and crime. Though sympathetic to the reasons why this had originally been suggested, members considered that closing the footpath overnight could be fraught with logistical difficulties including who would actually lock any gates, the proposed times etc. Members agreed to defer this issue until the outcome of the CCTV camera bid is known, as this would hopefully help to reduce crime and behaviour problems along the footpath.

7421 **Highways Faults**

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

1. A stretch of Barnby Road is in a poor condition where the road surface is breaking up near to the level crossing.
2. The hazardous condition of Coddington Road was again raised, with a suggestion that a joint County Councillor approach be applied to rectify this. Coddington has a new County Councillor, Debbie Darby who was very recently elected – perhaps she would work with Balderton’s County members to address this and get the road resurfaced.
3. The Mount Road estate has many potholes that when reported, do not seem to get repaired. County Cllr Lee will be asked whether he has submitted Mount Road for a resurfacing project which may explain why any potholes are not being repaired.

7422 **Police Update**

Members discussed any recent anti-social behaviour and crime issues in the village:

It is understood that some off-road bikes have recently been confiscated along the Sustrans cycle route by the Police.

The suggestion made by the Police for the Council to consider installing a further CCTV camera to cover the side of the Dance Studio building was not supported at the Amenities Committee meeting. This has not yet been relayed to the officers who will be advised to make enquiries with the District Council to ascertain whether one of their portable CCTV cameras could be installed there. Or, consideration could be given to relocating the Council’s own deployable camera from Orchid Close/Rowan Way.

7423 **Correspondence/Information**

The following items of correspondence/information have been received for noting:

- a) Notice that the County Council is proposing an extension of the 30mph speed limit along Hawton Lane from the junction of Bowbridge Road to Nelson Road. Any comments or objections to the proposals to be submitted by March 11<sup>th</sup> 2022.
- b) Coddington Road will be subject to temporary two-way traffic signals on Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm for the A1 bridge to be inspected by Highways England.

7424 **Future Agenda Items**

The Chairman asked that the issue of the Council’s web-site hosting be included on the Full Council agenda.

The meeting was closed at approximately 7.00pm