



AM24/12

Balderton Parish Council Amenities Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2024 at 7pm

Attendees:

Balderton Parish Councillors: Vanessa Bracegirdle, Jane Buxton, Mandie Elson (Chair), Debbie Moore (Vice-chair), Dean Scott, and Joy Sellars

Staff: Marion Fox Goddard (Parish Clerk)

Public: 5 residents

41. Declarations to record the meeting

The clerk recorded the meeting.

42. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Bright and Callingham.

43. Declarations of interest – none.

44. a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for this committee.

A nomination was received, seconded and it was unanimously agreed for Cllr Elson to be Chair. The Vice Chair decision was deferred as Cllr Moore had not arrived.

45. Public Open Forum

An allotment holder asked if he didn't sign the new allotment agreement, would he have to return his key. The clerk explained that the new agreement will be going out to all existing allotment holders (not those who have taken an allotment in 2024) for agreement. However, there may be a few tweaks to it following feedback from the two allotment representatives and some other allotment holders (hosepipe clarification, glass green houses, clarification around locking the site). An allotment subcommittee is due to be held on July 2nd when there will be more time for further discussion on this. The meeting will include a 20-minute public forum.

A bowls club member introduced himself and explained that he had come to discuss item 55.

44. b. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for this committee.

A nomination was received, seconded and it was unanimously agreed for Cllr Moore to be Vice Chair.

46. Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on April 10th, 2024

The minutes were approved as an accurate record and Councillor Elson duly signed them.

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55. Consideration of a request from Balderton Bowls Club – access without climbing over boards

It was agreed to investigate costs of providing a solution closer to the entry point for the green, a lift out option being preferred. The clerk explained that this would be done in autumn/winter 2024 as the grounds team have a lot of seasonal work to do under list of jobs already planned. Cost to be discussed with the bowls club when we have put a quote together. In the meantime, the lawnmower access point is an option the bowls club can consider.

47. Clerk's update¹

The following report was noted.

	Item	Update
1	Millennium Clock	Cllr Hall has a contact at Lidl who has said that they may contribute to the cost of the clock – <i>Councillor Sellars to send details of the proposed clock to the clerk so she can contact Lidl.</i>
2	Fencing around Heron Way carpark	Work to replace this had been delayed due to rainfall and the holes being full of water and Safer Streets 5 installations taking priority. <i>Councillors requested that this is top of the grounds team's list – Clerk will discuss with them.</i>
3	Lake	Covenant – Clerk will bring a report to full council. See item 53 – Litter at the lake
4	Allotments	The old community allotment has been cleared and 2 quarter plots created. One has been let; the other has been offered. See 48 – Allotment agreement.
5	Safer Streets	Youth Pod concrete base has been laid. Feedback has been mainly positive about the pod however there was a small fire in the bin next to it since the last meeting. The police and N&SDC investigated this and N&SDC's antisocial behaviour team are regularly visiting the pod. The new CCTV system at Balderton Village Centre and the centrally controlled CCTV that N&SDC monitor (funded by SS5) are helping to tackle issues. The new bench at the lake (near peg 18) and the new bin on Mallard Green have been installed as agreed by the Amenities Committee in April. A planning application has been submitted to N&SDC for the lighting and CCTV column at Heron Way car park. The water safety day which had been planned for July 4 th has been postponed until September due to the general election.
6	Church Wall	RIBA stage 4 report has been ordered following the receipt of the report which detailed the condition of the churchyard walls.
7	Memorial safety testing/Cemetery management.	Training has been booked for this month so tests can be done going forward. We will do some communications work around this to let visitors to the cemetery and St Giles know why the tests are necessary. We have joined the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management.
8	Village Centre	LED lights have been installed in the main building, changing rooms and workshop. Replacement heaters were not required so the funding for this was switched to upgrade lights in the workshop to LED. The police are investigating an incidence of dangerous driving in the car park on 29/5/24. The new CCTV cameras have helped the police identify who was involved. Ad hoc bookings are picking up and we are in the process of setting up a large (4 afternoon/evenings per week regular booking).
9	Tree Survey	Extensive amount of work is required across our sites. Some trees need to be tackled as soon as possible. Some can wait and further quotes will be sought as the cost of the tree work is more than we budgeted for this financial year. We may be able to delay some of the work until future financial years based on the report we

¹ Note: *Italics indicate where report has been updated (verbal during meeting) since agenda pack issued.*

	Item	Update
		have received. I will be working on this in future months. See item 51c – quote for work required before the Autumn.
10	Public Toilet (onside of dance school)	Vandalism – flooded 30/5/24. N&SDC's Community Protection Officer has viewed the CCTV and is liaising with the police on this. <i>The new CCTV cameras have helped the police identify who was involved and their parents have been contacted.</i>
11	Dog bins	A resident has reported that the dog bin on London Road, near Highfields School has a damaged lid. <i>A replacement is on order and should arrive in 4 weeks.</i> The grounds staff are due to inspect all the bins in the parish.

48. Update on the new allotment agreement

This item was covered during the public forum - See item 45.

49. Coronation Street playing field update

Newark and Sherwood District Council has advised the Parish Council to commission a drainage specialist so the issue can be investigated, and advice given on options available to resolve the problem. The committee agreed quotes should be obtained for Full Council consideration.

50. Millenium Clock update

This item was covered during the clerk's report - See item 47 (1).

51. Trees

- a. The committee noted the clerk's report on this - See item 47 (9).
- b. The committee agreed to recommend the draft Tree Management Policy to Full Council for adoption.
- c. The committee agreed to proceed with the urgent tree work (1 tree at Coronation Street Park – removal of major dead wood and 1 tree at Mount Road Cemetery – crown reduction – both trees pose a risk due to their location and potential for injuring pedestrians beneath. The remaining trees work in these two areas will also be ordered but will not be done until after bird nesting season. Notices will be put up and social media posts will be put out before the work is completed. The clerk will get quotes for the remainder of the work as the first quote is significantly above the budget for tree work.

52. Graffiti

The committee agreed to ask Cllrs Forde and Hall if a day of action could be held in Balderton again this year (last year this included graffiti removal).

53. Balderton Lake – Litter

The committee agreed that litter picking at the lake should be included in the grounds team work weekly if possible (when bins are emptied). Clerk to discuss with the head groundsman.

54. Defibrillators

- a. **Ghent House** – defibrillator missing. The clerk has been in touch with the Newark Advertiser to see if they can do an article to reach out to find it. It is thought that someone who has used it before may have taken it. Newark Community First Aid are working to find how to change the code before we put in the defibrillator that has been decommissioned at Chuter Ede School. The Clerk explained that the costs for the consumables is raising as

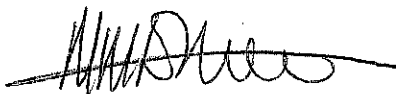
our defibrillators are no longer produced; at some point a cost benefit analysis will be required so the council can decide on replacements.

- b. **Chuter Ede School** – the headmaster is investigating if we can access the power that goes to the electric gates if we move the defibrillator closer to them.
- c. **New Defibrillator at Heron Way car park** – The committee agreed this would be a good idea. Clerk to liaise with Newark Community First Aid to find the best option to take to Full Council for consideration.

56. Correspondence

- a. Request to use paddle boards on the lake –The committee agreed not to allow this as the lake has been designated for wildlife and angling. Many residents campaigned not to have kayaks on the lake so the committee felt paddle boarding would not be suitable. The byelaws for the lake state 'No person shall in the ground: (a) Bathe, wade or wash in the lake or adjoining drainage dyke, stream; or (d) place on any ornamental lake, pond, stream or other water, any boat other than a model yacht or toy boat in pursuance of an agreement with the Council.
- b. Request for picnic bench near behind Grebe Close to be moved – The committee decided not to move the bench as the new CCTV will cover the area (Clerk to send plan to person who made the request).
- c. Emails regarding a camper van on Heron Way car park. The committee agreed to monitor this. The clerk will ask the head groundsman to feedback to the clerk on this.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.



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