

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday June 19th 2019 at 6.30pm.

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks, Green, Mayall B.E.M., Mrs Newstead, Newstead and Scott

with Mr Terry Bailey from the District Council, seven members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

3127 **Committee Chairman**

One nomination was received for Cllr Mrs Brooks who was duly and unanimously elected as Committee Chairman.

3128 **Committee Vice Chairman**

One nomination was received for Cllr Allen who was duly and unanimously elected in his absence as Committee Vice Chairman.

3129 **Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Allen, Mrs Hurst and Ms White.

3130 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Mrs Brooks, as a serving member of Newark & Sherwood District Council, declared a personal interest to any issue relating to the District Council.

3131 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. Residents whose properties back onto the Lidl car park outlined problems experienced from vehicles being driven at speed there in the late evenings. A barrier should have been installed as part of planning permission, preventing vehicular access once the store is closed but this has either not been done or is not being used. Mr Bailey undertook to arrange a multi-agency meeting as soon as possible with representatives from the Police, District Council Planning and Lidl to address these issues.

Five members of the public left the meeting at approximately 6.50pm and Cllr Mrs Lee joined the meeting.

3132 **Anti-Social Behaviour Strategies**

The committee met with Terry Bailey, one of Newark & Sherwood District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Officers who outlined suggestions for supervised sporting activities for young people on the playing field to try and divert them away from anti-social conduct. The field has been subject to some undesirable activity so far this summer and Mr Bailey would like to get measures in place before the main school holidays commence next month. Mr Dave Long from Active 4 All is liaising with Nottingham Forest FC and Trent Bridge Cricket Club to see what youth sessions and games could be organised to take place on the playing field; these would of course have to fit around scheduled cricket matches. Mr Bailey hoped to get a schedule of activity formed imminently for the Council to consider. Ideally the Council could earmark a sum of £1,000 to commit to these activities; not all, if any, of this expense may be incurred.

Mr Bailey was thanked for his attendance, he left and the meeting resumed at approximately 7.20pm.

3133 **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:

1. **Re Minute 3114 Lakeside Litter Bin** Members agreed on balance to commission a galvanised steel basket bin at a cost of £326 to install at Catkin Way, this will match the other bins at Lakeside.
2. **Re Minute 3107.2 Granby Drive Grassed Area** It is understood that Cllr Walker is arranging a site meeting with County Highways representatives regarding the problem of local residents driving over the green area.

3134 **Playing Field Facilities**

Consideration was given to suggestions that a public drinking water fountain be installed on the playing field, along with additional picnic benches. Members considered that it could be seen as a negative move to provide free drinking water when the Café sells drinks, so any such facility would need to be located away from the business, perhaps nearer to the children's play area. An estimate will be obtained of sourcing a water supply to that area for the committee to give further consideration to this option. Additional picnic benches could be useful nearer to the café to encourage the purchase and consumption there of take away food. Enquiries will be made with the café tenants for their thoughts on this.

3135 **Mole Pest Control**

Mr Brown informed the committee of the logistical difficulties of administering mole treatments on a public open area near to a residential boundary of the field following changes in legislation. The chemical used cannot be administered within 25 metres of a residential property so several Macaulay Drive and Brooke Close gardens would be affected, where the moles are active. The field would also have to be closed for forty

eight hours which would impact considerably upon many users, including sports groups and the Café. On balance members considered that the chemical treatment option is untenable at present; Mr Brown will make enquiries regarding other control measures.

3136 Heron Way Car Park

Consideration was given to a request made at the Annual Parish Meeting that the Heron Way car park at Lakeside be gated and locked overnight to try and ease the impact of anti-social behaviour there for nearby residents. A barrier style gate could be an option, although further discussion would be necessary to determine who would open and close it, and at what time. The Clerk was asked to get the price of such a barrier in time for the Full Council meeting.

3137 Lakeside Protection

Discussion was given to enquiring if some form of special status could be afforded to the Lakeside area to control future development and help protect it, similar to a village Conservation Area. Members agreed that enquiries should be made with the District Council and details brought back to the Committee for further discussion. A letter will be sent to a Catkin Way property in the interim regarding a green tarpaulin style cover that has been fixed to the outer side of the garden fence which faces the Lake as it is not considered to be in keeping with the area. It was considered that the tarpaulin would be better fixed to the inside of the garden fence.

3138 Diversionary Sporting Activity

Members gave consideration to the proposals suggested by Mr Bailey earlier in the meeting. Some concerns were expressed that it would be difficult to host the promoted activities alongside the field's regular scheduled sporting fixtures. Full size football matches could not be accommodated until the second half of August when the goals posts are re-installed for friendly football matches played around scheduled cricket matches. The larger M.U.G.A. could be used for five-a-side football as the court size meets F.A. standards. It was also suggested that young people could do some fishing with the Grove Angling Club and enquiries will be made about this in the interim. Members were happy in principle with the notion as outlined by Mr Bailey but agreed that a further meeting will be needed once a firm schedule of activity has been produced. A sum of money has been built into this year's budget to improve play equipment and members approved earmarking £1,000 of that fund towards any costs, as requested by Mr Bailey.

3139 Protection Orders

The Council is invited to take part in a consultation about Designated Public Protection Orders (DPPO) which have been superceded by the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO). Evidence shows that there has been little or no cause to use the powers of the Orders for Balderton and it is the District Council's view not to replace those Orders that have not been used. However, it is understood that this is not necessarily the view of the

area's Police Inspector Heather Sutton. Members considered that the consultation paper should be completed on the basis that a PSPO for Balderton is desirable and should be retained.

3140 Cricket

Members gave consideration to a request from an independently formed Nepalese youth cricket team to carry out practice sessions on the field during the summer. The team has no association with Balderton Cricket Club who lease the field for the season. Though sympathetic to their situation, it would be problematic to accommodate the requested amount and times of the practice sessions. The group will be encouraged instead to join Balderton Cricket Club where they can participate in a full programme of matches and practice/coaching sessions.

3141 Highway Faults

The following faults/issues were raised and will be passed onto the relevant authorities:

- a) The pavements on Longfellow Drive and Goldsmith Road are very uneven in places and need resurfacing.
- b) The gully on Meadow Road between Russell Avenue and Christopher Crescent is broken up and forms quite a deep pothole/rut.
- c) Christopher Crescent is in a poor condition with potholes and badly worn road surface.
- d) A deep pothole on the junction of Macaulay Drive and (Little) Warwick Road.
- e) Several areas flooded during last week's exceptionally heavy rainfall; this will be a separate F&GP committee agenda item.

3142 Correspondence and Information

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

- a) Notice that London Road from the roundabout to Staple Lane will be closed (north westbound only) on Sunday June 23rd 2019 from 9am to 6pm to replace high friction road surfacing.
- b) The latest newsletter from local M.P. Robert Jenrick, including an article on his visit to the new REACH Café on the field.

3143 Future Agenda Items

Cllr Green asked that the Council discuss the lorry delivery system at Sainsbury's on London Road. The current one way system means very large lorries are driving out into Belvoir Road, adding to the surface erosion and causing potholes.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.10pm.