

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday April 13th 2022 at 6.30pm

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

with County Cllr Lee, fifteen members of the public and the Clerk.

4360 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gloster and Green, and County Cllrs Girling and Smith

4361 **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.

4362 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. A resident outlined a proposal to form a group, 'Friends of Balderton Lake' to work alongside the Council and look at planting schemes, creation of wildflower areas, information boards etc., and to engage with schools and young persons' groups to learn about environmental issues. One resident asked that the Council consider extending the Public Session to 30 minutes. Concerns were again raised regarding the Council's agreement with the Y.M.C.A. to allow an amount of supervised canoeing and kayaking on the Lake, questioning who will be responsible if someone was to die whilst undertaking this activity. Claims were made that wildlife can only be disturbed by allowing boats on the water.

The meeting re-opened and the public were thanked for their attendance and comments.

4363 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on March 9th 2022, having been circulated previously were confirmed as a true record and signed.

4364 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

An update of ongoing matters from the minutes of the previous Council meeting and subsequent committee meetings was circulated and noted. Updates circulated prior to each committee meeting had been included with the minutes. The following issues were discussed from the update:

a) Council

- 1. Re Minute 4351.a1 Manners Road Grassed Area** The County Council has advised that only the area between Haddon Drive and Thoroton Avenue is suitable

for tree planting; this will be progressed thanks to County Cllr Lee who has undertaken to fund the scheme. Alternative options will be explored with the authority, such as installing large wooden posts on the periphery of other grassed areas on the estate that are misused by vehicles driving over them.

2. Re Minute 4353 Terms of Reference for Committees The first meeting of the Working Party was arranged and will be held on Monday April 25th 2022.

b) Planning

c) Amenities

1. Re Minute 3389 Dance Studio/Anti-Social Behaviour A local security firm that undertakes ‘spot call-in patrols’ has advised that it does not have any capacity at the peak times when most of the anti-social behaviour is experienced at the Studio. Enquiries are ongoing to explore alternative options.

d) Finance & General Purposes (F&GP)

1. Re Minute 7429 Council Standing Orders It was,

AGREED that the suggested amendments be approved as recommended and the revised Standing Orders be adopted.

2. Re Minute 7430 Council Financial Regulations It was,

AGREED that the suggested amendments be approved as recommended and the revised Financial Regulations be adopted.

4365 **Committees**

The minutes of the following committees were then approved, confirmed as a true record and signed:

Planning

Amenities

Finance and General Purposes

4366 **Financial Statements**

The details as published and circulated were correct, there being a total payment requirement of £34,947.74 for February 2022.

4367 **Reports from Representatives**

County Cllr Lee advised that the Police are undertaking extra patrols in Balderton following an increase in reported incidents of anti-social behaviour. The A1 overbridge project is currently being assessed by Highways England. The District Council Planning Department is intending to recommend that the latest application for a residential development on land around Highfields School be refused. Fernwood Parish wants Hollowdyke Lane to be open to traffic once development is complete. This is something that Balderton Parish Council has always fought against and will continue to do so, along with Coddington Parish Council who also do not want the route to be open.

Cllr Mrs Hurst reported that enquiries have been made to ascertain whether a ‘Jubilee Clock’ could be installed on the apex of the Village Centre porch; this will be illuminated if

possible, subject to available funds. Members were invited to review styles and options for the preferred design.

Cllr Ms White advised that parliamentary boundary reviews are once again being undertaken but these do not currently affect this area's constituency.

Cllr Lee left the meeting at approximately 6.55pm.

4368 Highways Faults

Members were invited to raise any new issues or faults to pass onto relevant authorities:
No new items were raised.

4369 Clerk's Additional Information

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

- a) A request from the Society of Local Council Clerks for Councils to write to their local M.P. regarding Standards in Public Life, calling for the government to establish effective sanctions to deal with local councillors who have been found guilty of bullying and harassment. Members supported this request and asked that a letter be sent.
- b) The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday May 4th 2022 at 6.30pm.

4370 Future Agenda Items

The 'Friends of Balderton Lake' proposal will be given consideration at a future meeting and those involved with the proposal were invited to make a short presentation of their ideas at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) which will be held on Wednesday May 4th 2022.

The Y.M.C.A. kayaking issue will be included on the APM agenda.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.00pm