

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday February 22nd 2023 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Allen (Chairman) Mrs Brooks (Vice Chairman), Fairbairn, Green, Lynch, Mallard, Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Roberts M.B.E. and Ms White  
with six members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

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

### 3473 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gloster, Mrs Hurst and Mrs Lee.

### 3474 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Mrs Brooks and Ms White, as serving members of Newark & Sherwood District Council, declared a personal interest to any District Council issue.

### 3475 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments regarding scheduled agenda items:  
One resident suggested that Collingham Parish Council be contacted to show how beneficial their village skateboard ramp has proven in improving teenage behaviour.  
One resident suggested that the Lakeside notice board be used to publish information relating to any current grounds maintenance work being undertaken there.  
Representatives from Holy Trinity Football Club and the Newark Football Alliance League outlined a request to host a local trophy football semi-final on the Coronation Street Playing Field.

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

### 3476 **Football Cup Match**

The Chairman, with members support, altered the order of the published agenda to take this item first. Consideration was given to a request for the local Willy Hall Trophy semi-final matches to be hosted on the playing field in April (exact date to be confirmed). Mr Brown advised that this was possible from a fixture point of view, and any necessary additional logistics such as roping off the two pitches concerned, could be accommodated. Members approved the request. The bar manager will be invited to open the bar that day for both spectators and players. Appreciation was extended to the Council's groundsmen for the quality of the pitches which the football representatives present had advised were considered to be the best in the area.

Two members of the public left the meeting.

3477 **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 3431 Dance Studio** The barriers and gate to fence off the canopy area are scheduled to be installed tomorrow.
2. **Re Minute 3467 Littering** The District Council's Day of Action for Balderton has been confirmed for Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023. Any community groups wishing to participate to liaise with Cllr Ms White.
3. **Re Minute 3469 Tower Clock** A decision will be taken about the clock once the outcome is known of an outstanding funding application which has been made to the District Council.

3478 **Playing Field Flooding**

No further update has been received from the District Council regarding the required additional work to the Masfield Crescent drain.

3479 **Community Notice Board**

After further discussion it was,

AGREED

that the Friends of Balderton Group could have use of the Heron Way car park notice board for community events and information, and also one A4 size space if required in the Main Street notice board which is located in front of the Library. Any notices to be approved by the Council before being displayed. This will be on a trial basis to enable both parties to see how things progress. The need for additional notice boards in other areas of the village was highlighted.

3480 **Protective Window Net**

Approval was given to the purchase of a replacement protective net at a cost of £180, to go in front of the Village Centre large glass windows during cricket sessions. In the event of the net getting damaged the Cricket Club will be responsible for paying for its replacement.

3481 **Flood Store Location**

Further discussion was given to relocating the flood store container on its current site in the corner of the car park but a suitable alternative couldn't be suggested. The unit will be re-painted with anti-vandal paint to help prevent young people climbing onto it.

3482 **King's Coronation**

Members discussed ideas for the King's Coronation. A suggestion was made to host a tea party style event in the Village Hall open to older residents who had perhaps witnessed the Queen's Coronation. Historical photographs of Balderton could be put on the display during the event.

3483 **Skateboard Ramp**

Members gave initial discussion to P.C.S.O Katie Hewerdine's suggestions made at the last Council meeting for a youth club in the Village Centre and a skateboard/BMX ramp located on the playing field along the boundary with Newark Academy. The discussion covered how this could possibly affect local residents living close to the site, possible vandalism concerns etc. along with the benefits of providing a much-wanted activity in the village for young people. The Police are scheduled to attend the Council meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023 to outline their suggestions further.

3484 **Highway Issues**

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

3485 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) A price has been obtained of £31.50 per tonne to supply and deliver the limestone required to resurface the section of path around the Lake from Heron Way car park to Rowan Way. It is estimated that 40 tonnes will be required; members approved this expenditure.
- b) The County Council is proposing that the speed limit is reduced to 30 mph for the section of London Road from Sainsbury's to the A1 roundabout. The Council has long supported this proposal, having requested it of the authority for a number of years.
- c) A report was made by a resident of an unknown person loading his car of felled trees and then using a chainsaw in the dark at 'The Sands' area of the Lake on Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> 2023. Members expressed their considerable concern at this report. A photograph had been taken of the vehicle used which will be circulated to members. The incident was reported to the Police by the resident concerned at the time and the Clerk was asked to liaise with the local beat team about the incident.
- d) Main Street from Wolfit Avenue junction to the Barnby Road junction will be closed in various sections from 7.30am on Monday March 20<sup>th</sup> to 5pm on Friday March 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 for carriageway resurfacing.
- e) Reports of ongoing anti-social behaviour at the Lake on and around the Heron Way car park. This is essentially from vehicles travelling at speed, people drinking and making a lot of noise late at night and people being hostile to the residents who deploy the car park barriers. The local Police beat team are aware of these reports.
- f) A diesel fuel container housed in a wheelie bin was dumped in the Lake and retrieved by Council staff on Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> 2023. Enquiries to try and ascertain where this may have originated have not proved successful to date.

- g) Newark Community First Aiders are seeking volunteers; posters urging people to join have been displayed on Council property.
- h) The Lakeside Working Party had met to discuss any new terms to be included in the recently agreed five-year license for the Grove Angling Club to fish the Lake. The Working Party had proposed that a twelve-month break clause be introduced which would be triggered should the Club be found to persistently breach their own Club rules and/or the Council's Lakeside byelaws. Members supported this proposal.
- i) The Cricket Club is looking to apply for a grant to install an artificial wicket for training purposes on the playing field.

3486 **Future Agenda Items**

The purchase of an additional desk to accommodate Council Office staff to be discussed.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.35pm.