

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday October 20th 2021 at 6.30pm

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

APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs Gloster and Lynch.

7374 Payments

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

7375 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.

7376 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

7377 Clerk/Chairman's Update

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

- 1. Re Minute 7343 Street Naming** District Councillors have asked the authority to review the decision not to allow the suggested name of 'Jarvis' for a residential development off London Road.
- 2. Re Minute 7369 Remembrance Sunday Parade** Arrangements are ongoing but the road closure application has been approved by the County Council and a road traffic management company has been commissioned to marshal the closure, put road signs up etc. Fernwood Parish Council has offered to pay 50% of this cost. Clarification regarding permitted numbers in Church is required before the invitations can be finalised.
- 3. Re Minute 7372.a Casual Vacancy** A poll has not been called so the Council may co-opt for this second vacancy on the Balderton South ward. There are no known potential candidates currently so the vacancy will remain for the time being and the co-option will be included on a future agenda.

7382 **Police Update**

Members discussed recent anti-social behaviour and crime issues in the village, including details of anti-social behaviour being experienced at the Dance Studio on the playing field. Concerns were expressed that the Dance Studio has twice had to call 999 as child safeguarding issues were involved; on one occasion no officers attended, and then the second time they took 1.5 hours to get there. This issue will be mentioned when Inspector Allardice attends next week's Full Council meeting. The Studio tenant has asked if the Council can do anything else to prevent the young people causing problems, including the possibility installing railings around the canopy of the building to deter access? Members promised to consider all options including possibly closing the field earlier in the day and/or providing security on the gate, but felt that initially more should be done to tackle the perpetrators. One of the group's ringleaders has been identified in other incidents on the field over the summer and members agreed that he should be banned from the site; a letter will be drafted as soon as possible for the Police to serve. Community Support Officers, who will now be accompanied by personnel deployed to enforce bylaws may be able to assist by being on site in the evenings.

7383 **Correspondence/Information**

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

- a) Details of financial training courses available for Councillors from N.A.L.C.
- b) The District Council's Planning Department has stated that Middlebeck is still not formally part of Newark parish according to the Boundary Commission despite the findings of the Local Governance Review undertaken in 2018. This issue could have far reaching potential implications such as loss of Council tax, Section 106 monies, C.I.L funding etc. as many homes have been built and occupied there since the last election in May 2019 when it was understood Middlebeck 'moved' into Newark who receive their taxes. Concerns were also expressed that residents living in Middlebeck may have had some voting rights compromised. The issue will be included for discussion on the Full Council agenda and District Councillors undertook to raise this issue with the authority in the interim.

7384 **Future Agenda Items**

No further agenda items were raised.

The meeting was closed at approximately 7.30pm