

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Allen (Chairman) Mrs Brooks (Vice Chairman), Mrs Batey, Fairbairn, Green, Mrs Hurst, Mallard, Mrs Newstead and Newstead.

with seven members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown, the Clerk and Clerical Assistant.

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

### 3439 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gloster, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Scott and Ms White.

### 3440 Declarations of Interest

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

### 3441 Public Participation

The meeting was closed to take public comments regarding scheduled agenda items:

One resident asked for members to meet with the Friends of Balderton Lake to discuss how they can help with litter and anti-social behaviour.

One resident commented that all supporting papers should be published with the agendas on the Council's web-site.

One member of the public criticised the Grove Angling Club, believing that not all of their members uphold the angling code, particularly in relation to litter, and requested to see a copy of the current license for the Club to fish the Lake.

They were thanked for their comments and the meeting resumed.

### 3442 Clerk/Chairman's Update

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

- 1. Re Minute 3434 Vehicular Barrier** The option to install bollards rather than barriers at the main field gates to the playing field and in the overspill car park area was approved. These will be substantially cheaper than barriers and should prove more user friendly for staff.

3443 **Playing Field Flooding**

The de-silting work has now been undertaken to the drain that runs from the field end of Macaulay Drive through to London Road, between several Masefield Crescent and Baines Avenue properties. However, water is still not flowing as quickly as expected so the District Council is considering commissioning further work. It is thought that this drain, which was badly silted up for many years could be causing the playing field's slow drainage and long-standing flooding problems.

3444 **Flood Store**

Members gave consideration to residents' requests to relocate the flood store container which is sited in the Smith Street corner of the Village Centre car park. Young people have been climbing onto the container, shouting abuse and throwing items into residents' gardens. The storage container was provided by the District Council and it was always understood that it remained their property but this has recently been disputed. District Cllrs Mrs Brooks and Mrs Hurst undertook to seek clarification about ownership before the issue is given further consideration.

3445 **Angling Club Lease**

Members gave consideration to the Grove Angling Club's request for their license for fishing rights to be for five years rather than the previously agreed four-year term. On balance members agreed to this request and added a twelve-month break clause for either party to give notice if ever considered necessary.

3446 **Budget for 2023/24**

Members gave initial discussion to budgetary requirements for the next financial year. Committee 'running cost' estimates were circulated, discussed and approved, members particularly referring to the electricity usage estimate which has tripled in cost. These may need to be taken into account when considering future hire charges.

3447 **Council Fees and Charges**

Members gave consideration to Cemetery fees and charges, comparing them to similarly sized cemeteries in the area. Discussion was also given to Village Centre hire rates but this issue was deferred until the Renewable Energy Working Party has had time to see if exact running costs of heating and/or cooling the rooms can be calculated. It was,

RECOMMENDED                      that the Cemetery fees be increased by 5% with no charges for burials of persons under 12 years old.

3448 **Highway Issues**

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

3449 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) The first of a new newsletter from the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at Newark & Sherwood District Council outlining their work and recent activities. The Team's new manager Yvonne Swinton will be invited to a future committee meeting.
- b) Notice that Warwick Road from Baines Avenue to Macaulay Drive will be closed from 8am to 3.30pm on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 for carriageway patching work. Smith Street will also be closed from London Road to Grove View Road from 8am to 3.30pm for carriageway patching work.
- c) The second Ecological Appraisal of the Lake which was commissioned by the YMCA, has been completed and published on the organisation's web-site; the report finds there will be no adverse impact from the planned kayaking and canoeing.

3450 **Future Agenda Items**

The option of charging a different initial fee for new allotment holders will be discussed. The need to meet with/discuss the Friends of Balderton Lake issue with the requesters; Cllr Mrs Hurst, Council Chairman advised this will be given consideration in the New Year as the Council.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.15pm.