

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday December 1st 2021 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Allen (Vice Chairman), Gloster, Green, Mrs Hurst, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mallard, Mrs Newstead, Newstead and Ms White

with Balderton's Beat Police Team; P.C. Bryn Hope, P.C. Tom Mead & P.C.S.O. Katie Hewerdine,

eight members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

3346 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Roberts M.B.E. and Scott

3347 **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.

3348 **Britain in Bloom**

Councillors had been scheduled to meet Jenni Oliver, a member of Newark Town Council who has previously been involved in Newark's participation in the Britain in Bloom competition. Ms Oliver had advised that she was unable to attend the meeting owing to a Town Council meeting commitment but had provided Cllr Ms White with some information to relay to members. The competition encourages residents and organisations alike to plant flowers and generally take a pride in their local area. A committee of interested people should be set up which could be made up of Councillors and public, and Ms Oliver had offered to chair that committee for Balderton's participation. Members welcomed this and accepted her kind offer.

3349 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. Four members of the public expressed their concerns about the Y.M.C.A. boating project, believing it would have an adverse impact upon the wildlife, and safety/noise generation. Four other members of the public expressed their concerns and objections to a planning application to build two properties on land opposite 31 Spring Lane. The public were thanked for their comments and attendance.

Balderton's Police Beat team had attended the meeting to introduce themselves to the Council and update members on local policing priorities and issues. One young person who had been recently banned by the Council from entering the playing field and Lakeside area is believed to have been on the playing field earlier this week; officers were asked to re-iterate to him that the Council will take the next necessary steps to gain an Injunction Order if he persists.

The police officers were thanked for their attendance, they left along with four members of the public and the meeting resumed.

With members' support the Chairman altered the scheduled order of business for the Planning Applications to be the next agenda item.

3350 **Planning Applications**

As Chairman of the Planning Committee, Cllr Mrs Hurst chaired the meeting for the duration of this item. The following application was refused with the comments detailed below:

21/01258/OUT Outline permission for 2 dwellings Land opposite 31 Spring Lane

Members considered that the development will cause a loss of green space, disruption of the established open character, and the impact of noise levels from the adjacent A1 trunk road would have an adverse impact on living conditions.

The following applications were considered and approved with any comments detailed below:

21/02399/HOUSE Single storey rear extension 133 London Road

21/02421/HOUSE Single storey & convert integral garage 11 Tennyson Road.

The four remaining members of public left the meeting and Cllr Mrs Brooks resumed as Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

3351 **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 3271.1 Millennium Pillar Clock** Members agreed to see what response was received from Lidl who had again undertaken to respond to the Council's initial request to fund its repair.
- 2. Re St. Giles Churchyard** The front wall to the Churchyard, either side of the entrance is in need of quite urgent mortar repair work. A local builder has provided an estimate of £1500-£2000 for the necessary work which will require special matching stone being sourced. A faculty is required from the Southwell Diocese for the work to be undertaken; this is being applied for by the Church Warden.
- 3. Re Minute 3344 Children's Fitness Holiday Club** Members suggested that the company be invited to a future meeting to advise the committee exactly what is involved from the Council's perspective.
- 4. Re Minute 3344d Zip Wire** The piece of equipment could be delivered next week if further delays are not experienced securing its delivery from France. Mr Brown has marked out an

area for its siting within the play area which members were invited to inspect.

3352 Playing Field Flooding

The County Council's Drainage Unit's CCTV camera had previously identified that the drain that runs from the field end of Macaulay Drive through to London Road between several Masefield Crescent and Baines Avenue properties, is silted up. This could be affecting the playing field's very slow drainage and long-standing flooding problem. The County Council is still currently quoting to undertake the work on behalf of the District Council who are responsible for that stretch of drain. This was recently expedited and the Drainage Manager undertook to keep the Council updated.

3353 Police Update

Members discussed any recent anti-social behaviour and crime issues in the village. Fernwood Parish Council had suggested a joint meeting be arranged with the Police and Lynne Oxlade, the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for this area. This has been scheduled for Monday January 17th 2022 at Fernwood at 4pm; any members wishing to attend to notify the Clerk.

3354 Village Centre Bar

Discussion was given setting a rent charge only for the bar manager rather than requesting a percentage of the profits from the sales. This would allow a standing order payment to be set up to the Council and be easier to monitor. Members considered that this was the preferred option and it was,

RECOMMENDED that the rent be set at £50 per week effective from January 2022 and the arrangement will be reviewed after a year.

3355 Churchyard/Church Lane Boundary Wall

One of Newark & Sherwood District Council's Conservation Officers had attended the site and reviewed the damaged wall – her report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. The authority's policy is that the wall must be re-instated as per the original, it cannot be replaced with an alternative material or hedgerow. She advised that there would be no objection to Herras style security fencing being installed to secure the boundary in the interim. The Church Warden has advised that the Church Lane resident concerned has agreed to this being installed. Members approved the purchase of the necessary safety fence panels for installing as soon as possible. Given the considerable cost involved to eventually re-build the wall the temporary fencing could in place for quite some time. Potential funding sources will need to be explored.

3356 **Highway Faults**

Members were invited to raise any new issues or faults to pass onto relevant authorities:

No new faults or issues were raised but a resident had reported the top end of Main Street at the junction of Wetsyke Lane was badly flooded during a storm on October 31st. This was not a previously known area of flooding within the village. The resident was advised at the time to report the problem to his local County Councillor.

3357 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) An enquiry to hire the hall once a month from a group of parrot owners, asking to bring their birds into the building, undertaking to clean up after them. Members considered on balance to permit this just once initially as a trial to fully assess the suitability of the group.
- b) A new allotment tenant has asked whether he could keep bees on the allotment. The current lease agreement states that no livestock may be kept on site. Opinion of other tenants has been informally canvassed and members considered on balance that as there is at least one tenant with a known severe allergy to bee stings, the request could not be supported.
- c) The District Council has enquired whether Fernwood Foxes youth football club's games could be played on Coronation Street playing field while their current base at Lincoln Road is refurbished as part of the Yorke Drive regeneration project. The District Council would pay the pitch fees. Mr Brown has reviewed their pitch requirements and confirmed that they can be accommodated. A few years ago, the club was based here, but there was an incident on the playing field regarding inappropriate behaviour from one of the managers which resulted in him being banned from the field. Members approved the District Council's request but stressed that if there are any behavioural problems from any players or management, the arrangement will be terminated with immediate effect.
- d) The report from the annual play area formal inspection which was arranged through the District Council and undertaken by an external qualified company.

3358 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Allen asked that Caroline Henry the Nottinghamshire Police Commissioner be invited to a future meeting to meet with members.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.05pm.