

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday October 27th 2021 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Ms White (Chairman), Allen, (Vice Chairman), Mrs Brooks, Mrs Hurst, Mrs Lee, Mallard, Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Roberts M.B.E. and Scott with Newark Police Inspector Charlotte Allardice, County Cllrs Lee and Smith, two members of the public and the Clerk.

4310 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gloster, Green, Lynch and Mayall B.E.M.

4311 **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.

4312 **Public Participation/Police Inspector Allardice**

The meeting was closed to take public comments and to meet Newark Police Inspector Charlotte Allardice who had offered to attend a Council meeting and introduce herself to members. Inspector Allardice acknowledged that there has been a considerable increase in anti-social behaviour incidents in Balderton (it is up by 29% this year, compared to 2019). She has now assigned two Beat Managers for Balderton - P.C.s Tom Mead and Bryn Hope, along with a part-time P.C.S.O. Katie Hewerdine, and plans to appoint a further P.C.S.O. to support the team. The District Council has just approved two Public Space Protection Orders which allow dispersal orders to be readily put into action when necessary; these cover the two main problem areas in Balderton - Lakeside and the Playing Field, and give the Police additional powers to manage behaviour.

One member of the public asked what was being done about poor behaviour on the playing field which includes youths trying to intimidate young Dance Studio attendees as two recent calls made to 999 had resulted in unsatisfactory response times. Inspector Allardice advised that 999 calls are handled at a central police control room so she has no direct involvement over officers being despatched to such call outs, particularly if the local Beat team is not on duty at the time of the incident. Officers attending a 999 incident can be from anywhere in the County, but she undertook to increase awareness in the control room that there is a monitored CCTV camera on the playing field (officers taking the calls and also those attending do not always seem to know of its existence). Members considered that there seems to be a requirement for control room staff answering calls, to know where Balderton is. Inspector Allardice advised that the '3 little words' campaign, to readily identify locations is already in use and is should be encouraged.

Cllr Gloster joined the meeting during this agenda item at approximately 7.10pm

Inspector Allardice acknowledged that more needs to be done to effectively police Balderton and reassured members that it is one of her priorities. She undertook to provide further feedback and progress reports for the next Council meeting, was thanked for her attendance and left with the two parishioners; the meeting re-opened at 7.20pm.

4313 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on September 15th 2021, having been circulated previously were confirmed as a true record and signed.

4314 **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 4286.a1 Priory Close Grassed Area** County Cllr Lee advised that he is liaising with Highways Manager Mr Sean Brown regarding this issue.

b) Amenities

c) Finance & General Purposes (F&GP)

1. **Re Minute 7377.2 Remembrance Sunday Arrangements** St. Giles Church has advised that only 100 people will be allowed into the building for the service owing to Covid restrictions, but it is hoped that as many people as possible will still attend and participate in the actual Parade.

4315 **Committees**

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

Amenities

Finance and General Purposes

4316 **Middlebeck Development Boundary**

Members were scheduled to discuss the implications of the 'Middlebeck' residential development, located off Hawton Lane and Bowbridge Lane still possibly being within the electoral boundary of Balderton rather than in Newark. This boundary change should have taken place following the District Council's Local Governance Review in 2018 but the changes had not been formalised by the Boundary Commission for England. However, since the agenda was published the District Council has advised that this omission was down to an administrative issue and the formalisation will be undertaken by the Boundary Commission as soon as possible.

4317 **Financial Statements**

The details as published and circulated were correct, there being total payment requirements of £30,170.04 for August and £28,797.52 for September 2021.

4318 **Reports from Representatives**

District Cllr Mrs Hurst advised that she has again expedited a reply from the Enforcement Department regarding a take-away food establishment being run without planning permission from a Waltham Close property.

County Cllr Smith advised that resurfacing patch work is scheduled to be undertaken on Public Footpath number 1 during week commencing November 22nd 2021. A speed survey is being undertaken on Barnby Road near to the Bullpit Road junction to ascertain if speed calming measures are required there. He is making enquiries to ascertain if trees, which he has had donated by a parishioner, can be planted on County owned green areas in Bullpit Road, Tennyson Road and Macaulay Drive.

County Cllr Lee reported that he has requested Grove Street, Lansbury Road and Rowan Way to be resurfaced. He also reported that as the Staple Lane/London Road junction will eventually be closed off entirely when the Southern Link Road is complete, the authority would be very reluctant to make expensive investments in road safety measures there. Members expressed their concerns at this and asked that a formal request for a crossing patrol officer at the junction be submitted from this Council; the dangers for school pupils crossing there are well known.

Cllr Lee also reported from the District Council that the first fixed penalty ticket has been issued for littering in Balderton by the company deployed to help Community Support Officer enforce byelaws. He asked that he be notified of any roads or pavements in the village that require sweeping to remove slippery leaves, which are particularly hazardous to the elderly.

Cllr Lee left the meeting at approximately 7.45pm

4319 **Highways Faults**

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

1. Speeding vehicles along Russell Avenue are becoming a real hazard, at least two collisions have occurred as a result. The road is being used as a cut through from Hawton Lane. This will be raised with County Councillor Lee to request speed monitoring equipment be installed.
2. A large lorry cab is parking every night in the front garden of a Browning Road property.

4320 **Clerk's Additional Information**

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

- a) A memorial bench at the Lake, installed for the late Mr George Slack has been vandalised. Members were particularly saddened to hear this; Mr Slack was a well-known local fund raiser who walked around the Lake every day. The bench has been removed by the groundstaff for safe storage – it is being reviewed to see whether it can possibly be repaired.
- b) Notice of a proposed Prohibition of Waiting restriction along Bowbridge Road, either side of Newark hospital entrance. The notice from VIA East Midlands/ Notts County Council shows the site being in Balderton rather than Newark; the authority has been notified of the error.

4321 **Future Agenda Items**

No future agenda items were raised.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.00pm