

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday November 2nd 2022 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT** Councillors Mrs Hurst (Chairman), Mrs Lee (Vice Chairman), Allen, Mrs Batey, Fairbairn, Green, Mrs Newstead, Newstead and Ms White with ten members of the public, the Clerk and Clerical Assistant.

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

### 4421 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Lynch, Mallard, Roberts M.B.E. and Scott, plus County Cllrs Girling, Lee and Smith. Cllr Gloster had advised he would be late joining the meeting.

### 4422 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs 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.

### 4423 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments relating to scheduled agenda items. The only questions raised relating to agenda items concerned the internal audit process; the Clerk undertook to answer these individually with the person concerned.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting at approximately 6.40pm and took the opportunity to address members of the public present regarding her concerns relating to a lantern lit vigil evening event that had taken place recently at the Lake.

### 4424 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup> 2022, having been circulated previously were approved, confirmed as a true record and signed.

### 4425 **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:-

#### a) Council

1. **Re Minute 4418b N.A.L.C.'s AGM** Cllr Ms White informed that she would also attend the organisation's meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2022.

- b) Planning
- c) Amenities

**1. Re Minute 3449a Anti-Social Behaviour** Newark's Police Inspector Ward will also be invited to the next Committee meeting where the District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team Manager Yvonne Swinton is scheduled to attend and address members.

#### 4426 **Committees**

The minutes of the following committees were confirmed as a true record and signed:  
Planning of October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022  
Amenities of October 19<sup>th</sup> 2022

Cllr Gloster joined the meeting at approximately 6.50pm.

#### 4427 **Annual Review of Internal Audit Effectiveness**

Members undertook a review of the effectiveness of the Council's Internal Audit procedures. The committee re-approved the list of checks and tests for the Internal Auditor to use as a basis for the process as laid out in Section 5.103 of the 'Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England'. Members were satisfied that the Council's current Internal Auditor Mr David Dixon of Dixon Accountancy & Taxation who was appointed in October 2021 continues to meet the necessary criteria, i.e. being both independent of the Council and highly competent.

#### 4428 **Financial Risk Assessment**

Members reviewed and approved the Council's Financial Risk Register, copies having been previously circulated. The Register includes an assessment of the likelihood and impact of any risks taking place, thereby providing the Council with greater control to manage its financial risks.

#### 4429 **Budget for 2023/24**

Members gave initial discussion to budgetary requirements for the next financial year, and reviewed running cost expenditures. It was considered prudent to include a sum for boiler replacement cost owing to the age of the current system.

#### 4430 **Financial Statement**

The details as published were correct, there being a total payment requirement of £28,142.58 for September 2022.

#### 4431 **Reports from Representatives**

District Cllr Ms White advised that the authority is considering providing a kerbside glass and bottle collection service for residential properties. This issue is scheduled to go out for public consultation before any decision is taken as there is a considerable financial outlay for the scheme.

County Cllr Smith had submitted a written report for the meeting advising that he has worked with Highways Officers to ensure objections were logged again regarding the Highfields School planning application, reported a surface water drainage issue on London Road near to Highfields School, and the planting of two donated Horse Chestnut Trees on County owned land off Macaulay Drive and Bullpit Road should take place soon.

4432 **Highways Faults**

The following faults/issues were raised for passing onto the relevant authority:

- a) The junction of Hawton Lane and London Road floods considerably during heavy rainfall and the standing water then takes a very long time to eventually drain away.
- b) Grove Street has had a number of potholes repaired recently but the worst ones, although highlighted with marker, have not actually been repaired. Clarification will be sought from the authority as to what the plan is for the schedule of work.
- c) During recent heavy rainfall, an area of London Road flooded between the two Manners Road entrance junctions; this is not a location that has been previously highlighted as problematic so the area will be monitored before being reported.

4433 **Clerk's Additional Information**

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

- a) A written request from a resident to hold Carol Singing on the green area adjacent to Rowan Way on Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> 2022. Members requested additional details about the event, including the proposed times.
- b) A reminder that the Annual Armistice Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service will take place on Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> 2022. Members are invited to muster outside the Post Office on Main Street at 10am.

4434 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Ms White suggested the possible need to ration utilities should be discussed in case speculated power cuts should take place over the winter. This could be particularly relevant for licensed events at the Village Centre.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.15pm