

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday March 30th 2022 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Allen (Vice Chairman in the Chair), Fairbairn, Gloster, Green, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mallard, Mrs Newstead, Newstead and Roberts M.B.E. with ten members of the public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

A moments silence was held for former Parish Councillor Mr Raymond Rouse who had recently passed away.

3384 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Batey, Mrs Brooks (Committee Chairman), Mrs Hurst, Scott and Ms White

3385 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

3386 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to take public comments. Members of the public raised their concerns regarding the Council's decision to allow the YMCA to undertake canoeing and kayaking on the Lake, believing that it will have an adverse impact on the ecology. The Parish Council was criticised for a perceived lack of local information on its web-site.

The public were thanked for their attendance and the meeting resumed.

3387 **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 from the update:

- 1. Re Minute 3334.1 Millennium Clock** Members asked the Clerk to continue pursuing a reply from Lidl about the broken clock.

3388 **Playing Field Flooding**

The drain that runs from the field end of Macaulay Drive through to London Road, between several Masefield Crescent and Baines Avenue properties, is badly silted up. It is considered that this could be causing the playing field's very slow drainage and long-standing flooding problem. The District Council which maintains that section of the drain has agreed to commission work to clear it in the new financial year; the work will be undertaken by the County Council.

3389 **Police Update**

Members discussed any recent anti-social behaviour and crime issues in the village. A group of young people have again been causing problems at the Dance Studio, necessitating a 999 call a couple of weeks ago. The Police did attend but the young people had left by then. The Dance Studio proprietor has asked whether the Council would consider enclosing the canopy area to prevent young people congregating there and having direct access to the door and windows. Different options to do this are being obtained for members to consider. The Police and District Council have re-launched the 'Report It' campaign encouraging all incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour to be reported to the appropriate organisations. New posters reminding residents of this, along with the correct numbers have been published and displayed in the village.

3390 **Outdoor Gym Equipment**

Members gave further discussion to selecting pieces of outdoor gym equipment for the playing field following County Cllr Lee's donation of £1,500. Members had been provided with options and prices prior to the meeting. A few options were selected as possibilities, and users will be asked for their preferences.

3391 **Lakeside Green Area**

Members approved a written request for residents to hold a Jubilee tea party on the Council owned green area off Rowan Way on Saturday June 4th 2022 in the afternoon.

3392 **Highway Issues**

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

- a) General wear and tear on London Road.
- b) Staple Lane's soft verge edges are broken up and eroded, causing quite a drop for vehicle wheels in places.
- c) The road surface of the entrance to Manners Road near to Sainsbury's is badly broken up.
- d) The bespoke "Welcome to Balderton" gateway sign at the A1 end of London Road has been removed. Enquiries are being made with the County Council about this; it may have been hit by a vehicle and possibly removed for safety purpose but its replacement is required.

3393 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) Notice that London Road outside Sainsbury's will be subject to four way traffic signals on Sunday April 10th between 5pm and midnight for telecom testing and maintenance work.
- b) Staple Lane will be subject to three-way traffic signals until Friday April 8th for a topographic survey by Severn Trent.
- c) The District Council has appointed a new Arts Development Officer who would like to hear about any arts projects or groups in the area.

3394 **Future Agenda Items**

The possible creation of wildflower areas on certain County grassed greenbelts on the Manners Road estate will be considered.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.05pm.