



# Bestwood Village Parish Council



**Date:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7pm  
At St Mark's Church **Bestwood Village**

## PRESENT

Cllrs J Ashworth (Chair), M Gee, P Newling, J Pauley, R Davidson, Cllr D Gibbons, Cllr C Barnfather, Cllr R Ellis and 2 members of the public.

## MINUTES

- 2022.79** Silence to remember those that have passed  
*Observed*

- 2022.80** To receive – Apologies for absence  
*Apologies were received from Cllr K Brown and Cllr I Hart*

- 2022.81** To receive and consider - Declarations of members' interests and dispensations from non-participation  
*None*

- 2022.82** To receive and approve the minutes of Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
*It was resolved to receive and approve the minutes with a change to item 77 from Jan has purchased to will purchase.*

Action: KG

- 2022.83** To receive and note - Any update on actions arising from previous Parish Council decisions (not included elsewhere on the agenda)  
*Cllr J Ashworth and Cllr Newling reported back on meeting with the welfare and finding a storage option. Katie Gibson to provide an offer based on recent storage quotes and basic terms to be approved at Novembers meeting.*

Action: KG

- 2022.84** To consider and approve  
- Annual Policy Review  
*All policies have been updated and reformatted into a new parish council template. To be uploaded to the parish council website.*

Action: KG

- 2022.85** To receive - Parishioners questions/statements (normal duration 15 minutes)  
*Two parishioners new to the village introduced themselves, thanked the parish council for their work and offered to help with upcoming events including the Christmas light display.*

- 2022.86** To receive reports and discuss;  
a) Environment working group Report  
*Cllr Davidson updated the meeting on the vandalism of the planters near to the school. Cllr*

Newling asked the clerk to contact Hawthorne school and The Forge Mill to explain the notice board policy and ask them to refrain from using adhesive on the outside of the parish council cases. Cllr Newling also asked the clerk to investigate signage for the multi-use games area.

Action: KG

*The lecturn displaying the village map and miners tribute is to finally installed on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> October, Cllr Ashworth and Davidson to install.*

Action: JA RD

- b) Lengthsman Scheme update

*Cllr Ashworth informed the meeting that the lengthsman scheme had been renewed with 113hrs for the village to use this year. He informed the meeting that work had been booked in to clear the path to the right of the estate.*

- c) S106 meetings held and updates

*Cllr. Ashworth explained that after lengthy correspondence with several Gedling BC officers, he now felt he had identified a way forward with suggestions for project bids. Details would be provided to Lewis Widdowson, the Community Infrastructure Levy Officer, who would ensure that it falls into S106 parameters and thereafter involve other relevant Gedling officers before a decision can be made to release funds. Cllr Ashworth expressed concern at the expenditure being undertaken by Gedling BC in considering the extension to the Country Park car park project, as it was likely that this would take all the funds currently available and may not be felt to constitute justifiable expenditure in the best interests of village residents. It was further suggested by Cllr. Ashworth that perhaps the next step in the process was to carry out a consultation exercise within the village to try to identify just what type of project might be acceptable to residents. Cllr. Gibbons asked if the car park project might include disabled toilet access, but it was mentioned that this would be included in a quite separate bid for funds which would relate to an expansion and additions to the Dynamo House."*

Action: JA

- d) Planning applications review

*Planning application 2022-0962 was raised by Cllr Ashworth as it is a controversial application with the proposed domestic extension dwarfing the existing one and had been contested by both neighbours. Cllr Ellis informed the meeting that this application had been in front of a planning committee but was not aware of a decision. Clerk to update the parish councillors once a decision had been published.*

Action: KG

- e) Update on traffic issues

*Cllr Ashworth reported back that the new 141 service has been running well with positive feedback from parishioners. Cllr Barnfather informed the meeting that the service was temporarily funded for 12 month and the council was exploring the possibility of a dial a ride service that is currently in pilot as the entire 141 route is not utilised or financially sustainable long term.*

- f) Village events

*Cllr Ashworth discussed the village bonfire event was to be carried out by the welfare charity this year with support from St Marks church with refreshments and from the council. It was noted that a £500 bid from the welfare to support the costs of the bonfire and fireworks was approved. The second grant payment of £1045.50 awarded to the council in 2021 on behalf of the welfare charity for works already carried out was approved by the council.*

Action: KG

- g) Public access to the quarry

*Cllr Ashworth raised the fact that public access to the quarry had been restricted and would like to propose that the parish council agree a position on this as many of the parishioners use the quarry area for recreational exercise. It was agreed that the councillors agreed the*

*following proposal to be put to the county council:*

***Bestwood Village Parish Council object to the recent restrictions to access imposed by NCC and Gedling BC and request that the two bodies examine ways in which the public could be allowed safe access to the majority of this area whilst at the same time giving consideration to protection of the developing heathland.***

Cllr. Ashworth agreed to write to Gedling BC accordingly.

Action: JA

***Cllr Barnfather explained that the county council position on the closure was based on the safety of the public and the legal implications following an accident in the area.***

h) Christmas Tree lights/event (JP)

***Cllr Pauley raised the issue of the residents impression on public spending on festive lights during a difficult economic crisis. The councillors agreed that they felt the positive impact of the lights would be in the parishioners best interests. Cllr Newling raised the point that we are supporting the welfare charity in providing warm spaces from October through to February for those in fuel poverty. Clerk to provide the welfare with a grant funding application to support this work.***

Action: JP & KG

***It was agreed that Cllr Pauley should go ahead with the purchase of 10 tree lights for the lampposts. Cllr Pauley informed the group that the quotes for lights for the single trees were over £3000 each and unaffordable. Parishoner J Noon offered to donate lighting he had in stock for both trees.***

***The council agreed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December for the light switch on event for which a £500 budget would be granted. Cllr Newling to approach Emily Barker to switch on the lights.***

Action: JP PN

i) BMX Track Resurfacing

***Cllr Ashworth informed the group that one quote had been received from a local firm, Colin Bowers & Son, for the necessary resurfacing of the BMX track. Cllr. Ashworth has approached Gedling BC to see if they could source an alternative contractor in view of the amount involved, (£3220 +vat), but should this prove difficult, then in view of the relative urgency of the matter as the track has been identified as dangerous, it was resolved to proceed with the quote from Colin Bowers Cllr Newling asked the clerk to check the tender regulations required for the amount quoted.***

Action: JA KG

2022.87

To receive - Reports from Parish, Borough and County Councillors

***Cllr Barnfather explained that the county council were progressing signage for the country park, work on pathways, car parks, and looking into additional security at Alexandra lodge.***

Cllr Barnfather updated the meeting on the situation with regards to the old school site, stating that the council had declared that they had no use for it and that it intended to bring the property to market taking into account the fact that the building is an asset of community value. Cllr Barnfather had met with a cabinet member to start the marketing process and stated the top site was proposed for housing development subject to access.

***Cllr Ellis informed the group that the warm spaces scheme at the welfare would be opened from November through to February from 11am to 6pm opening up the welfare to provide***

*a warm space area for the community and would be connected with St Albans community kitchen for which volunteer drivers were still being sought for Tuesdays.*

- 2022.88** To agree – the date and place of the next meeting of the Council.  
*The next meeting is to be held on November 8th<sup>th</sup> at St Marks Church, Bestwood, starting at 7pm.*