

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually on Wednesday September 30th 2020 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Ms White (Chairman), Allen, (Vice Chairman), Mrs Brooks, Dikkez, Mrs Hurst, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mayall B.E.M., Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Roberts M.B.E. and Rouse
with County Cllrs Girling and Wallace and the Clerk.

4194 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mallard and Scott, and District Cllr Lee.

4195 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.

4196 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4197 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on July 29th 2020, having been circulated previously were confirmed as a true record and signed.

4198 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 4187.a1 CCTV Camera** Appreciation was extended to Balderton's three County Councillors for their combined grant contributions of £1250 towards the project cost.

b) Planning

- 1. Re Minute 0512 Change use to caravan site** A number of complaints have been made about the site which has already been occupied, and the area has been subject to fly tipping. The application has not yet been considered by the District Council's Planning Committee.

c) Amenities

- 1. Re Minute 3211.1 Rats at Lakeside** The Environmental Services officer has suggested a site meeting with the groundsmen to discuss cutting back vegetation in the area where the latest activity seems to be taking place.

d) Finance & General Purposes (F&GP)

- 1. Re Minute 7284 Remembrance Sunday** Cllr Mayall informed that the vicar has suggested a simple service in Church for Remembrance Sunday this year where local organisations select a representative to lay a wreath. This could be recorded and broadcast to those unable to attend owing to the pandemic. Members thought this was an ideal solution in the current situation. The Chairman will represent the Council, accompanied by the Vice Chairman if there is capacity.
- 2. Re Minute 7286 Village Centre Lights** Enquiries will be made to ascertain if grant funding could be obtained from the Landfill Tax Grant Scheme to upgrade the Centre's lighting to L.E.D.

4199 **Committees**

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

Planning

Amenities

Finance and General Purposes

4200 **Smart Water**

Members gave initial consideration to utilising Smart Water forensic liquid as a crime deterrent to protect Council property. Some doubt was expressed whether this would help solve the playing field's vandalism issues whilst acknowledging that it is useful vehicle for preventing thefts. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries with the insurance company to ascertain if a reduction in premium would be applied should the Council go ahead with this form of deterrent before a decision is made.

4201 **Financial Statements**

The details as published and circulated were correct, there being total payment requirements of £20874.25 for July and £25023.69 for August 2020.

4202 **Reports from Representatives**

County Cllr Wallace advised that the authority is still reviewing the reported speeding of vehicles on Main Street. Speed measuring cables have been requested to record the volume and speed of vehicles as they drive over them.

The New Orchard School opened at the start of the Autumn Term with 130 pupils, having taken two years to build. A formal opening ceremony is anticipated once the pandemic situation allows. The Day Care Centre on the same site should be completed by Christmas.

Cllr Ms White advised that the group of Hawton Lane residents keen to develop a speed watch group is progressing; she is waiting for additional information from District Cllr Lee. Cllr Girling offered to help with this initiative, advising that Police involvement is necessary

to undertake risk assessments of the areas where the volunteers with speed guns are to be deployed.

4203 **Highways Faults**

No reports were made.

4204 **Clerk's Additional Information**

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

- a) A letter from M.P. Robert Jenrick thanking the Council and staff for their hard work responding to the Covid crisis. As he has been unable to conduct his usual summer mobile surgeries, he has offered to attend a virtual meeting to offer assistance with any local issues. Members agreed that details of forthcoming Full Council meeting dates be forwarded to his office to try and arrange a mutually convenient date.
- b) Tenants have left rental property 111 Manners Road after many months of complaints from neighbours about a vehicle recovery and repair business being run on the premises. It is understood that they have left owing several months rent and a considerable amount of damage to the property.
- c) An e-mail from the County Council advising that it has appointed a research company to undertake engagement with parish councils to take part and share opinions regarding the proposed Local Government Reorganisation. Virtual meetings are being held on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October from 6pm to 8.30pm. Only one representative can attend from each Council. Copies of the e-mail will be circulated to all members and a representative will be selected.
- d) As it had not been possible to hold a Macmillan Coffee Morning this year members agreed to make personal donations in lieu. A virtual gathering could still be held and members undertook to give consideration to this option.

4205 **Future Agenda Items**

No future agenda items were raised.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.30pm.