

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday
September 13th 2017 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Allen (Vice Chairman), Mrs Hurst,
Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Owen, Scott, Walker, Watt and Ms White

with four representatives of the Grove Angling Club, four members of the
public, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

2268 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fletcher and Page.

2269 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Mrs Brooks, Mrs Hurst and Walker, as serving members of Newark & Sherwood District Council, declared a personal interest to any issue relating to the District Council. Cllr Walker, as a serving member of Nottinghamshire County Council, declared a personal interest to any issue relating to the County Council.

2270 Grove Angling Club

The meeting was closed to hear representatives of the Grove Angling Club who set out their requests for the Council to re-consider allowing Carp angling at one specific area of the Lake known locally as 'The Sands', and for permission to fish the 'pump pond' area to remove the largest Carp fish and relocate them into the main body of the water, believing that other forms of removal are too problematic and/or expensive.

They were thanked for their information and attendance; the issues raised were already scheduled items for discussion at the meeting. The four Club representatives left the meeting.

2271 Public Participation

One member of the public spoke about a request he had previously submitted in writing to have two Silver Birch Trees located on the Council's playing field directly behind his garden replaced with alternatives species which is prepared to fund. He brought along an amount of the seed debris that the trees produce which readily finds its way into his home and garden.

He was thanked for his information and attendance; the issue was already a scheduled item for discussion at the meeting. Two members of the public left and the meeting was re-opened.

2272 **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 2266.c Best Kept Village Competition** Members were thrilled to hear that Balderton had won its category in the competition; judging for the overall county winner will take place later this month.

2273 **Playing Field Silver Birch Trees**

Members gave consideration to a resident's written request to replace two Silver Birch Trees which are located on the Council playing field at the bottom of his garden with alternative species trees which he is prepared to pay for. Lengthy discussion was given to the proposal and subject of Council owned trees in general. On balance members did not consider that the request could be supported as the trees have been there for many years and are in a healthy condition. It was,

RECOMMENDED with eight votes for and two against that the Council adopts a policy to only remove trees if they are diseased or dangerous.

2274 **Carp Angling**

It was unanimously,

RESOLVED that Standing Order 26c be suspended to allow this issue to be discussed, a decision last being taken on this issue within the last six months.

A Council decision was taken in May 2017 to ban Carp fishing from the end of the Calendar year. Lengthy consideration and discussion was given to the current situation

RECOMMENDED that Carp Angling be allowed on pegs 1-13 which are on The Sands, but this area should still be used for general coarse fishing if other anglers wish to fish there, and always during matches when participants draw peg numbers. This revised permission will be subject to close monitoring and the Council reserves the right to withdraw it if deemed appropriate. The request to fish the pump pond area to remove large fish was turned down. The Lakeside Working Party will need to meet to discuss the lease, future requirements, fees etc.

2275 **Churchyard Trees**

Consideration was given to a complaint and request to cut back the Lime trees which border the Pinfold Lane boundary of the Churchyard and photographs of the trees were circulated. Members agreed to take appropriate advice about whether the trees are encroaching over the public highway. Any work will be subject to approval being granted from the District Council Planning Department as the Churchyard is in Balderton's Conservation Area.

2276 **Cemetery Extension**

Discussion was given whether to install gates, pillars or trees at the two entrances from the main Cemetery area through to the extension area, from both the roadway and through the Garden of Remembrance. Photographs were circulated for members' perusal. As there are several options, including a possible archway through the Garden of Remembrance area, Mr Brown undertook to get some comparable prices to aid the decision making process.

2277 **Green Area at Broome/Blackthorne Close**

Further consideration was given to installing bollards around the edge of the green area to prevent unauthorised parking. Mr Brown had costed timber posts which can be installed relatively easily and will have a more natural look. Members agreed to install these around the whole green area at an approximate cost of £230 for materials.

2278 **Poisoned Trees Lakeside**

Members discussed their concerns about the confirmed news that five mature trees to the rear of Grebe Close at Lakeside had been poisoned with Glyphosate. Members unanimously agreed that the five trees should be replaced as a matter of priority with large specimen trees. Discussion was also given to try and deter this type of criminal damage occurring again, including the possible option of installing a fence along that boundary to prevent access. Mr Brown was asked to get some prices and options as soon as possible. Weed killer has again been applied on Council land along the rear boundary of one property there. It was,

RECOMMENDED

that the Council's solicitor write to the proprietors concerned stating that this must not be repeated. The situation will continue to be monitored and further action considered if deemed necessary.

2279 Correspondence and Information

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

- a) Notice that the A1 will be closed overnight (8pm to 6am) between the A46 junction and the A52 until September 30th 2018 for essential maintenance.
- b) The District Council has advised that a Parish Council Event will take place at Castle House (the Council's new base in Newark) on Monday October 16th at 6pm. A presentation will be made by the Mansfield and Ashfield Clinical Commissioning Group and a short tour of the new building will be available. Any Councillor wishing to attend to notify the Clerk.
- c) The latest Police Commissioner's newsletter which outlines that 'Operation Jericho' has been successful in seizing several off road motorbikes and focusing on illegal fishing.
- d) P.C. Martin Stannard, who was for many years Balderton's Police Beat Manager has retired. His replacement has not yet been announced
- e) The Council will hold its own MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday November 10th.
- f) A request for 'No Cycling' signs to be installed at Lakeside to help enforce the bylaws. This will be considered along with other suggestions for signage at Lakeside made by Cllr Ms White relating to contact information for visitors.

2280 Future Agenda Items

Cllr Watt asked that consideration be given to a survey of what facilities parishioners would like to see on the playing field.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.15pm.