

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7.00pm

**PRESENT** Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Scott (Vice Chairman), Fletcher, Mrs Hurst, Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Owen, Page, Walker and Ms White  
  
with Cllr Allen, Head Groundsman Mr Brown, two parishioners and the Clerk.

2239 **Apologies** none were received.

2240 **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.

2241 **Public Participation**

The meeting was closed to hear a parishioner express his concerns about certain Lakeside issues. He was thanked for his attendance and the meeting re-opened.

2242 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

A printed update of ongoing issues was circulated and noted; the update is published with the minutes. No issues were discussed from the update.

Cllr Owen joined the meeting at approximately 7.10pm.

2243 **Y.M.C.A. Sports Project**

Members gave lengthy consideration to the Y.M.C.A.'s proposal to allow controlled, supervised boating activity on a section of water at the Lake as part of the organisation's plans for a Sports and Community Village on land behind Newark's leisure centre. It was,

**RECOMMENDED**

with ten votes for and one against, that the boating activity proposal be agreed *in principle*. Terms and conditions will require substantial discussion and negotiation before a formal agreement is reached between the Council and the Y.M.C.A.

2244 **Garden of Remembrance Memorial Benches**

Members considered two separate requests for memorial benches to be located by families in the Garden of Remembrance. Both requests are for the same site. The groundsmen have inspected and advise that there is sufficient room for two smaller benches side by side. Members approved the requests.

2245 **Lakeside Litter Bins**

The litter bins at Lakeside, particularly the one near Heron Way car park is being repeatedly filled with domestic waste. Notices have been placed warning about the misuse. Members considered that stronger worded notices should be placed at the bins.

2246 **Cement Mixer and Generator**

Members considered a request from the Groundstaff for the purchase of a generator and a cement mixer to particularly aid with installation projects away from the playing field at Lakeside or in the Cemetery. Guide prices are £400 for a cement mixer and £500 for a generator. It was,

RECOMMENDED                      that the purchases should be made and the expenditure will be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for approval.

2247 **Lakeside Security**

Consideration was given to a request for the Council to provide a warden to patrol the Lakeside. The request follows a report of a firearm being discharged in the vicinity on Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017. The complainant did not report the incident to the Police at the time. Members considered that just one warden would not be adequate, and in an instance such as this staff safety would be paramount, thereby prohibiting intervention. The Police, who do patrol the area whenever possible were informed by the Council of the incident after the event and advised that such reports should be made directly to the Police at the time.

2248 **Warwick Road Parking Problems**

Discussion was given to ongoing parking problems on Warwick Road adjacent to Warwick Court. Some improvement seems to have been experienced recently, but there are some vehicles that regularly park across pavements causing difficulties for pedestrians and residents alike. Though sympathetic to the problems the Council has little or no power to do anything, but inconsiderate parking advisory cards could be placed on offending vehicles. A further supply of cards will be requested from the County Council.

2249 **Street Play**

Cllr Owen outlined an initial proposal to organise a ‘Street Play’ event where a designated residential road is closed for a time to create a safe place for families to meet, children to play etc. This can be a regular event but of course requires Police and County Highways consultation and approval. Members considered that this sounds like a very positive proposal and Cllr Owen was asked to provide further details and information before the Council could formally endorse the project. The item will be discussed again at the next committee meeting.

2250 **Angling Club Memorial Board**

Consideration was given to a written request from the Grove Angling Club for a memorial board of past members, to be sited at Lakeside. Though sympathetic, members did not consider that such an item is appropriate for an open public amenity area and could not support the request. A Club ‘memorial’ bench (without individual names) would be considered more suitable.

2251 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) Some Silver Birch trees to the rear of Grebe Close at the back of Lakeside have had holes drilled into them by persons unknown, plus an area has been strimmed and weed killer applied; this has very recently been carried out. Members expressed their extreme concerns about this and agreed that the activity be reported to the Police without delay.
- b) Further garden rubbish has been dumped at the allotments, this time in the form of conifer clippings which must have been brought from someone’s private garden. Notices will be displayed at the allotments advising that allotment holders must try to help the Council ‘police’ this and report any such sightings or suspicions. In the event of a further skip being required to remove rubbish the Council will be forced to spread the cost amongst all allotment holders.
- c) Notice that the District Council no longer employs specific dog wardens; the service will be provided by an outside contracting company. Any dog order contraventions or general concerns should continue to be reported to the District Council on Newark 650000.
- d) A request from the Village Fete Group for an animal sanctuary who are scheduled to have a stall at the Fete, to bring along some of their rescue animals. The animals range in size from small rabbits to pigs and sheep. Members asked for further details to make a decision, such as exactly what species of animals and how they would be contained/restrained.

2252 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Owen asked that discussion be given to the new link road and Staple Lane/London Road junction which he considers to be dangerous.

The meeting closed at approximately 8.00pm.