

Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday October 25th 2017 at 7.00pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Allen (Vice Chairman), Mrs Hurst, Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Page, Scott and Ms White with two members of the public and the Clerk.

2281 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fletcher, Owen, Page, Walker, and the Head Groundsman Mr Brown.

2282 Declarations of Interest

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

2283 Public Participation

No one present wished to make any comments.

2284 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 2278 Lakeside Trees** Members reviewed prices for larger, more mature trees (20-25 cm diameter) to replace those that were poisoned earlier this year to the rear of Grebe Close. It was,

AGREED that five trees, made up of 2 Cherry, 2 Acer and 1 Hornbeam be purchased at a cost of £1200 + V.A.T. The five dead Silver Birch trees will require specialist removal as they are too large to be taken down by Council staff; the cost of this is not yet known. The expense incurred to ratepayers from this case of criminal damage should be highlighted.

2285 Dog Waste Bin

Members gave consideration to a resident's complaint about the amount of dog waste left on the pavements in the area between Warwick Road and Tesco's on Main Street. Though sympathetic to the problem there is no-where suitable to install a further dog waste bin in that vicinity; there are no open grassed areas and the County Council does not permit 'street furniture' on street light columns. There are dog bins quite close to this

area; one on the corner of Main Street at Knotts Court and another bin at the top of Warwick Road near the corner of Baines Avenue.

2286 Cemetery Extension

Further discussion was given to improving the two entrances to the Cemetery extension area from the roadway and through the Garden of Remembrance. Members agreed to Mr Brown's suggestion that substantial wooden posts be installed to create a border area that can be planted with roses at both entrances. A fence panel will be installed and Hawthorn planted between the roadway and the Health Centre boundary and further trees will also be planted in the extension area.

2287 Playing Field Gates

Discussion was again given to the issue of people getting locked on the field, despite the measures that are in place - namely clear signage at every access and attendants ringing a bell at closing time. A letter will be sent to the Police reminding personnel that Newark Police Station has keys to the playing field for emergencies. Members were advised who holds keys in the event of them receiving an out of hours call.

2288 Playing Field Facilities Survey

Cllr Watt had requested that this item be included on the agenda; in his absence it was considered appropriate to defer the discussion.

2289 Kubota Tractor

The fifteen year old Kubota tractor is in need of replacing; a new unit will cost £9000 with a trade in price of approximately £3500 for the old machine. It was,

RECOMMENDED that a new Kubota tractor be purchased the expenditure should be sourced from the 'Replacement Equipment' fund. This expenditure will be referred to the F&GP Committee for approval.

2290 Budget for 2018/19

Discussion was given to budgetary requirements for the next financial year, including the committee 'running cost' estimates which had been previously circulated and were approved. Possible projects for inclusion are: a large protected Council sign for the field side of the Village Centre, a further notice board for Lakeside near to the bird feeding platform at Orchid Close, and refurbishment of the old cricket scoreboard building which could be used to provide additional storage space. Prices will be obtained in readiness for the next meeting.

2291 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) An invitation for the Council to join the Balderton Royal British Legion at the Remembrance Sunday Parade on November 12th 2017. The march commences at 10.15am from the Post Office on Main Street.
- b) A local business has requested use of the playing field to undertake children's football practice sessions on Saturday mornings for two hours. The groundstaff would advise where the activity should take place. This was agreed at the standard rate of £12.50 per hour.
- c) Members were reminded about the Council's Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising on Friday November 10th 2017.

2292 **Future Agenda Items**

No items were raised.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.40pm.