

## Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held in the Village Centre on Wednesday October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 6.30pm

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Brooks (Chairman), Allen (Vice Chairman), Gloster, Green, Mrs Hurst, Mrs Lee, Lynch, Mallard, Mayall B.E.M., Mrs Newstead, Newstead, Roberts M.B.E., Scott and Ms White

with Mr Todd Cauthorn, Executive Director Y.M.C.A. Newark & Sherwood, Head Groundsman Mr Brown and the Clerk.

3330 **Apologies**

No apologies were received.

3331 **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.

3332 **Y.M.C.A. Boating on Lake**

The meeting was closed for members to meet with Mr Cauthorn from the Y.M.C.A. and discuss the design of the paddle boat launch dock which will be located at peg number 16 at the Lake. The revised design will allow the platform to continue to be used for fishing when boating is not taking place. Copies of a sketch layout were circulated to members and subject to a slight alteration suggestion, members were supportive of the design in principle. The organisation intends to use the sketch for a concept diagram to be drawn up which will then be brought back to members for ultimate approval. Funding options are currently being explored; an application may ultimately be submitted in the Council's name rather than from the Y.M.C.A. but this may lead to future ownership/liability complications which would need to be clarified beforehand. Cllr Ms White enquired about promised CCTV coverage of the area and Mr Cauthorn confirmed that this will be provided in some form initially with plans to extend it as the sports village project expands.

Mr Cauthorn thanked the committee members for their time, he left and the meeting resumed at approximately 6.50pm

3333 **Public Participation**

No members of the public were present.

3334 **Clerk/Chairman's Update**

A printed update of ongoing issues was circulated and noted; the update is published with the minutes. The following issues were discussed from the update:

1. **Re Minute 3271.1 Millennium Pillar Clock** As the clock has been out of working order for so long, members considered that the issue should be given separate discussion, possibly as a potential project for the Queens' Jubilee year in 2022. Options include sourcing the cost of repairs from fund raising and re-naming the clock, or replacing/relocating it altogether. This will be discussed at a meeting of the Jubilee Working Party arranged for Monday November 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 at 10.30am. Newly elected Cllr Gloster agreed to join the Working Party.
2. **Re St. Giles Churchyard** A meeting had taken place with the Church Warden where the issue of the problem telephone line was referred back to B.T., the wildflower area was discussed and the issue of a boundary wall that is falling down was addressed. This latter issue is ongoing and discussions with the District Council's Conservation Officer need to take place before any action can be undertaken. The committee will be kept informed of any progress made.
3. **Re Initiative Fund Bid** An application has been submitted to the District Council's Initiative Fund for Parish Councils for a CCTV camera at the top end of the cinder track (public footpath number 1) and playing field. If successful, the fund would only cover 50% of the cost so alternative funding sources will need to be explored, including the County Council's Local Improvement Scheme. Cllr Ms White advised that there may be funding available from the Police Commissioner.

3335 **Playing Field Flooding**

The County Council's Drainage Manager arranged for his unit's CCTV camera to inspect the drains on Macaulay Drive adjacent to the top of the field in mid-September. This showed that there is a blockage in the drain that runs from there through to London Road between several Masfield Crescent and Baines Avenue properties; this could be affecting the playing field's very slow drainage and flooding problem. The County Council is currently quoting to undertake the work on behalf of the District Council who are responsible for that stretch of drain.

3336 **Police Update**

Members gave discussion to any recent anti-social behaviour and crime issues in the village. The dance studio has experienced some anti-social behaviour issues since it opened but Inspector Allardice has assigned an officer to oversee this and promised plain clothes officer patrols if necessary. It is not known if this has taken place although uniformed officer presence has been noticed. Inspector Charlotte Allardice has accepted a revised invitation to address members at the Full Council meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 and an update will be requested prior to the meeting; a Freedom of Information request will be submitted if necessary.

**3337 Outdoor Gym Equipment**

Further discussion was given to installing outdoor adult gym equipment on the playing field. County Cllrs Lee & Smith have pledged funding towards the project; £1500 this year and £1500 in the next financial year. It was,

AGREED that two pieces, 'Arm & Pedal Cycle' @ £732 and 'Health Walker' @ £740 be installed initially on an area of the field not known to flood. If popular and not misused, consideration will then be given to install further pieces at another area of the field, ideally when the flooding issue has been resolved so that the equipment can be used at all times. The equipment will be installed in-house by the Council's groundstaff.

Cllr Roberts left the meeting at approximately 7.10pm.

**3338 Lakeside Litter Bins and CCTV**

Consideration was given to two e-mail requests for additional litter bins and a CCTV camera to cover the picnic bench area off Heron Way car park. Previous enquiries to install CCTV at that area proved far too costly as there is no electricity supply there, or even a street light that can be converted and utilised. The existing number of Council maintained litter bins were considered to be adequate and the requests could not therefore be supported.

**3339 Balderton in Bloom**

Initial consideration was given to the village participating in the 'In Bloom' initiative which encourages residents and organisations alike to plant flowers and generally take a pride in their local area. Further details will be obtained but members supported the notion in principle.

**3340 Lakeside Path**

Members approved the expenditure to purchase 60 tonnes of limestone at £1494 + VAT to renew the Lakeside path from the corner gate at Catkin Way through to the Heron Way car park area. The work will be undertaken in the winter by the groundstaff who will need to hire a double roller at a price of £80 a day; it is anticipated that this will be required for no longer than two days.

**3341 Memorial Rose Bush**

Approval was given to a resident's request for permission to install a rose bush and small plaque with a verse at Lakeside in memory of his late wife, near to the existing rose bed off Orchid Close. The exact site will be determined through agreement with the Head Groundsman and the resident concerned.

3342 **Budget**

Members gave initial consideration to budgetary requirements for the next financial year. Committee 'running cost' estimates, previously circulated, were discussed and approved subject to the budget heading Closed Churchyard Maintenance being doubled to £10,000 from the suggested £5,000 owing to the substantial cost of potential liability issues.

3343 **Highway Faults**

Members were invited to raise any new issues or faults to pass onto relevant authorities:

1. A request for bottle recycling banks in the village as the nearest ones are now in Newark— this will be raised with the District Council.
2. A large pothole in the vicinity of 12-14 Meadow Road

3344 **Correspondence and Information**

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

- a) An enquiry from a fitness company about sports holiday clubs for young people on the field. The local company has run successful clubs in Claypole. Members asked for further details which will be circulated.
- b) Radio Newark's breakfast show is offering a free on-air platform for non-profit making organisations such as Parish Councils. Members considered that the Balderton in Bloom issue could be promoted in this way once further details have been obtained and some progression made with the initiative.
- c) An update on the delivery of the Zip Wire piece of play equipment which was ordered some time ago. The equipment is fabricated in France where steel and delivery lorry shortages have put the expected delivery date back to mid-November.
- d) The latest Stakeholder Update publication from Police Inspector Allardice.

3345 **Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Ms White asked that consideration be given to re-introducing the best Christmas decorations competition for Balderton properties; this will be included on the next F&GP agenda.

The meeting closed at approximately 7.55pm.