

BARNBY IN THE WILLOWS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 29th SEPTEMBER 2022 at 7:00pm.

Attendees: Cllr Janette Barlow (Chair), Cllr Jackie Parker, Cllr Ben Powell, Cllr Graham Bett, Cllr Carol Speakman, Cllr Richard Cowley, Cllr Carina Jukes, Cllr John Lee, Helen Cowlan (Clerk)

Public: one resident attended

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Betty Brooks sent apologies – no updates to provide. Cllr Darby sent apologies and emailed the Clerk updates (see item 4).

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Contributions from the public, District and County Councillors

- *Litter bins* – a resident has emailed to ask about bin facilities on/near the Green due to an increase in litter. It is possible that the existing bin isn't large enough, however, as it was felt that it could be a one-off issue, it will be monitored over the winter and review in the Spring to see if additional action is needed.
- *Theft of cabling* – cabling has been stolen which has affected services in/to the village. It has been reported and is being replaced. Cllr Lee has made Robert Jenrick (MP) aware.
- *Updates from Cllr Lee* –
Precepts - being reviewed (District and County level).
Emergency Services - There will be a new Police Chief – Cllr Lee is pushing for cells to be reinstated at Newark and for the building to be made full use of. There are currently threats of strikes over Fire Authority pay, and the potential for consultations (on which comments can be made).
County Hall – there were no injuries as a result of the recent fire at County Hall. As there are plans in place for moving to a new site, it is likely that the building will get sold. County are currently at 0.1% above budget and looking at how to offset cost of living impacts.
Devolution – centralisation will bring about cost savings but no loss of services is expected. Mayoral responsibilities will be agreed and could eventually cover Police/Crime and Fire – the Manchester model can be referred to for a point of reference. There is the potential for a lot of investment and funding.
- *Updates from Cllr Darby (from email)* –
Firstly, apologies for tonight – I am unable to attend.
I am pleased to supply my regular report to the Parish Council. This month has been a busy one – my Highway's Survey are still coming in thick and fast and I am collating the results to present to Nottinghamshire County Council.
I continue to be in regular contact with Via East Midlands, who are responsible for the maintenance of our highways. I have been asked to put forward:
 - a) Three priority roads and/or footways in your area that you would like to see in a future year's maintenance programme.
 - b) Three integrated transport schemes that you would like to be considered in a future year's programme.If any councillors have any preferred schemes you would like me to put forward then please contact me at: cllr.debbie.darby@nottsc.gov.uk Just for clarity, the integrated schemes could be a reduction in speed limits, pedestrian crossings etc.
I continue to be active in my role on NCC's Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee. At last week's Full Council meeting, I put forward the following question:
Can you define the words "exceptional circumstances" and how they relate to Nottinghamshire County Council's policy on school clothing allowances?

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The County Council chose not to answer my question as they ran out of time. I am campaigning to end the postcode lottery whereby children in Nottingham City can get up to £200 in school uniform grants but parents in Barnby can only get support if they are the victim of a fire or fleeing domestic violence.

I continue to fight to improve access to GPs, improvements to ambulance response times and for extra services at Newark Hospital including a return to any A&E and maternity services.

4. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 21st July 2022 were approved as being a true record of the meeting - proposed Cllr Speakman, seconded Cllr Parker.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

- *Potholes* – Cllr Speakman confirmed that potholes on Front Street have been dealt with; roads may get resurfaced Spring 2023; road markings of white denote immediate attention needed, and yellow denote intermediate.
- *Flooding issues* – Cllr Speakman confirmed that NCC have reviewed concerns for Front Street, Dark Lane and Dark Lane/Back Lane junction with gullies being cleared.
- *Bus access issues* – some drivers (double deckers) are picking up at the bus-stop and reversing to go up Long Lane due to overhanging trees along Newark Road. **Action – Cllr Bett to speak to landowners to request they review / cut back to improve access for larger vehicles.**
- *Website* – a decision needs to be made to review options for taking the website forward. **Action – Clerk to write to current owner to request finalise process - to give options at next meeting.**
- *Speeding* – Unfortunately NCC have declined the request to provide traffic monitoring equipment at this time due to lack of issues highlighted in the area. It was agreed to contact the local Policing Team for advice, and for Cllrs Parker and Speakman to be trained by NSDC as needed. Cllr Lee has offered support. **Action – Clerk to contact PCSO Andrew Migwell / PC Gareth Nicholls and NSDC.**
- *Banking* – Clerk is still reviewing options for accounts and will provide an update as new offers become available. HSBC will be contacted to check list of signatories and contact information is correct, and to request debit card facility which will enable easier cash payments to be made into the account / via the Post Office. This may mean emails are sent to signatories to agree. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should request this. **Action – Clerk to contact HSBC as outlined.**
- *Windows* – Cllr Cowley has reviewed windows and although some only need repainting, one needs some further repairs. An update will be given once options and costs have been reviewed.
- *Noticeboard* – mock ups were circulated and a reminder of costs given (£680 + £75 delivery ex. VAT). Final design unanimously agreed along with the fact that installation will be completed on Parish Council owned land due to complications and expense for Highways owned land. **Action – Clerk to place order.**
- *Hob* – Clerk is awaiting quotes from two or three tradespeople for fit and / or supply fit.

6. Finance

a) Payments made since last meeting (July):

Parish Council:

Mowing (petrol) £10.25

No costs other than those previously approved.

Village Hall:

Water Plus (supply) £19.82

SSE £77.87 – close out for old contract (may get refund as meter reading submitted)

b) Payments upcoming:

Hob replacement costs will be confirmed once quotes finalised and received.

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Poppies – 2 per lamp-post, of which there are 13 equates to 26 poppies. Initial price of £3 was quoted (which would cost £78) but advice suggested that price increases were due by the time the order is placed.

All payments were unanimously agreed – proposed Cllr Parker, seconded Cllr Jukes.

c) **Summary of Finances**

An overview of position against budget was given – for Parish Council and Village Hall – and, in summary, year to date spend showed as being predominantly on track against predictions other than for electricity (due to the budget being done before price increase issues started). It was noted, however, that due to servicing costs falling towards the back end of the year, that it was likely that Village Hall expenditure would exceed income overall by financial year end. It was clarified that the Covid grant was to be used for Village Hall costs and maintenance, rather than events, and that residents are welcome to attend meetings to ask for further information if needed. The Parish Council budget could be impacted by election related costs in the next financial year and future reviews should allow for this. The budget / spend will show adjustments notes to reflect true electricity costs where possible – charges paid sometimes result in refunds being made so can skew figures. **Action – Clerk to review the process for Easy Fundraising and share for inclusion in a future newsletter to increase awareness.**

d) **Newsletter funding**

The last newsletter costs £80-£100 and consideration is being given to how to share costs, and if advertising can be used to support. As such, a request was made to see if the Parish Council would be willing to contribute towards costs of production. **Action – it was agreed to carry this forward to review at the next meeting.**

7. **Hall Maintenance**

Works to repoint and replace bricks have taken place at a cost of £967.00 which was unanimously agreed.

8. **Planning matters**

a) 22/01587/TWCA – The Willow Tree pub, Front Street – *reducing crowns and ivy (4 trees) to clear parking areas, walkways and signage.* **Outcome – permission granted (info only)**

b) 22/01424/LDC- Chestnut Lodge, Barnby Rd – *Lawful Development Certificate for the formation of one access for outbuilding.*

The process does not require the Parish Council to be consulted on the LDC but any concerns about the site failing to meet previous planning requirements should be raised to NSDC.

Balderton Parish Council has advised they are aware of the information and will review. An anonymous / unsigned letter has been received from a member of the public raising concerns which have already been raised about the number of caravans on site, and about the hardcore and rubble on the verge which could block the dyke (which needs to be kept clear to help prevent flooding). **Action – Clerk to contact Planning and Enforcement teams to pass on concerns, copying Cllr Darby in.**

9. **Village Committee Report**

Clerk provided a summary of discussion points at the last meeting including plans for future events and fundraising.

10. **Village Committee Members**

Proposals for new members (Keith Stanton, Yvette Wellard and Clare Powell) were unanimously accepted and agreed. Clerk will contact them, and the Committee, to confirm.

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11. Village Committee & Hall Constitutions

It was felt that the introduction of new members was a good point at which to agree items to be included as part of the sub-committee's Constitution. Inclusion of the following items was unanimously agreed:

- Purpose – to raise funds to cover Village Hall running and maintenance costs.
- Events – some free events could be considered subject to running and maintenance costs being met / exceeded.
- Tickets – where there is an outlay, events should be ticketed to enable costs to be planned. Budgets should be pre-agreed.
- Receipts – receipts must be presented for reimbursement of costs (ideally VAT receipt).
- Standards – sub-committee meetings and members should follow / be aware of the same Standing Orders and Codes of Conduct as for PC meetings and Parish Councillors.
- Licensing – all licensing requirements must be adhered to.

Action – Clerk to draft and circulate for next meeting, and raise at next Committee meeting.

12. Devolution

Clerk to circulate emails to advise of information and current position.

13. Civility and Respect Project

Training and guidance are being circulated. Clerk to circulate information with a view to drafting a policy and commitment / pledge.

14. Correspondence

- a) *NSDC Scheme of Delegation (planning)* – training sessions for planning matters will be offered and will try and cover topics requested. Clerk to attend next session if available.
- b) *NCC Winter Service* – overview given of services provided.

Additionally – a new bus service is in operation where residents can book a place online or by phone for a more 'on demand style service. Action – Clerk to circulate details, and could be included in newsletter.

Also, YMCA is extending its range of facilities and services in Newark.

15. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 10th November at 7pm.

Meeting ended 21.20.

.....Signed by Chair

..... Date

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