



Bestwood Village Annual Parish Meeting



Including community event with presentations

Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 6.30pm

At St Mark's Church Bestwood Village

Present; Cllrs J Ashworth (Chair), I Hart, R Davidson, M Gee,
P Newling, K Brown and members of the Community

MINUTES

- 1 Silence to remember those that have passed
Observed

- 2 To receive and accept the minutes of meeting held May 2022
It was resolved to receive and approve the minutes (PN/IH)

- 3 Report from the Chairman

As yet another 12 months of council activity draws to a close, it is perhaps timely that we record just what it is that your parish council stands for and what are its aims. Well, firstly and perhaps most importantly, we are here for our parishioners. As the very first tier of government, we have limited powers, but we will respond to any situation, any issue which a resident feels they need help with. That help is accessible at any time through our council clerk via email or directly with us at our monthly council meetings here in St Marks.

Our second objective is to enhance village life, through organised events like the late Queen's Jubilee event on The Square, or physical improvements such as new play equipment, planters or memorial seating.

And thirdly, the budget we hold and which is replenished annually by Gedling BC, as well as paying for the improvements mentioned is also made available through financial grants to local organisations, which in the past have benefited the Welfare, St Mark's church, Boy's Brigade and Girl's Association and Complete Puzzle, the local autistic group.

So, bearing in mind those three objectives or aims, what has Bestwood Village Parish Council achieved in the last 12 months?

The Jubilee event on The Square, which took place last June, has already been mentioned and I think it's fair to say was a great success. Lots of people came along to enjoy the activities, the children's rides and races, the refreshments and the live music. Weather was warm and sunny, though a bit windy and the side shows we had raised money for the Ukraine Relief Fund. All in all, a good afternoon out.

The Miners memorial and seat on the new paved area on Park Road turning into the Country Park car park has now been completed and proves to be a fitting tribute to all those who worked at Bestwood Pit over the years and sadly records by name those who also died there. The village map and noted buildings of interest on the

other side of the lectern is also a useful reference point for residents and visitors alike.

A quick word on the Moor Road speed cushions. We are very aware of the growing concern regarding impatient drivers who seek to overtake and the obvious potential for a serious accident as a consequence. As the County Council are adamant that the cushions are doing a good job in terms of safety and do not need replacing as a speed restricting measure, we have been in contact with our local Police, who are attending this evening and will speak to us later on this matter.

Thanks to all residents who took part in the consultation programme regarding the money made available to the village through the local housing developers. Results of the consultation pointed overwhelmingly at using this to create allotments and currently we are looking to identify land where this might be possible. Watch this space.

Those who use public transport from the village were dismayed to hear last summer of Trent Barton's intention to withdraw the 141 service and your council were quickly in consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council who, we were aware, provided a substantial subsidy in this respect. The County council swiftly responded to the situation however and we have seen that from last September an arrangement has been made to continue the service with Stagecoach, though this will only last until September this year when it is hoped that a solution to demands on this route will be found.

Finally, some of you may be aware of a certain Lord Kitchener who, during the first World War appeared on army recruiting posters with his bristling moustache and finger pointing out saying, "your country needs you". Well, this Kitchener and yes it actually is my second Christian name, is saying to you, "your village needs you." What am I talking about? Well, come May we will need 4 new councillors. As a council, we are allowed 7 councillors in total and they serve for a limited term of years. That time is up shortly for all the current 7 and for various good reasons, 4 are not standing again. So, if you are at all interested in joining us, please speak to any councillors here or Sue, our clerk to find out more.

And that's about it; thanks to all my fellow councillors for their support not just this last 12 months but during my time as Chair, thank you to Sue, our most capable temporary/permanent clerk and thanks to all of you who have come here tonight to support this event. Thank you.

- 4 Parish business – members of the public are invited to address the Council on any matters within its jurisdiction
An informal time during which residents and Councillors and local police mingled and communicated on various issues took place followed by the Full Council meeting

- 5 Date of next meeting
To be decided by incoming Council