



Bestwood Village Parish Council



Date: Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7pm
At St Mark's Church Bestwood Village

Present; Cllrs J Ashworth (Chair), C Brown, R Davidson,
L Newcombe, J Noone, R White
6 members of the public
Clerk – Susan Stack

MINUTES

FULL Silence to remember those that have passed
2023.097 ***Observed***

FULL To receive apologies for absence
2023.098 ***I Hart***
R Ellis (Gedling BC)
C Barnfather (Notts CC)

FULL To receive and consider - Declarations of members' interests and
2023.099 dispensations from non-participation
J Noone (Grant Application – neighbour on Moor Road)

FULL To resolve for this meeting only that County and Borough Councillors will be
2023.100 invited to speak on any matter on the public agenda at the discretion of the
Chairman
Resolved (JA/CB)

FULL To receive and approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th July
2023.101 2023
***It was resolved to receive and approve the minutes subject to two spelling
changes (JA/RD)***

FULL To receive and note - Any update on actions arising from previous Parish
2023.102 Council decisions (not included elsewhere on the agenda)
Goal posts are in place and are well used
Notts CC are funding the 141 bus for foreseeable future

***Cllr Barnfather is still arranging site visit for Northern Way
The old School site on market for offers
Speed data request resulted in average speed 27.7 and 27.5
(North/Southbound) - Clerk to request detailed results.
Mower – parts are on order and when working it will be serviced and
donated by Cllr Noone. Hopefully it will be completed this week – Cllr
Newcombe to relay information to Welfare.
Men in Sheds – Age UK Nottingham are not intending to open any new
sheds and there is no transport scheme to existing sheds. Cllr Newcombe
has passed information on to the resident concerned. Reported that the
Welfare may discuss setting one up at a future date.
Cllr Newcome has contacted S106 officer – no reply received.
Website and E-mails are going to be revisited when new Clerk in post.
Facebook will be addressed after Website sorted.***

- FULL
2023.103
- To receive reports from
- a) County Councillor
*Update on last meeting ref;
Drains on School Walk
Sale of Hawthorne School, Postcode error query and no mention of
Conservation Area status
Not present but written report included above*
 - b) Borough Councillors
Not present
 - c) Parish Councillors
***Cllr Davidson - Northern Drive – an accident occurred during the
recent wet weather causing flooding.
Cllr Newcombe – How the Council handles queries on planning
applications and responses from the Parish Council have been
reported by residents, Clerk will add to next agenda***

- FULL
2023.104
- To receive - Parishioners questions/statements (normal duration 15
minutes)
- Drains – Resident advised that they are to be inspected based on
photographs sent – Perhaps the Lengthsman could help with high level
vegetation, Councillor Ashworth will look into it.
The usual group will not be able to assist with refreshments etc on
Christmas Light switch-on event. The Chairman expressed his thanks to the
members for past 12 years of service. An expression preference on venue
towards the Community Centre was made.***

Use of a PA system for the Parish Council meetings – The Council has one but it has not been used of late. A commitment to set it up in future was made with Cllr Davidson arranging.

FULL 2023.105 To approve payments for the month (as e-mailed to Councillors to pay)

28-Jul-23	HMRC	INCOME TAX July	£ 45.00
28-Jul-23	SUSAN STACK	SUSAN STACK PAY July	£ 189.05
01-Aug-23	JACK ASHWORTH	CHAIRMANS ALLOW	£ 134.00
01-Aug-23	SUSAN STACK	ZOHO EMAIL SUBS	£ 23.04
01-Aug-23	SUSAN STACK	SECURE CABINET PURC	£ 209.00
01-Aug-23	SUSAN STACK	ZOHO EMAIL SUBSC.	£ 69.12
01-Aug-23	SUSAN STACK	OFFICE PAPER	£ 39.61
07-Aug-23	Countrywide Ground	BSB014	£ 160.00
07-Aug-23	Notts ALC subs	TRAINING CLLRS	£ 80.00
Sept 23	HMRC	INCOME TAX August	£ 45.00
Sept 23	SUSAN STACK	SUSAN STACK PAY Aug	£ 184.05
Sept 23	PKF LITTLEJOHN	AUDIT FEE	£ 252.00
Sept 23	COUNTRYWIDE	GRASS CUT SEPT	£ 160.00
Sept 23	ST MARKS CHURCH	MEETING ROOM HIRE	£ 280.00

It was resolved to approve the payments (JA/RD)

FULL 2023.106 To receive and –

- Accept the Audit report from PKF Littlejohn
- Agree the publication of the Conclusion of audit to the website and notice boards

Resolved to accept report and agree publication (RD/RW)

FULL 2023.107 To discuss – Amending Standing orders to allow County and Borough Councillors to take part in items on the public agenda in their Councillor roles at the discretion of the Chairman

Resolved to adopt. Clerk to produce suitable amendment for October meeting (JA/CB)

FULL 2023.108 To receive any update on – Section 106 Consultation Event and outcome of meeting with Bestwood Village Miners welfare – (LN/CB)

Awaiting clarity on what the S106 money is able to be spent on. Two Councillors are attending a course later in September on S106 in general which may explain more and Cllr Brown will write up a summary of the training for other Council members.

As S106 funding can be used as Match funding but if this is to be undertaken successfully public consultation is imperative to support any

projects which Match funding is applied for. It is therefore important that a consultation process be put together for distribution early 2024 to formulate a vision for the village's future (including a budget). Cllrs Brown, Newcombe and White to put together some ideas for next meeting

FULL
2023.109 To receive update on – Progress on change of website host to accommodate domain based e-mail addresses (LN)
Mostly resolved. Update given earlier in the meeting.

FULL
2023.110 To receive update on – Council Facebook account and management of content (LN/CB)
Will be re-visited when new Clerk in place and website control changed.

FULL
2023.111 To discuss – Introduction of new Grant application policy
It was resolved to introduce the policy with immediate effect. Put the policy and an electronic/downloadable application form on the website. It was resolved to adopt the policy (JA/RW)

FULL
2023.112 To decide on – Grant application received from Natural Athlete Community Health and Fitness CIC for £4,200. Report on meeting held with delegated Cllrs in August.

Cllr Brown and Robert White had a meeting with the applicant and Cllr Brown read out the report (that had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting) compiled as a result.

Concerns;

- **Pedestrian access (no paved access on a 30mph road)**
- **Complications over ownership and leasing of the land if the CIC were to close with an out of area transfer (Derby area)**
- **Planning on constructing building in house and the ability to do so in such a way as to to adhere to H&S insurance etc**
- **Ceiling height may not be adequate for some gym equipment and any change may result in planning permission being needed.**
- **Lack of evidence for this service in the village other than existing clients with no formal consultation having taken place (which is something that the Council may be able to work together on as part of the 2024 Village consultation to establish a need).**

Recommendation to decline at this time but offer support in the future to the CIC concerned.

It was resolved to decline the application at this time but assure the CIC of

our gratitude that they are here and to assure the CIC that the Council are happy to work with them in the years ahead.

Clerk to draft a reply and seek agreement with Cllr Brown before sending.

FULL
2023.113 To discuss any changes to Financial regulations, Standing Orders and other policies in place requested by Councillors
***Standing Orders;Re-visit the positioning of Parishioners time
Include inclusion of Borough and County Councillors to contribute in their Councillor capacity to meetings at Chairman's discretion.
Cllr Hart has reviewed Disciplinary and Financial regulations which will be brought to the October meeting. A working group was formed to review the policies consisting of C Brown, L Newcombe, New Clerk will meet ahead of October meeting.***

FULL
2023.114 To receive reports and discuss;

- a) Environment working group Report
Three planters outside school need replacement after the current growing season. Prices to be sought for October meeting
- b) Lengthsman Scheme update
Mobile again and has trimmed bushes on approach to school
- c) S106 Monies – Projects & Consultation
Covered earlier on the agenda
- d) Planning applications review -*To discuss and make formal representations on behalf of the Council for applications received since the last Full Council meeting*
Applications to continue to go to all Councillors until a formal policy is in place.
- e) Update on traffic issues
No report
- f) Storage room for Council property
– *Update on progress and note purchase of secure cabinet for Council property.*
Still waiting for Welfare to put a lock on the room. Alternative suggestion to buy a storage container and pay for site rental is being researched by Cllr Noone to report back to October meeting.
- g) Playground inspections and repair
***Zipwire is safe as it has been inspected by Gedling BC
A damaged swing will be repaired***
- h) Christmas lights;

- Revised invoice received and alternative settlement proposed by Cllr Ashworth
- **It was resolved to pay for the light element but not the attendance fee £1,026 as it had to be done by a Councillor (JA/CB)**
- Purchase of units from same supplier as Ravenshead PC and total budgeted spend

Rental approx. £400 per light. Brightly coloured waving Santa or White and variations on white Approx £500+vat plus installation (£185+vat per event). Buying ex-rental is approx. half price with a 12 month guarantee and are supplied unserviced. Rental contract length is 3 years.

GeeTee make Christmas lights and so may be worth an approach. Noted that Christmas tree lights need checking before use.

It was resolved to delegate to Cllr Newcombe with a spend limit of £10,000 to put together a proposal for October meeting and include testing of Christmas tree lights (JA/CB)

- Arrangements for 2023 event – date, venue, switch-on prep etc. Cllr Ashworth gave a review of previous events. For 2023 it was suggested that the Council support a new joint group, Planners and Doers (including the Welfare, WI, Friends of Country Park, BB, Church). At a recent meeting arrangements for a joint event on the 25th November 1-6pm were discussed with Santa, Brass Band, Male Voice (and school) Choirs. It was suggested that the Light Switch on could take place as the same event. It was resolved that the Council will provide 150 selection boxes for Santa to give away and that the Council will enhance the switch-on event with mulled wine/non alcoholic alternative and mince pies to be organised by the Welfare or an alternative. (JA/LN)

Cllr Ashworth to pass on contact details for the Planners and Doers group to Councillors and include the date etc of their next meeting.

- i) Community events
- Any other events
- None**

FULL 2023.115 To agree the date and time of the next meeting (Tuesday 10th October 2023)
Noted

FULL 2023.116 Exclusion of public and press
Resolved

FULL 2023.117 To note appointment of new Clerk to start 18th September and to agree employment terms and contract.
Louise Turgoose was appointed and her start date will be 18th September 2023.
Cllr Brown has personalised a draft contract suitable for the Parish Council sector. Cllr Brown to circulate draft contract to Councillors.
Meeting to be arranged for an induction etc.
Finance background check to be carried out via Experian by Cllr Brown.

To discuss applying to join the Local Government Pension Scheme for Council employees.

Discussions around pension types took place. The Clerk will currently be below the threshold. It was resolved that a clause will be put in the contract whereby we would set up the NEST pension if the Clerk wishes to contribute but the Council will not make contributions.
In the event that the threshold is met then it will be revisited.
Resolved to accept recommendation (CB/JA)