

Beckingham Parish Council

Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 15th November 2023

Members of Beckingham Parish Council are summoned to attend a Council Meeting on **Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.00pm** prompt for Public Time with the Council Meeting starting at 7.15pm. If there are no members of the public in attendance, then the Council Meeting will start at 7.00 pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and we set aside the first 15 minutes of every meeting to discuss any issues you wish to raise. After this public time has ended, public can choose to leave or stay to listen to the rest of the agenda.

Agenda

- 1 Public Time
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 To receive declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations
- 4 District and County Councillor Time
- 5 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the 4th October 2023
- 6 Matters arising
 - /1 to review the Parish Council's contribution to the costs of the new Church gate
- 7 Correspondence:
Emails:

19/10/23	Marianne Overton re site visit with Richard Fenwick
28/10/2023	Lucille Hagues re November newsletter (see attached)
30/10/2023	NKDC re streetlights
3/11/2023	Marianne Overton re October news
- 8 Planning:
 - /1 23/1252/TCA The Cottage , Sleaford Road, Beckingham
Felling of double trunk ash tree. Approx 15m high, tree surgeon has viewed the project and does not foresee any issues with this.
Reduction inadvisable as re growth would occur
 - /2 to note Planning Inspectorate Appeal decision and review updates
- 9 Committees
 - /1 Village Hall
 - /2 Play Park:
 - /3 Woodland
- 10 Matters for Agreement
 - /1 to set the budget and precept for 2024-25
 - /2 to confirm dates for the 2024-25 meetings
 - /3 to discuss flooding in the Village (Cllr Wells)

11 Finance

/1 Payments to be approved:

NA Sevices re inv 23/09	35	15/10/2023	560.00
Payroo inv 04073	36	15/10/2023	6.00
Bank charges		17/10/2023	8.00
NA Services re inv 23/11	36	03/11/2023	560.00

/2 Bank balances at 5/11/2023

Money Manager (Deposit) £1103.44
Community Account (Current) £16040.47

12 Date of Next Meeting: . Wednesday 20th December 2023

Terry Brown - Clerk to Beckingham Parish Council
Sunday 5th November 2023

189 Belton Lane, Grantham, NG31 9PL
Tel: 01476 516366
clerkpc@beckinghamvillage.co.uk

Beckingham Parish Council Budget and Precept 2024/25					
		2023/24			2024/25
		Budget	12.11.23	Expected 31.3.24	Budget
Income	Precept	12000	12000	12000	
	NKDC litter	83	0	83	83
	LCC Grass	336	0	336	336
	Donations				
	Vat refund	1100	586	586	1100
	Grants				
		13519	12586	13005	1519
Expenditure	Salaries	2292	1071	2292	2400
	Admin expenses	420	194	340	420
	IT	100	71	71	100
	Training	50	0	0	0
	Bugle	260	214	295	260
	Audit	100	100	100	100
	Subs	150	0	140	150
	Grass mowing	2500	1820	2000	2500
	Play field	1000	3508	3508	1000
	Woodland	1500	1074	1074	1500
	Roads	1000	646	646	4000
	Insurance	1200	1163	1163	1200
	Projects	1600	809	809	4600
	Donations	300	0	0	300
	Litter	150	125	125	150
	Village Hall	1000	175	175	1000
	Misc	200	1687	1687	200
		13822	12657	14425	13880
	Year surplus			-1420	-12361
Reserves	Operating		8587	7167	
	Election		300	300	
	V Hall		2000	2000	
	Projects				
	Play		1510	1510	
	Fete		302	302	

/2 to confirm dates for the 2024-25 meetings

Wednesday 17th January

Wednesday 20nd March

Wednesday 15th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 17th July

Wednesday 18th September

Wednesday 20th November

Wednesday 18th December

28/10/2023 Lucille Hagues re November newsletter

FLOOD GUIDANCE

It remains that many rivers remain bank-full, and will do for some time, as water continues moving through the system. Please do remind people NOT to walk along riverbanks at the moment – they may still be saturated from the amount of water and could be weak underfoot. In some areas some fields remain flooded, sometimes by design as part of flood defences, and may continue to see high water levels. The Lincolnshire Rural Support Network can offer help and advice to farmers and growers impacted by Storm Babet in Lincolnshire, including via their helpline on 0800 138 1710.

NEW CHANGES TO POSTAL AND PROXY VOTE APPLICATIONS COMMENCING 31ST OCTOBER 2023

The next tranche of electoral changes as part of the Elections Act 2022 comes into effect from 31st October 2023 and applies to postal and proxy voting. This includes the ability to apply online for a postal or proxy vote (paper-based applications remain as an option). Further personal information will be required for ALL postal or proxy applications at the time of application regardless of how the application is made. The issue of postal ballot papers remains unchanged.

These are part of several measures to protect the integrity of the electoral system.

Below is a high level overview.

IDENTITY CHECKING REQUIREMENTS

All applications – both online and on paper – will require an identity check as part of the application process.

All absent vote applications (except for emergency proxy applications made on or after 31st October 2023 must contain a national insurance number) or a reason why one cannot be provided.

The personal identifiers contained on the application (name, address, date of birth and NINo) must initially be verified against department of Works and Pensions (DWP) data.

Where an application fails to match a DWP data – electors will be required to provide documentary evidence to verify their identity. Where this is not possible, electors must submit an attestation to confirm their identity.

All existing postal voters will need to reapply to move onto the new three- yearly cycle before 31st January 2026. Transitional arrangements mean all existing postal vote arrangements set up prior to 31st October 2023 are extended to 31st January 2026, with no need for any signature refreshes in that time.

APPLYING ONLINE FOR ABSENT VOTE APPLICATIONS

From 31st October 2023 electors (except for anonymous electors) will be able to apply for most types of (absent vote online) making it accessible for many (paper applications may still be used):

Postal vote

Proxy vote for a particular election or referendum

Proxy application for definite or indefinite period for overseas and service electors.

Electors applying for a postal vote from 31st October 2023 onwards will only be able to hold their postal vote until the 3rd year on 31st January following the date of which their application was granted.

For electors with a long-term postal vote (in place before 31st October 2023) there will be transitional arrangements. Existing domestic electors will be able to vote by post before 31st October 2023 must reapply and make a fresh application by 31st January 2024.

CHANGES TO PROXY VOTING LIMITS

The number of people a person can act as proxy for has also been restricted.

From 31st October 2023, a person is not entitled to vote as a proxy in any electoral area on behalf of more than four electors. Within the four electors, no more than two electors can be domestic electors.

YOUR VIEWS ON THE DISTRICT NEEDED IN TWO NEW SYSTEMS

Resident's thoughts on the visitor economy in North Kesteven are needed to help support and inform a new tourism strategy to be shaped for the district.

The survey by NKDC invites people to share their priorities and wish list for the local visitor economy. These thoughts will then be collated and used to support the future of the District's visitor economy by helping shape the North Kesteven Tourism Strategy 2024 – 2029.

The survey asks for input from residents, businesses, organisations, and the people behind visitor attractions. The survey launched early October, with paper copies available at some venues including Cogglesford Water Mill and Navigation House in Sleaford. Cranwell Aviation and Heritage Museum, and Mrs Smiths Cottage in Navenby.

IMPROVE YOUR DIGITAL CONFIDENCE BY ATTENDING DIGITAL HUB SESSIONS

NKDC are putting a call out to residents looking to grow their confidence using digital technology, or perhaps might know someone who is?

As Get Online draws to a close, it is the ideal chance for residents across North Kesteven to enhance their digital skills, and online confidence by attending one of the free Digital Hub sessions. Designed to grow people's confidence in operating in a more digital world – with E Mails to friends, online shopping and the use of smart phones for example – they take place every week; Currently in Waddington, Sleaford, Ruskington, Heckington and Osbournby and anyone can travel to any of them.

Currently there is most availability at the Waddington Digital Hub, which is weekly occurrence every Thursday, during term time, 1pm until 2.30pm, at the Waddington Community Hub, High Street, Waddington LN5 9RF. For more information on the Waddington Digital Hub please call 01529 414155.

REMEMBRANCE CEREMONIES FOR 2023

The Sleaford Branch of the Royal British Legion will be hosting the following ceremonies to mark the remembrance this year:

Saturday 11th November – Armistice Day

Sunday 12th November – Remembrance Parade and Service

Both ceremonies will take place 10.45am at Sleaford Town War Memorial, Market Place, Sleaford at 10.45am.

Please be in mind that Sleaford Market Place will be closed overnight and throughout the morning on Sunday November 12th for the Act of Remembrance.