

Beckingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 10th January 2018

Present: Cllr L Tatton (LT), Cllr A Brewer (AB), Cllr P Wells (PW), Cllr L Sills (LS),
Cllr R Gibbons (RG)

District Cllr Sue Howe (SH)

Terry Brown/Parish Clerk

Minute	Action
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18/2 Chairman's Announcements

We have hosted a meeting of the Witham Cluster group and had two presentations made, one by the new Chief Constable of Lincolnshire, Bill Skelly and a more lively one from a Company that wishes to move their existing Animal Rendering Plant from Skellingthorpe to a new location at Norton Disney

Work on the A17 road repairs was terminated apparently early without completion of the planned works, due we hope to our intervention regarding long requested drainage issues. We await resumption of the works, now due we believe in April.

The PC funded the annual Christmas Tree lighting and we are grateful that the Social Club took up and carried out the work that is involved in such an enterprise. It was a successful and well attended evening.

18/3 Apologies for absence

County Cllr Marianne Overton MBE, District Cllr Pat Woodman MBE

18/4 Police Time

PCSO Sarah Lingard's reported by email that there had been no incidents reported in the village since the last meeting. However, two Councillors indicated that there had been two incidents and the Clerk was to relay this back to Sarah Lingard.

Action Clerk

18/5 District and County Councillor Time

Sue Howe reported:

"Firstly, may I wish you all a very happy New Year. The District starts 2018 with a balanced financial outlook for the next three years ahead, with a focused direction and purpose. The new Waste Depot in Metheringham is on plan and within budget and expected to be operational Spring 2018, offering 10,000 sq ft of business units for lease as an additional income stream for the Council. The District remains focused on delivering economic development, housing, leisure and community projects for its residents and neighbourhoods, alike.

Tributes are being paid of long-serving North Kesteven District Councillor, Mrs Barbara Wells MBE who passed away in December, having represented the Eagle, Swinderby and Witham St Hughs ward. She was a past Chairman of the Council 1999/2000 and 2006/07.

The District has approved the introduction of a charging policy for the provision/re-rating of inspections for food businesses under the National Food Hygiene Scheme, thus enabling the local authority to charge for the service on a cost recovery basis ensuring that its resources are not unduly burdened.

The setting of discretionary fees and charges for 2018/19 has been determined pertaining to services provided, statutory charges and discretionary services, (the latter being recovered at full cost rather than the burden falling on the tax payer (+5%)). Surcharges pertaining to credit card payments have ceased.

The District will be hosting a two-hour workshop for retailers, providing business advice, initiatives around turnover, pricing strategies and loyalty custom, etc.

A new digital hub at Osbournby opened earlier this month and has been well received by residents wishing to learn more about on-line applications, etc.

In December the District agreed a 5th priority "Our Environment" to encourage cleaner air/better environmental conditions, etc. Sitting alongside this priority it has introduced a "Cycling Strategy" to encourage residents to cycle more, developers to introduce improved cycling infrastructure and thus promote positive health and well-being lifestyles. The Cycling Strategy is open for comment until 5.02.18. There is a Health & Well-being Fayre on 20.01.18 (11am-3pm) at Whisby Natural World.

On Monday, 15.01.18, Countryside NK have organised 4.5m walk (2hrs) around Haddington and Aubourn through fields and woodland and over styles. Meet 10.30 am outside The Royal Oak pub.

The NK Outreach team have organised Walking Football and Netball sessions in Sleaford and North Hykeham - ideal those over 55 encouraging folk to be more active whilst enjoying sport at a more 'leisurely' pace.

Residents can sign up (until 12.02.18) with the Lincolnshire Energy Switch initiative to potentially reduce gas and electricity bills, after which time residents will have until 27.03.18 to decide whether or not they want to switch."

18/6 Members' Declarations of Interest.

None

18/7 Approval of the minutes of the meeting 22nd November 2017.

These were approved unanimously and then signed by LT.

18/8 Matters outstanding from previous meetings:

/1 Removal of the decommissioned telephone box

The Clerk reported continuing difficulties in persuading BT to remove the decommissioned telephone box. A new point of contact was suggested which would be followed up. Action Clerk

/2 Village Hall Risk Assessment.

AB is to follow up on the provisional response to the enquiry concerning a risk assessment. Action AB

/3 Cleaning arrangements for the Village Hall

The Clerk detailed the three responses to the invitation to bid for this work. The Council unanimously agreed both to select one response and for the future supervision and payment of the work to be transferred to the Village Hall management Committee with immediate effect. The Clerk is to write to thank the two unsuccessful replies for their interest. Action Clerk

/4 Arrangements for the Village fete 2018

The Council received a report from Rob Gibbons on the initial discussions that had been held on this proposal. The Council agreed that the next step should be to form a committee led by RG and that this would be an item on the next meeting's agenda. RG also agreed to outline the plan in an article in the next "Beckingham and Sutton Bugle" due March 2018. Action RG

/5 extending maintenance work to footpaths in 2018/19.

The Council discussed and then approved a draft specification submitted by Lawrence Tatton. The Clerk is to seek three tenders. Action Clerk

**18/11 Committees
Village Hall**

/1 to discuss 2018/19 Village Hall Rate Relief.

Following a review of the tripartite arrangements for the oversight on the Village Hall, the Parish Council agreed that the Village Hall should continue to receive 100% Council Tax rebate.

LT reported on continuing actions to investigate the possible need for roof repairs.

Action LT

Play Park

PW reported and thanked LT for the stout repairs that he had made to the climbing frame.

18/12 Matters for Discussion

/1 To discuss Governance

The Clerk alerted Councillors to changes in arrangements for the forthcoming 2018 Annual Return and to changes to Data Protection legislation. He advised that both should have a minimal impact on this Parish Council.

LT asked the Clerk to include a summary suggestion on Neighbourhood Plans in the next Bugle. Action Clerk

18/13 Finance

The meeting approved the reported payments and confirmed the reported bank balances at 11/11/2017.

18/14 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 21st February 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm