

Beckingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 22th November 2017

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)

County Cllr Marianne Overton MBE (MO)

Terry Brown/Parish Clerk

Minute	Action
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17/84 Chairman's Announcements

LT expressed disappointment at the recent news from NKDC that consideration of the Parish Council's request to assume grass cutting of the Village Green from NKDC was to be postponed until 2020.

LT then reported that work would start this week on the A17 with the objective of renewing the German designed life expired top dressing of the road surface before damage occurs to the road substrate.

However, over the past twenty years Beckingham Parish Council has repeatedly requested action to improve drainage on the carriageways and especially the water hazard at the A17/Chapel Street junction. Therefore, it is disappointing that, having sent another communication to the LincsCC Highways upon receipt of the official intention notice to carry out works, no provision had been made to rectify these defects. Indeed, at a site meeting the engineer responsible for the works was totally unaware of any such issues.

At this lengthy site meeting LT repeated these concerns forcibly to the site engineer.

Marianne Overton noted carefully these remarks and promised to intercede for the Parish Council directly with the senior management at County Hall.

She asked that the Clerk send full details, plans and photographs of all the problems in order to aide her complaint.

Action Clerk

17/85 Apologies for absence

District Cllr Pat Woodman

17/86 Police Time

PCSO Sarah Lingard's reported (by email) that there had been no problems reported for the village since the last meeting.

17/87 District and County Councillor Time

Sue Howe reported:

"Recently announced, the winner of the Best Residential Development Award 2017 is a rural exception site developed by Waterloo Housing Group/NKDC and Geda at High Street, Brant Broughton consisting of 13 homes for affordable rent and shared ownership.

The regeneration of 8-sail Heckington Mill (a 13-year project) was opened in October by HRH The Princess Royal. The windmill also boasts a micro-brewery using malt from the Mill, a bakehouse and a tea room.

On 16.01.19 (5.30pm) the District will be hosting a two hour workshop for retailers providing business advice and initiatives around turnover, pricing strategies, loyalty custom, etc.

Corporate Director, Phil Roberts has been recognised for his professional approach of 'housing matters' throughout North Kesteven, the delivery of new homes, the establishment of Lafford Homes Ltd, housing stock improvements and policy development delivering quality services on behalf of tenants and residents.

On 28th November at The Source, Sleaford the District is staging a free exhibition and forum for private sector landlords and letting agents to keep them informed of the latest legal changes and expectations. It is also running the 'Safe as Houses' scheme for the benefit of tenants and landlords to raise the standards of private rented homes.

Witham & Brant Cluster Group - 27.11.17 at Beckingham Village Hall.

The new Waste Depot and 10,000 sq ft of business units in Metheringham are progressing well and expected to be completed April 2018.

NK Plan Consultation - residents/partner organisations/businesses are invited to have their say and take part in consultation on the NK Plan which will set out the Council's priorities for 2018-2021. The survey runs for six weeks and takes no more than ten minutes to complete. Anyone completing the survey can opt into a prize draw. www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/tellus2017/

Finally, may I wish you all a happy Christmas and New Year."

Marianne Overton commented on the likely impact of the recent Budget statement on County Council funding and for the provision of services.

Lincolnshire is a relatively disadvantaged county for central funding and all should be encouraged to support the Lincolnshire Fairer Funding campaign.

17/88 Members' Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Lyn Sills declared an interest in item 17/92

17/89 Approval of the minutes of the meeting 27th September 2017.

These were approved and then signed by LT.

17/90 Matters outstanding from previous meetings:

/1 Village Communication: the December Bugle

The draft copy was approved with one amendment.
The Councillors approved a rota to distribute the Newsletter around the village.
The Clerk is to get the Newsletter printed.

Action Clerk

17/92 Planning

/1 the removal of the decommissioned telephone box

The Clerk reported that this is in progress

/2 17/1346/FUL Land Rear Of Former Packhorse Inn School Lane Beckingham

LS left the meeting.

Councillors discussed the effectiveness of the plans to harmonise with the immediate locality and concluded that there were no grounds for any adverse comments to be reported.

LS returned to the meeting

17/93 Committees

/1 Village Hall

The meeting discussed the allocation of costs of between the Parish Council and the users of the Village Hall.

It was agreed that in principle fixed costs such as Insurance should continue to be met by the Parish Councils and that other operating costs such as heating should be reasonably apportioned to users. This would become more realistic as more data on operating costs was recorded.

LT reported on progress that had been made to find someone to carry out a Risk Assessment of the Village Hall. The meeting that the Clerk should make a formal approach to JDA Safety Ltd for a quote to carry out such an assessment. Action Clerk

LT queried the current status of the search to find a roofer to give a quote for work. LS said that she was pursuing this. Action LS

/2 Play Park

The meeting noted the latest weekly report from PW and in particular the condition of the mounting board on the climbing frame. LT confirmed that he was fixing it. Action LT

17/94 Matters for Discussion

/1 To set the 2018/19 Precept

The Council provisionally agreed the draft precept submitted by the Clerk with one amendment.

The meeting reviewed the grass cutting contract and made minor amendments for it to then go to tender for the period 2018/2020. Similarly, the meeting reviewed the gutter cleaning contract for it to then go to tender for the period 2018/2019.

The meeting agreed that the Council's policy of maintenance of footpaths should be extended to siding of footpaths where practicable and that LT and AB would draw up a plan of works for the Clerk to then put out to tender.

Action LT,AB,Clerk

/2 To discuss Quality Assurance

The meeting agreed that the Local Council Award Scheme would be a useful adjunct to the Council's continued aspiration to demonstrate correct governance.

The Clerk outlined a two-year program to achieve the Quality Award and the Council agreed the costs involved.

/3 To discuss the cleaning arrangements for the Village Hall

PW restated that the current more frequent use of the premises necessitated a more regular clean.

The meeting agreed the submitted draft cleaning schedule for the Village Hall with minor amendments and instructed the Clerk to seek three tenders for the work with a view that the new arrangements be put in place as soon as practically possible.

Action Clerk, PW, AB

/4 To set the meeting dates for 2018

The meeting approved the Clerk's recommended schedule of meeting dates for 2018. The Clerk to update the website.

Action Clerk

/5 To discuss arranging a Village Fete in 2018

RG outlined the potential for such an event, in part brought about by recent changes in the Village Open Garden event.

The meeting agreed that such an event could be very successful for the Village and agreed that RG should form a sub committee to investigate further and report back.

Action RG

/6 To approve the Clerk's registration for CiLCA

The meeting approved the Clerk's registration for CiLCA

Action Clerk

17/95 Finance

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

17/96 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 10th January 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm