

Beckingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 25th September 2019

Present: Cllrs L Tatton (as Chair), A Brewer, P Wells, & A Smith
Terry Brown/Parish Clerk
District Cllrs Mary Green and Chris Spray

Minute	Action
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19/086 Public Time

None

19/087 Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Tatton thanked all who had worked recently on the Village Hall improvements.

19/088 Apologies for absence

Cllr S Toomer

19/089 Police Time

PCSO Sarah Lingard reported by email of the execution of a warrant at Poplar Meadow A17/Sleaford Road for cannabis cultivation.

19/090 District and County Councillor Time

Cllr Mary Green reported:

"NKDC is undertaking the annual household canvass this takes place each year to ensure the electoral register is up to date.

Initial forms were posted at the end of July and a first reminder was sent to non-responding properties at the end of August.

There is a legal requirement to complete and return the HEF for but it does NOT register anyone to vote

Wragby road roundabout is being widened as part of bypass project, works are now underway.

Traffic management associated with these works can be found online by visiting

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/leb

Digital Hub Volunteers

Can you or someone you know use a computer, smart phone or tablet?

Would you like to help people in your local community access the internet or use their digital devices?

If so, being a Digital Support Volunteer could be the opportunity for you. To find out more head to

>><https://do-it.org/opportunities/1f08785b-b2ba-4534-a285-62b44b88963a>

Taxpayers of empty properties urged to make sure they are not going to pay too much Council Tax.

Owners of homes that NKDC believe are unoccupied and unfurnished will soon be receiving a letter asking them to confirm the status of the property. And if the home is now occupied it will be in the interest of the taxpayer to respond quickly in order that the Council can maintain accurate records and to prevent the additional Council Tax charges that can be incurred if the property remains recorded as unoccupied for long periods.

Treasures from London's V&A and National Portrait Gallery will feature in a blockbuster exhibition coming to Lincoln this autumn.

Opening at The Collection and Usher Gallery on Saturday 5th October 2019.

The exhibition runs until Sunday 5th January 2020 and is open from 10am to 4pm each day.

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £4 for concessions. Entry is free for children under 16.

For more information and to book your tickets visit www.thecollectionmuseum.com

Reminder for Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 27th September 2019

2020 May bank holiday will be moved

Just in case you are planning ahead - The early May bank holiday in 2020 will move from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day.

Lincolnshire's Energy from Waste (EW) plant, based near Teal Park in Lincoln, had processed as of 5th September one million tonnes of the county's waste.

The facility owned by LCC and operated by FCC Environment, has repurposed the waste into 554,000 Mwh of green energy for 29,000 local homes, and enabled the council to reduce the amount of rubbish to landfill by around 92 per cent"

Cllr Chris Spray reported on NKDC developments on the Climate Change agenda.

19/091 Members' Declarations of Interest.

None

19/092 Approval of the minutes of the meeting 24th July 2019.

The minutes were approved unanimously and then signed by the Chairman.

19/093 Matters outstanding from previous meetings:

/1 to review progress on the Playing Field development

The Clerk reported that confirmation had been received of a forthcoming site visit by the Woodland Trust to progress the submitted application.

Cllr Brewer asked for information to be obtained on the recommended guidelines for the fencing of Play Areas.

Action Clerk

/2 to receive update on tree works on Hillside

Cllr Brewer had enquired about maintenance work on a hawthorn tree at the top of Hillside. LCC had now given the contractor permission to proceed with a 2m reduction.

/3 to review progress on the A17 safety

Cllr Tatton reported on the communications with the LRSP and that further progress with an onsite meeting waited on the receipt of a FOI request for traffic incident reports made by the Clerk to Lincs Police.

/4 to review NKDC guidelines on dog nuisance

The Clerk circulated the current NKDC guidelines on dog nuisance which outlined NKDC's current approach to the problem. The repeal of the 1996 Dog (Fouling of Land) Act meant that NKDC could no longer issue FPNs.

19/094 Correspondence

Letters: noted

Emails: noted

19/095 Planning

/1 to consider a response from Planning Dept 4/8/2019 re 19/0621/FUL

Councillors considered the reasons for the refusal of the planning application at length. In particular they considered that an undue weight had been made in the refusal on the location being a short distance away from the main village site.

The consequences for the Parish were potentially serious. It did nothing to support the long-standing efforts of the community to achieve a cohesiveness to overcome the spatial problems within the parish boundary.

The Clerk was instructed to write a strong reply to this effect to the appeal for the planning application now lodged with the Planning Inspectorate, to be made by the 29th October.

Action Clerk

19/096 Committees

Village Hall:

Cllr Brewer reported on current improvements and Cllr Tatton reported on future bookings.

Play Park:

Cllr Wells reported on the need to continue to monitor deterioration in the wall of the climbing equipment.

Village fete:

No report.

19/097 Matters for Discussion

/1 to consider an update to the Code of Conduct.

Following an explanation of recent changes in this area, the Council **resolved** to adopt the submitted draft as the new Code of Conduct.

Action Clerk

/2 to consider an update to Financial Regulations.

Following an explanation of recent changes in this area, the Council **resolved** to adopt the submitted draft as the new Financial Regulations

Action Clerk

/3 to consider Christmas celebration arrangements.

Councillors agreed that the lighting of this year's Christmas tree would take place on the 7th December and that the PC would meet the cost of the tree, mulled wine and mince pies.

/4 to discuss the December Bugle arrangements.

The deadline for copy was confirmed as 7th November with distribution to be done the weekend of the 27th November.

/5 to discuss A17 fly tipping.

Cllr Tatton explained the continuing problem caused by the open access to a disused part of the A17. The meeting agreed that the Clerk should write to LCC Highways asking for the installation of a physical obstruction to prevent future problems.

Action Clerk

/6 to discuss arrangement for future funding initiatives.

Cllr Wells submitted proposals for the terms of reference for a committee to investigate funding for the installation of facilities such as improved toilets (see attached).

The Clerk emphasised the need for full transparency in this development. Cllr Wells explained that the first step was to find a local surveyor/architect who could provide some initial advice on what was realistic and achievable in regard to the toilet facilities. Cllr Green suggested making contact with Olav Holm-Johansen, who lived locally, had extensive experience in dealing work related to village halls and was likely to be able to offer some initial advice.

Cllr Wells stated that the initial work was likely to incur a cost.

The Council resolved to adopt the submitted terms of reference to frame the work of a Village Hall Improvements Working Group and that Cllr Wells to be lead applicant in order to commence filling in the application for grant aid from FCC Communities Foundation.

Action Cllr Wells

19/098 Finance

/1 All payments were approved.

/2 The meeting confirmed the reported bank balances at 26/8/2019 as
Money Manager (Deposit) £6798.99
Community Account £9590.25

/3 The Council **resolved** that banking arrangements should be transferred to a Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account with immediate effect

Action Clerk

/4 The Council resolved that the Village Hall sum assured should be updated in line with recently received advice.

Action Clerk

19/099 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 20th November 2019

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

**Proposed terms of reference for
Refurbishment of Village Hall Toilets Working Group**

Agreement

1. To seek and secure funding for the refurbishment of the Village Hall toilets incorporating facilities for the use of disabled people
2. To ensure the building as whole provides appropriate disability access and if necessary seek and secure additional funding for any necessary work
3. To oversee and advise on the procurement of suitable plans and obtain competitive estimates of the necessary work
4. To seek input on proposed plans from village hall users
5. To make recommendations to the Parish Council on best value for money
6. To seek agreement from all relevant parties to the applications for funding and meet any imposed timescales
7. To appoint a suitable person to oversee the building works
8. To provide regular updates on progress to the Parish Council

Actions required by Parish Council:

1. Agree who should be invited to be members of the working group giving a mix of appropriate skills and talents
2. Agree lead applicant and authorised signatory for FCC Foundation grant application
3. Agree process for approval of plans, estimates and grant applications
4. To wind up the working group when appropriate

W group -