

# Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile

## Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting

### Tuesday 16 February 2016 at 7:00 pm at Plungar Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Barlow (in the Chair), Kemp (arrived 8:15), Lowther (left at 8:20) & Smith

Residents: 5

Ref:	Subject:	Action
151/15	<b>Minutes:</b> Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 19 January were read & it was resolved that they be signed	Agreed
152/15	<b>Apologies accepted from:</b> Councillor Parry	Agreed
153/15	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> None	
154/15	<b>Residents Questions:</b> None received	
155/15	<b>Update from Borough &amp; County Councillors:</b> None present	
156/15	<b>Co-option of Parish Councillor:</b> Amanda Johnson was co-opted to the Parish Council representing Redmile. Acceptance of Office form completed.	Agreed
157/15	<p><b>Play Area:</b></p> <p>(a) Discuss &amp; plan for the future of the play area with Simon Gates from Play Park Committee: Duncan Shores also attended as Duncan was the Chair for 7 years prior to Simon talking over. The Committee meet infrequently, with a meeting in May 2014 which Parish Councillors &amp; the Parish Clerk attended &amp; a meeting last week. Currently, the Play Park Committee consists of a core of 4 – Duncan Shores, Simon Gates, Patrick McClure &amp; Chris Starmer. They do not believe there is a need for fund-raising such as grant funding as their impromptu get-togethers are successful with £3,400 have been raised during quiz nights, hoe downs, comedy nights &amp; a Halloween 2015 event. £700 has been spent on bark. There appears to be little appetite for a wholesale replacement of the play equipment &amp; the Play Park Committee would rather replace the odd piece as &amp; when required. The climber is starting to rot but not in a place which would endanger anyone. The Play Park Committee plan to address this as part of their maintenance day. Other pieces of play equipment which have been identified as coming up to end of life in the near future are the see-saw &amp; the treasure chest/boat.</p> <p>The Play Park Committee conducted a survey asking about play equipment &amp; facilities &amp; the request which came back was to football. The space &amp; neighbouring properties preclude football being played in the Play Area. Simon Gates asked if the school would allow access to the field as it has the potential to be a great village amenity. Orston allow their field to be used. Ann Hudson, a Governor for Redmile Primary School offered to take the request back to the Governors &amp; would report back.</p> <p>Cllr. Barlow asked if the concept of a refurbishment would be considered if there were parents, Parish Councillors &amp; the Play Park Committee involved? Simon Gates said the Play Park Committee has a preference for moderate repair or replace as required. It was agreed details of grant funding would be sent through. Cllr. Barlow also offered to send a representative to the Play Park Committee's next meeting.</p> <p>(b) Monthly Reports – up to date.</p> <p>(c) Discuss progress in regard to the neighbouring property's conifers: The Play Park Committee said the height &amp; spread of the conifers is an issue as they filter the light into the Play Park. The options to reduce the density &amp; height of the conifers are a significant portion of the Parish Council's precept. The Parish Council is reluctant to commit to the spend as they believe they will be back in the same position in a relatively short period of time &amp; they do not believe it is a good use of public money when the Parish Council does not own the conifer hedge. One of the Play Park Committee members has experience of the Nuisance Hedge legislation &amp; working with Melton Borough Council as he'd recently been through the process. The Parish Council is aware of this legislation but first they would like to further discuss with the residents of the neighbouring property.</p> <p>(d) Update on meeting with Belvoir Estate representative on the pruning of the copper beech: Richard Sochacki &amp; son met onsite with the Parish Clerk. The tree was inspected, noted to be in good condition &amp; there was a reluctance to do any work. However, in light of its location it was agreed that a light crown lift &amp; thinning would be recommended. The Play Park Committee would like to see the tree cut back more &amp; requested that a further meeting be set up &amp; they would also attend.</p>	<p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p>
158/15	<p><b>Financial:</b></p> <p>(a) Current account balance at 31.01.16: £11,223.44; Deposit account balance: £10,688.82</p> <p>(b) Bank statement matches receipts and payment listing</p> <p>(c) Payments required: Sharon Pyke - £353.26 February salary, Sharon Pyke - £14.83 Travel expenses to Melton Mowbray R.P. Hunt - £727.00 Headland Mowing; J.A. Kent Services Ltd - £945.00 Redmile church-yard grass cutting; Paul Steels - £25.00 Village meeting flyer; Plungar Village Hall - £10 Hire.</p> <p>(d) Direct Debits: Eon - £122.33 Street lighting</p> <p>(e) Payments in: Leicestershire County Council - £752.35 Headland Mowing 2015 grant</p> <p>(f) Update bank mandate: Form updated which will enable all Parish Councillors authorising &amp; signing rights</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p>

159/15	<p><b>Update on Melton Local Plan:</b> The Parish Council is currently reviewing the Emerging Options draft consultation. Then there are a series of meetings:  03 March – a reference group meeting at Melton which Councillors Barlow &amp; Lowther are attending  08 March – our parish meeting  15 March – a Settlement roles &amp; relationships meeting at Melton  22 March – next Parish Council meeting</p> <p>In term of approach for the parish meeting, it was felt that we should start with the big picture of the split of housing between Melton town (65%) &amp; the villages (35%). Then the hierarchy of villages followed by where are 3 villages fit into the hierarchy. This causes a problem as whilst it is recognised by Melton Borough Council that there has been an incorrect ranking of Plungar (rural supporter category) which has elevated to a different category to Barkestone &amp; Redmile (rural settlement category). This error has not been remedied which is disappointing as it has been raised a number of times with Melton Borough Council. The reason it hasn't is probably because a number of other villages find themselves in a similar position. However, it does then make it difficult to evaluate the Emerging Options draft consultation. At least the sites for 10 houses or more originally identified at Barkestone &amp; Redmile have been ruled out. Although smaller developments are still possible. The question for the Parish Council will be how do you judge the merits Cllr Barlow suggested that a meeting should be set up with Melton Borough Council's Local Plan representatives before the parish meeting on 08 March so that our concerns can be discussed.</p>	
160/15	<b>To review the revised Standing Orders &amp; Financial Regulations with a view to adopting the latest versions:</b>	Agreed
161/15	<b>Update on the John Dory, Barkestone:</b> On the market with Humberts	
162/15	<b>Update on Manor Farm, Barkestone:</b> Melton Borough Council has not responded to the reported breach of planning conditions.	Chase response
163/15	<b>Building Site on Chapel Street, Barkestone:</b> At Melton Borough Council's Planning Committee meeting on 28 January it was decided not to take any action at this time but that did not preclude action being taken at a later date. A request has been made to the site owner to tidy up the area.	
164/15	<b>Plungar War Memorial:</b> Quotations to carry out the remedial work to be submitted to Leicestershire County Council for evaluation. One quotation includes the gilding of the lettering which raised the question did the memorial have gilding originally & would it be suitable & appropriate.	Parish Clerk Cllrs. Barlow & Kemp to assess
165/15	<b>Update on The Peacock, Redmile:</b> It would seem the likelihood of this establishment re-opening appears to be unlikely & that the brewery may be seeking a Change of Use to turn the building & land into dwellings.	
166/15	<p><b>Redmile Church-yard:</b></p> <p>(a) Status of memorial testing, tree works &amp; wall repairs – The memorials have been tested with a report due. There is no progress on the tree works or the wall repairs.</p> <p>(b) Agree to renew current contractor for 2016 grass cutting season. Charges have been maintained. – Alternate quotation sought for comparison which was more expensive. The current contractor does a good job &amp; the Parochial Church Council has been complementary on the appearance &amp; maintenance of the church-yard</p>	Parish Clerk  Agreed to extend for another season.
167/15	<p><b>Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in Barkestone &amp; Redmile</b></p> <p>(a) Update on the training for volunteers who have agreed to undertake the weekly &amp; monthly defibrillator checks for Barkestone &amp; Redmile at The Windmill on 11 February 2016: Martin Fagan attended &amp; took our volunteers through the training. Need to iron out a few teeth problems. A letter of thank-you to be sent to Alistair Trimmer &amp; Stephen Giles for stepping forward.</p>	Parish Clerk
168/15	<b>Transparency Code Funding:</b> Quotation received from Midland Data Networks to supply & install HP lap-top, printer & software including shared storage. Cllr Smith suggested that the Parish Council consider an Epson eco-tank printer which may be more cost effective as it does not use ink cartridges. Request comparison of functionality from Midland Data Networks.	Parish Clerk
169/15	<p><b>Footpaths:</b></p> <p>(a) Report submitted by Footpath Warden – Ken Brockway - none received</p> <p>(b) Acknowledge that Headland Mowing grant from Leicestershire County Council is unlikely to be paid in 2016</p> <p>(c) Agree Headland Mowing quote – Current contractor has maintained his charge for another season.</p>	Acknowledged Agreed
170/15	<p><b>Review Parish Council Responsibilities:</b></p> <p>(a) Agree to undertake review of wooden assets &amp; arrange treatment &amp; maintenance where required</p>	Deferred
171/15	<p><b>Councillors Reports:</b></p> <p>Cllr Kemp – requested that the pothole on Highgate Lane coming into the village on the peak of the hill be reported</p> <p>Cllr Barlow – requested that the Parish Council meet as a working group to further discuss the parish meeting &amp; Local Plan</p>	Parish Clerk Parish Clerk
172/15	<b>Dates of next meetings</b> – Parish meeting to discuss the draft Melton Local Plan: Tuesday 08 March 2016 at 7:30pm in Plungar Village Hall – all residents are invited; Parish Council meeting: Tuesday 22 March 2016 at 7:00pm in Plungar Village Hall.	
	Meeting closed at: 9:30pm	