

Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 17 November 2015 at 7:00 pm at Redmile Primary School

Present: Cllrs. Barlow, Kemp & Parry (in the Chair)

Residents: 2

Ref:	Subject:	Action
110/15	Minutes: Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 20 October were read & it was resolved that they be signed	Agreed
111/15	Apologies accepted from: None offered	
112/15	Declarations of Interest: None	
113/15	<p>Residents Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether consideration could be given to new, individual village signs being sited in each of the villages. Similar to the village sign at Granby – Initial thoughts from the Parish Council are the signs are expensive & the Parish Council would be required to take on the maintenance & insurance. Fund-raising is an option but not sure it would be seen as a priority by residents. Another factor is that none of the villages have a central village green or pinfold so placement of a sign isn't that obvious. It is understood that Granby & other Rushcliffe villages had their signs mainly funded by grants which are not generally available. However the improvement of the village scene is something the Parish Council would like to consider further. 	
114/15	Update from Borough & County Councillors: County Councillor Byron Rhodes sent his apologies; he is attending a Local Plan meeting in Melton.	
115/15	<p>Planning:</p> <p>New Planning Applications for Consideration: 15/00852/TPO – The Old Post Office, 5 Middle Street, Barkestone – the Parish Council had no objection</p> <p>Planning Applications Decision Pending: 15/00448/NEI – 6 Wind Turbines at Sewstern Lane, Long Bennington – the Parish Council objected 15/00639/TCA – Lilac Farm, 18 Post Office Lane, Redmile – no decision submitted as Parish Council was not quorate</p> <p>Other Planning Related Topics</p> <p>(a) New Melton Local Plan – The date for the release of the draft Local Plan is not finalised. Depending on what the document contains in relation to this parish, an extraordinary meeting may need to be called. Melton has updated their spreadsheet following our latest submission of parish facilities. Check updated spreadsheet has been sent to Parish Councillors</p>	Parish Clerk
116/15	<p>Financial:</p> <p>(a) Current account balance at 31.10.15: £12,804.16; Deposit account balance: £10,686.95 (b) Bank statement matches receipts & payment listing - Checked & signed by Cllr Barlow (c) Payments since 20.10.15 – Eon - £118.38 Street lighting (direct debit) (d) Payments required: Sharon Pyke - £353.06 November salary, Sharon Pyke - £20.31 Travel Expenses to LRALC Anstey, Sharon Pyke - £6.48 Pack of 12 x 2nd class stamps, LRALC - £35.00 Chairman's Training. (e) Review of Parish Clerk's salary – Parish Clerk to send through salary history to Cllr Barlow (f) Consider & agree projects for next financial year – St Peter's closed churchyard will be an on-going investment, the Play Area equipment is heading toward the end of its life but there appears to be a limited willingness from the Play Area Committee to work with the Parish Council to refurbish, so no financial provision made & the deferred purchased of a new noticeboard for Plungar to be rolled into the new financial year. (g) Discuss & agree provisional precept figure – The increasing maintenance cost of St Peter's closed churchyard is a cause for concern. There is also increasing pressure on Parish Councils to take on local services & projects previously funded at County/Borough level & also new regulation of councils, leading to increased administration costs. Councillors discussed suggestions that the Parish Council should be seeking ways to improve the environment in all of the villages & that future projects arising from this could be at least part funded out of existing reserves. It was also noted that the additional projects already undertaken plus those contemplated all would result in more day to day costs for the Parish Council for insurance, maintenance etc. In anticipation of this, it was likely that the precept would need to increase & provisionally it was considered that an increase of 3% on last year was prudent & justifiable. This also takes into account that Melton Borough Council has further reduced the Council Tax Support Grant it passes on to Parish Councils. It was agreed that this provisional figure would be agreed & confirmed at the meeting in January subject to verification of the numbers.</p>	
117/15	<p>Donation Requests: LRALC has confirmed that the Parish Council under its power to maintain, repair & protect war memorials in the council's area as per the Local Authorities' Powers Act 1923, s1. is able to make a donation to Help the Heroes in lieu of any reimbursement of expenses to Mick Hodges for his grounds maintenance work at the Plungar War Memorial. Cllr Parry to update Mick Hodges.</p> <p>It was agreed that £40 per year would be donated to Help the Heroes; the Parish Clerk to determine how many years' worth fell to be paid.</p>	Cllr Parry Agreed

	The Parish Council will consider further an overall policy on donations to include recognising volunteer work.	
118/15	<p>Redmile Church-yard</p> <p>(a) Update on Parish Clerk's course at Anstey: Works to Churches, Churchyards & Local Authority Cemeteries & how it applies to the Parish Council in regard to Redmile's closed churchyard – Parish Clerk to register for faculty on-line so that minor works applications can be made.</p> <p>Our insurance company has confirmed that reimbursing a volunteer for conducting a push test on the gravestones is a sensible way forward. Check whether a minor works application needs to be submitted.</p>	Parish Clerk
119/15	<p>Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in Barkestone & Redmile</p> <p>(a) Update on training at the Windmill at Redmile – a very disappointing turn-out from Redmile. What more can be done to engage with Redmile residents?</p> <p>(b) Training requested end of November/early December at the Anchor in Plungar – Cllr Smith to confirm the Anchor's preferred date.</p> <p>(c) Confirm training venue for Barkestone – Cllr Parry to check if the St Peter's & St Paul's is an option since the John Dory has temporarily closed.</p> <p>(d) Set up training for volunteers who have agreed to undertake the weekly & monthly defibrillator checks for Barkestone & Redmile</p>	<p>Cllr Smith</p> <p>Cllr Parry</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p>
120/15	<p>Community Involvement Initiatives – discuss updates</p> <p>(a) Any response to the Good Neighbour Scheme suggestion in the Autumn Newsletter – a lady in Plungar has come forward & made her interest known. The Parish Council should seek to promote the Good Neighbour Scheme at community events such as the Defibrillator training sessions.</p>	
121/15	<p>Highways & Byeways:</p> <p>(a) Barkestone pothole – hold reporting to Melton Borough Council until Cllr Parry re-assesses.</p>	Cllr Parry
122/15	<p>Footpaths:</p> <p>(a) Report submitted by Footpath Warden – Ken Brockway – Footpaths G16 & G17 from Barkestone to Long Lane, neither footpath is well walked. Ken Brockway has cut back the overgrowth.</p> <p>(b) Good to see that footpath G21 in Barkestone has finally been adopted by Leicestershire County Council after all of these years.</p>	
123/15	<p>Play Area:</p> <p>(a) Monthly Reports – up to date. The Play Area Committee has apologised & confirmed that the new piece of equipment is a commercial piece of play equipment which was donated. To be added to the asset register.</p> <p>(b) Discuss any response to the request to the neighbouring property to cut back their conifers – The residents have given their permission for the Parish Council to trim the side & tops of the conifer hedge at the Parish Council's own expense. A quotation to be obtained.</p> <p>(c) Feedback from Play Area Committee on applying for grants – they are not receptive to the Tesco grant process. Cllr Parry to make contact with the Play Area Committee to find a way forward on refurbishing the Play Area.</p>	<p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Parry</p>
124/15	Review of Standing Orders & Financial Regulations: still in working document form. Draft documents to be circulated.	Cllr Parry
125/15	<p>Review Parish Council Responsibilities:</p> <p>(a) Identify & consider assets within our parish which may be considered to be of community value – Cllr Parry said this piece of Localism legislation is often used to protect village pubs. If the owner decides to sell then they need to give notice & a Community Group may, within 6 weeks, request a further 6 months to put together a bid. The owner is under no obligation to sell to the community group. Cllr Parry noted that other Barkestone residents are keen that the village does not lose this asset, given how few facilities Barkestone already has. It was agreed that a nomination of the John Dory as an Asset of Community Value would be made & the owner would be contacted to explain the position.</p> <p>It is understood that Granby is going through the process of registering its remaining pub as an asset of community value. Make contact with Granby's Parish Clerk.</p> <p>(b) Plungar Village War Memorial – following a Barkestone resident's complaint about the state of the War Memorial, time needs to be set aside again to obtain additional quotations from stone masons so that a bid for a grant from Leicestershire County Council can be submitted. The ownership status of the War Memorial remains an outstanding project.</p> <p>(c) Agree to undertake review of wooden assets & arrange treatment & maintenance where required – deferred until Parish Councillors take a walk around their villages.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Cllr Parry</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Smith</p>
126/15	<p>Parish Council Redmile Vacancies – 1 vacancy available for co-option & 1 for nominations via election</p> <p>A new Redmile resident is keen to be co-opted. Once the updated electoral roll is released, it will confirm the resident's status as a Redmile elector. Need to follow up whether there were any nominations for the other Redmile vacancy.</p>	Parish Clerk
127/15	<p>Councillors Reports:</p> <p>Cllr Kemp reported that in her experience the double parking issues on Church Lane didn't seem as frequent as they had been. Maintain a watching brief.</p> <p>Parish Clerk has received an application from Leicestershire County Council for parts of G21 footpath to be diverted. The</p>	

	applicant is from The Barn, Lodge Farm, Plungar. Comments need to be submitted before the next Parish Council meeting in January. The Parish Councillors had no objection in principle, subject to further investigation on the guidance in avoiding creating dog-legs.	Cllr Barlow
128/15	Date of Next Meeting: 19 January 2016 @ 7:00pm – Plungar Village Hall	
	Meeting closed at: 9:35pm	