

## Meeting of Beckingham-Cum-Saundby Parish Council

Minutes of the **Meeting of Beckingham-Cum-Saundby Parish Council** held on the 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023 Recreation Room, The Green, Beckingham, the meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

### Council Members Present & Officer Present:

Cllr Debbie Morris	Chairman
Cllr Tony Hailstone	Vice-chair
Cllr Mick Dalton	Cllr Steve Merriman
Cllr Karl Phillips	Cllr Esther Coleman
Ed Knox	Clerk/RFO
3	Members of the Public
Tracey Taylor	County Cllr

### Also, Present

63/23 To Approve Apologies for Absence  
None.

64/23 To Record Declarations of Interest in any items to be discussed  
None.

65/23 To Approve the previous meetings Minutes  
After discussion, Cllr Morris **Proposed**, Cllr Hailstone **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept the minutes. Cllr Morris signed the minutes of the previous meetings as a true and accurate record. Cllr Merriman asked if it would be possible to show action by dates against the names of anyone with actions in future.

66/23 To Receive District & County Councillors Reports

**Dist Cllr Sangar:** Did not attend due to another meeting and provided a report for the Council which included:

- **CABINET DECISIONS** - Cabinet met on 17 October and agreed the following:  
A report outlined a post-implementation review of the Planning Enforcement strategy. It proposed updating customer service standards, such as setting out response times and being clear about when the Council will/won't take action, and a review of the team to respond to the service pressures. Members agreed to continue use of agency workers and continue to seek to recruit into permanent posts, and to bring a report back to Cabinet next year.  
Use of the District Council's Better Care Fund (Projects) monies, to support an adaptations project and to commence work to install adaptations in up to 20 Council-owned bungalows.  
Adoption of the new Domestic Abuse Policy for Employees and Domestic Abuse Policy for Customers. The Domestic Abuse Act came into effect in 2021 and its various elements have or are due to commence over the period April 2021 to Spring 2024. The Council is seeking accreditation of its domestic abuse policies and practices, including through the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) which requires specific policies and procedures to be in place. DAHA accreditation is the UK benchmark for how housing providers should respond to domestic abuse in the UK.
- **DOMESTIC ABUSE** - Further to the above, I attended a DAHA training session on 1 October – a requirement of accreditation, which requires councillors to have a briefing on domestic abuse.
- **ELECTORAL REVIEW** - Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) is currently undergoing an Electoral Review, beginning the process of possible internal boundary changes, i.e., changes to Wards, their boundaries, and/or the number of members per Ward. This will be overseen by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE). In laying the groundwork for submission(s) to be made, a database of housing developments (those to-be-constructed and also one's part-constructed) by 2030 has been created by BDC to help in predicting Ward elector populations for that year.  
Members have been asked to consider the planned developments listed for their Ward. None are listed in West Stockwith.
- **BOOST FOR BASSETLAW BUSINESSES** - Bassetlaw businesses will get a boost to their growth plans, thanks to the launch of the Bassetlaw Accelerator project. The project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and East Midlands Chamber. The programme offers Bassetlaw businesses:
  - Business Adviser support
  - A team of locally-based advisers and specialists, employed by the Chamber, who will offer high-intensity growth implementation support to businesses to create new jobs or exploit technology to improve performance. Diagnostics will be assessed, and a Business Action Plan produced through the Balanced Scorecard strategic management system model
  - training including action planning workshops and webinars in areas such as finance, HR and digital
  - access to finance, including specialised consultancy through growth voucher support and grants

- networks for collaboration with fellow businesses including through the national Help to Grow: Management Course, North Nottinghamshire Manufacturing Network and Retford Business Forum.
- Businesses are invited to hear about support on offer at the Bassetlaw Accelerator launch event, taking place on Monday 13 November at Retford Enterprise Centre. Businesses wishing to learn more about the Accelerator project in Bassetlaw can do so by signing up to the 13 November event or visiting the programme ([www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/accelerator/](http://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/accelerator/)) and choosing Bassetlaw as their district.
- **TWO BASSETLAW ORGANISATIONS WIN AWARDS** -At the inaugural awards evening held by Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System (ICS), Bassetlaw Action Centre won the Value for Money awards for its Promoting Independence scheme, which engages with people who have left hospital. This service offers practical interventions to help people regain their independence estimated to save around £680,000 to the NHS every year in reduced hospital bed days.  
Bassetlaw Food Insecurity Network, run by Bassetlaw Community & Voluntary Service, won the Prevention award. It demonstrated a partnership approach to establish food hubs, cooking classes, social eating events, and community allotments to tackle isolation and promote mental wellbeing and address food insecurity. The work has been developed with the local community to understand the needs of residents and is being promoted to other areas as an example of best practice.

**County Cllr Taylor:** Gave an update to the PC which included:

- The D2N2 has received Royal Ascent.
- STEP the UKEA are progressing with the project to plan.
- The National Grid Pylon’s proposal consultations are live.
- NSIP Solar farms are being planned for around Sturton and High Marnham, the stance of the County Council will be to object on the basis of using all the local capacity of the grid which may have a detrimental affect on the STEP project once it goes on line.
- The Local Communities Fund is currently open.

➤ Adjournment – 10 Minute Public Forum

A member of the public gave an opinion on the location of the Christmas on the Green event and Cllr Morris addressed the points raised. Another member of the public raised the issue of the vegetation/soil ingress onto the footpath beside the bypass and how it had been reported online to Notts CC several times by members of the public and Cllr Morris. Cllr Taylor is looking into this.

67/23 To Note a Planning Response by the Scheme of Delegation

Since the previous meeting the parish council responded via the scheme of delegation as follows and also discussed the following at today’s meeting:

- **23/00746/FUL - Phase 2 Vicarage Lane 39 new dwellings – Plans have previously been granted for 30 houses and this is a further submission to increase this by 9** – The Parish Council submitted the following since the previous meeting: “After discussion, the Council **resolved** to object to the planning application for the following reasons:
  - The original application for this land was for 30 dwellings; this is accepted by the Parish Council, however an application to increase the number of dwellings by a further 9 is not acceptable and is being objected to
  - In the Guide to Sustainable Housing Layout and Design, Supplementary Planning Document it clearly states 3.11.13 The relationship between buildings in terms of their proximity should also be designed to avoid buildings that would be unduly imposing or appear overbearing to neighbouring occupiers. And goes on to state: “*Avoid relationships between buildings that result in excessive dominance or overshadowing of habitable spaces.*” As it has been presented, the residents of Lapwing Close and some of those on Vicarage Lane and Walkeringham Road are having to accept a quite unnecessary and unreasonable negative impact to their quality of life.
  - The Parish Council maintains that this development is more reflective of an urban development because of the density of the overall plot and is out of keeping with the street scene within the village of Beckingham
  - There is a great concern regarding the capacity of the Severn Trent drainage capabilities to handle the sewage. There have already been complaints and concerns raised by residents of the neighbouring new development, Lapwing Close to the developer. Several dwellings have been subject to flooding, water ingress and malodourous smells of raw sewage. There is no evidence to show that the existing issues have been resolved, and would presumably only worsen with further excessive development
  - The site add to the sewerage system: we have deep concerns regarding the sewerage system in this village.
  - There will be additional traffic movement. In the first instance by the construction traffic and ultimately by the number of new residents living at the proposed development. There already growing fears of the number of vehicles driving through the village, often at speed; overdevelopment of this site can only aggravate the existing situation
  - The new access to the site may be dangerous and could be daunting for some pedestrians.

- The majority of pedestrians would be pensioners and mothers with children - either walking to the Post Office, or to school.
- There is already a strain on the amenities available in the village and surrounding areas. The schools are up to or approaching capacity. There is limited provision of public transport. The village has one small general shop with a post office counter; otherwise, there are no public houses or retail facilities. The GP practices are under tremendous pressure; it already takes up to 3 weeks to get a non-urgent Drs appointment; the situation with NHS dental practices also mirrors this
- has a number of health and safety issues, particularly regarding traffic movements
- will over load a sewerage system probably already at capacity
- will not be served by local amenities/facilities

The Parish Council object to the application on the grounds detailed above, and would like the development to not have any increase in size from the 30 dwellings that were granted permission previously."

- **23/01125/HSE Demolish Existing Conservatory and Erect Two Single Storey Rear Extensions 14 The Crescent Beckingham** – The Parish Council responded as follows: *"The Parish Council supports the application and has no objections."*
- **23/01168/HSE Retain Metal Garage to Store Motor Home 5 Old Trent Road** - The Parish Council responded as follows: *"The Parish Council **objects** on the basis of design, visual impact, appearance and the materials it is made from. The retrospective planning is for a building which is very industrial in appearance and not in keeping with a residential property. It will have a negative effect on neighbouring properties due to these reasons. The Council has no objection to a garage, however it should be designed and made from more ascetically pleasing suitable materials in keeping with a residential setting and the materials used in surrounding dwellings."*
- **23/01096/FUL - 2 fields north of Willow Works - Old Trent Road Access Road - Battery Storage** – The Parish Council responded as follows: *"The parish council **objects on the basis of design, visual impact, appearance, negative effect of environmental impact.** Nineteen shipping containers 6m by 2.5m by 3m is a very big area, full of batteries on flood plain farmland. should be on an industrial park, or installed on brownfield land rather than ruining greenbelt farmland. Should the river ever flood, there could be an environmental disaster if the batteries are not sufficiently protected/bunded, they must be protected by something more than hedging. It is a large area whose design has a negative visual impact, Surely the national grid has somewhere more suitable than in agricultural fields outside of a village?  
The application talks about it being connected to the national grid, which explains how the power will get out of the batteries, but does not explain how the power will get into the batteries in the first place. Therefore, the Parish Council also **objects due to potential cumulative impact**, the planning application does not explain whether this is a singular stand-alone site, which is to be connected to the National Grid via the pylons in the area to help 'smooth' peaks and troughs in the grid, or whether this is to be one of several other applications for similar sites or to be battery storage for 'something else' a solar farm for example."*
- **23/01310/FUL Erect a Detached Eco-Friendly House with Detached Garage Land on The West Side of Gainsborough Road Saundby** - The Parish Council responded as follows: *"Whilst the Parish Council are sad to see the loss of the existing paddock, it appreciates the fact that it is to be surrounded by the new solar farm and therefore the new build will be barely visible. The Parish Council is pleased that the planned build is an eco-friendly property, therefore, the Parish Council supports the application and has no objections."*
- **Church St New Development Road Conditions** - The Council also noted the recent complaints of mud on the road at Church St originating from the new development. The matter has been raised by several individuals to the developer, been reported to the planning enforcement team at Bassetlaw and Cllr Taylor advised that NCC have been out to inspect the verges. Evidence of some wheel washing has now taken place and a small amount of waste 'film' was in evidence on the road. The Clerk will email the Waste Dept at Bassetlaw to ask for their support in explaining that BDC don't have capacity for extra road sweeping and can the Waste Dept explain this to their colleagues in Planning, encouraging the planning enforcement officers to monitor the situation and act where necessary to ensure the developer will tact appropriate wheel washing and similar procedures. **Action**, Clerk to email BDC Waste Dept by 17.11.23.

68/23

Finance:

Monthly Bank Reconciliation/Income & Expenditure

After discussion of the Financial Information circulated by email before the meeting, Cllr Morris **Proposed**, Cllr Hailstone **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept them as a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the bank statement and bank reconciliation.

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Rec Room Caretaker	Tesco – Cleaning Materials	£22.83

Rec Room Caretaker	Card Warehouse – 2024 Diary	£1.49
Member of Public	Orchard Nursery Ltd – Daffodil Bulbs	£50.00
Happy-Art Prints Ltd	King Charles III Portrait for Rec Room	£129.95
K.R Hewitt Ltd	Annual Hedge Cutting – Paddocks Old Trent Rd	£310.80
Cllr Hailstone	Currys – Speedwach Camera	£267.98
Cllr Hailstone	Lidl, Tesco & Costco - Items for Christmas on Green Event	£506.11
Holmes Ground Care	Grass Cutting – Cemetery	£77.50
RCAN	Annual Membership (Rec Room)	£115
Cllr Morris	VistaPrint – Christmas on the Green Leaflet	£75.78
Cllr Morris	Morrisons, Tesco & Village Shop – Items for Christmas on Green Event	£51.24
Lengthsman	Screwfix Cable Ties Poppies & Tradepoint Gloves	£23.39
Quality Garden Supplies	40 x 25kg White De-icing Road Salt inc 10% discount	£230.33
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b><u>£1,862.40</u></b>

2. Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
MCC Business Services Ltd	Monthly Shop Rent Oct, Nov	£400
Bassetlaw District Council	2nd ½ Concurrent Grant	£29
Bassetlaw District Council	2nd ½ Street Cleaning Grant	£529.50
Bassetlaw District Council	2nd ½ Cemetery Grant	£66
Bassetlaw District Council	2nd ½ Precept	£21,980
HMRC	VAT Refund 2022/23	£2,922.16
National Grid	Annual Wayleave (Pylon Over-sail Paddocks - Old Trent Road)	£2.17
National Grid	Annual Wayleave (Vicarage Lane, Underground Cable)	£2.32
Unity Bank	Interest	£274.48
WI Cards	Rec Room Hire	£28
Gardening Club	Rec Room Hire	£14
History Group	Rec Room Hire	£28
Gainsborough Croquet Club	Rec Room Hire	£14
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b><u>£26,289.63</u></b>
<b>Bank Balance</b>		<b><u>£25,069.91#</u></b>

Direct Debits, and Standing Orders for staff salaries\* including PAYE and Pension, all **approved** unanimously. #£500  
Bond Deposit is held until the end of the tenancy for the shop contents. \*The Council noted the annual cost of living rise has been announced by via NALC from the unions of £1ph for all Council staff, back dated to 1<sup>st</sup> Apr.

3. Rec Room Flooring:

Cllr Morris explained that since the bar was installed the existing carpet is inadequate from a health & safety perspective and that it is come to the end of its natural life. The PC also received a complaint from a user group over the safety of the temporary matting and there was an issue over the summer of the soaked carpet. Cllr Morris has obtained a quote for replacement flooring (anti-slip) that is water resistant for the bar area and a decent looking commercial grade carpet which should not show dirt and be hard wearing. The original cost was £2,000 including VAT but this has been discounted down to £1,600 including VAT (£1,280 net). After discussion, Cllr Morris **Proposed**, Cllr Hailstone **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept the quote, and proceed with the work but also try to see if it would be possible to co-fund, it via the NCC Local Communities Fund. **Action**, Cllr Morris to arrange to have the flooring replaced before the next PC meeting.

69/23 To Finalise Christmas on the Green

Cllr Morris explained the schedule of events is stall holders can trade from 1500-1800hrs in the tent at a cost of £10.00 per table top Santa will light the tree and 1600hrs and then (in the manner of The Pied Piper) lead the children to his grotto where each child will be given a free gift (chocolate selection box) – they will then return to the ‘party’ through the rec room rear entrance where they & their parents/guardians will be offered hot chocolate with marshmallows and mince pies. There will be music playing in the marquee from no later than 1600hrs with a live singer doing 3 x 30-minute slots from 1930hrs. ‘Christmas @ The Owl’ will start at 1800hrs where the sale of alcoholic beverages including hot mulled wine will be served.

The marquee will have continuous music, be fully heated and have a dance floor.

We are asking for hot food to be served from 16:00hrs:

- Wallace & Dough wood fired pizzas
- Your Plaice or Mine fish and Chips
- Hot dog & burger van (supplier not yet secured)

The food vendors will charge the public directly for any food sales and be positioned on the road side outside the marquee. In addition to Parish Cllrs, there are 3 volunteers from the community.

The budget set previously was £3000 (including a £500 contingency). Cllr Morris explained about a typo in the communications sent out to the PC members with the agenda stating a £3,500, and that it is expected that the net cost of the event will come well within budget. Cllr Phillips proposed that the item now be concluded and the finalities of the event be arranged at the Christmas Event planning session on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

70/23 To discuss Cemetery Regulations Update & Tenders for Grass Cutting

The current contractor has been spoken to about the quality and frequencies of cuts and has come back to apologise, but to also inform the parish council that they are happy to terminate the contract now and let the PC go elsewhere. The current budget, £2,480 has been frozen for a couple of years, so does not take into account for the hikes in fuel and other inflation rises over the past 2 years. The Clerk has contacted all Bassetlaw and West Lindsey Clerks for recommendations for grass cutting contractors and sent tenders out to:

- Contractor A £140 (increase £2000, £2.49 a year band A, 21p a month, £3.74 band D, 31p a month)
- **Continental Landscapes (Contractor B) £82.50 (increase £160, 20p a year Band A, 2p a month, 30p a year Band D, 3p a month)**
- Contractor C Declined to quote
- Contractor D £150 (increase £2,320 £2.89 a year Band A, 24p a month, £4.34 Band D a year, 36p a month)
- Contractor E Declined to quote
- Contractor F £170 (increase £2,960 £3.69 a month Band A, 31p a month, £5.54 Band D a year, 46p a month)
- Contractor G Declined to quote

Continental were recommended by Saxilby Parish Council and Lincoln City Council. Non-of the contractors are willing to do cut and collect, they are willing to work the same way as Jess does the Green/Spinney with weekly mulch mower cuts. They are also not willing to cut around, or move and repositions items and solar lights placed on the grass in the 6ft space in front of headstones. It is worth noting that the Precept per year at Band D has decreased £82.24 2023/24, 2022/23 £84.62, 2021/22 £85.75. Ater discussion, Cllr Morris **Proposed**, Cllr Hailstone **seconded** and the PC **resolved** to appoint Continental Landscapes for a 1-year term. **Action**, Clerk to contact the existing contractor to notify them and inform the new contractor by 30.11.23.

Regards the cemetery regulations, these do not currently cover the matters of members of the public undertaking their own ground maintenance, they are also a little harshly worded with regards to removing items from the cemetery and do not mention what items are allowed. After discussion, Cllr Morris **Proposed**, Cllr Phillips **Seconded** and the PC **Resolved** to amend/add the following clauses to the regulations, Cllr Dalton to visit the cemetery and advise Cllr Morris which graves have items on them, Clerk to inform Cllr Morris of the last known address of the next-of-kin/burial rights owner, and Cllr Morris to visit them by 30<sup>th</sup> Nov to inform them of the rule changes. Clerk to then write to the last known burial rights/memorial owners advising them of the updated regulations. **Action**, Cllr Dalton, Morris and Clerk by 30.11.23 and Clerk by 31<sup>st</sup> Dec to write to all plot holders.

Updates to the regulations as follows:

**Glassware, Fragile & breakable items:** *for safety reasons, no glassware, and other fragile or breakable items are allowed in the cemetery. The Parish Council Lengthsman will remove the items and place them in the shed at the Rec Room, the burial rights owner will be written to give them 1 month to collect the items, if they do not respond, they will be disposed of.*

**Other personal items & Tributes:** *– No items are to be placed on, or set into the ground, beyond the headstone plinth which includes the concrete grave marker which measures 18” from front to back. Should anything be placed beyond this distance the Parish Council Lengthsman will remove the items and keep them safe in the shed at the Rec Room, the burial rights owner will be written to give them 1 month to collect the items, if they do not respond, they will be disposed of.*

The Council agreed to write to NALC legal dept to ask for guidance on the appropriate wording for the Grounds Maintenance section of the regulations, the following wording will be amended to whatever legal guidance they provide guidance:

**Grounds Maintenance:** *The Parish Council arrange for the undertaking of cutting the grass and hedges within the cemetery and the maintenance of the benches, fences, gates and noticeboards. Members of the public are strongly advised not to undertake ground maintenance themselves in the cemetery, including the use of mowers/strimmers, however, should you do so this is at your own risk, the parish council insurance does not cover members of the public to undertake grounds maintenance or operate grounds maintenance machinery. If you do undertake such maintenance, please be mindful of any other members of the public present on site.*

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

<b>Appendix A – Parish Council Action Tracker</b>			
<b>Action By (Cllr or Clerk)</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Completed or Outstanding</b>
Clerk	Clerk to email BDC Waste Dept in support of BDC Planning to ensure developers conduct wheel washing at new development	17/11/2023	Completed
Clerk	Apply for NCC Local Communities Grant to attempt 50% funding of Rec Room flooring	24/11/2023	Completed
Cllr Morris	Arrange for Horsley's to replace Rec Room Flooring	30/11/2023	Completed
Cllr Morris	Hold final Christmas Event Planning Meeting	22/11/2023	Completed
Clerk	Contact existing contractor to terminate arrangements for end of 2023	30/11/2023	Completed
Clerk	Contact Continental Landscapes to Accept Tender.	30/11/2023	Completed
Clerk	Contact NALC for legal guidance on wording in Cemetery Regulations with regards to MOP's undertaking their own grounds maintenance on graves.	30/11/2023	Completed
Cllr Morris	Visit the burial rights holder/next of kin to explain the rules regards tribute location/placement	31/12/2023	Completed
Clerk	Write to the last known burial rights holder of all existing interments to advise of the updates to the Cemetery Regulations once NALC provide legal wording guidance on the section regards grounds maintenance.	31/12/2023	