

AT A MEETING of the BARKSTON AND SYSTON PARISH COUNCIL held in the Village Hall, Barkston on Monday 12th September 2016, at 7.45 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Miss M.E. Nussey in the Chair

Councillors P. Connor, S.T. Elnor, Mrs S.B. Evans, A. Hine, J.A. Jackson, S.J. Kelly and A.J. Rowell. Also present: Councillor Ian Stokes – District Council.

No members of the public attended.

2200. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Card (accepted for the purposes of an attendance), together with District Councillor Rosemary Kaberry-Brown and County Councillor Ray Wootten.

2201. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and approved as a correct record.

2202. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none declared.

2203. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

(a) Matters raised at previous meetings, which had been referred to the County Council and other agencies for comment, were discussed as follows, together with further matters raised at the meeting:-

- 1. Hole outside Barkston Garage – works were being arranged for the garage forecourt to remedy the issue with the blocked LCC drainage. This was, however, awaiting funding, and in the meantime it was intended to have the hole temporarily infilled. It was noted that this work had not yet been done, and the Clerk was asked to refer this again to the Area Surveyor with request for more urgent action.*
- 2. Church Street/Honington Road – the major patching scheme for these roads has been measured and costed and was due to take place in late December this year.*
- 3. Accessible pavements – this was being investigated with regard to dropped kerbs, but the Area Surveyor suggested that lack of funding would make this difficult to achieve at the present time. The Clerk was asked to remind the Area Surveyor that he had not addressed the issue of legal liability.*
- 4. Picnic Area, Station Road – the Area Surveyor had advised that the area was not owned by LCC and was not maintained by the Countryside section either. The Clerk said that he had established that the land was not owned by SKDC or the Environment Agency and suggested that possibly the only way to clarify ownership would be by a Land Registry search, at a cost of £24.95. It was pointed out that the picnic bench on the area, which had been removed by persons*

unknown, had been replaced and concreted in, and that there was an official sign at the entrance. The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries and pursue the ownership issue with the County Council.

- 5. Honington Road, in front of Almshouses – the defective area would be included in the December patching scheme but would be kept under review and temporarily treated if necessary.*
- 6. Weeds at side of and on pavements – the issues raised by the local resident had been passed to relevant officers for attention.*
- 7. Area Surveyor’s walkabout – the Clerk listed the issues raised and discussed at the July walkabout, and the Chairman advised that the footpath matters raised in Syston had been attended to.*
- 8. Proposed stopping-up orders – the Clerk reminded the Council of correspondence which had been received from LCC in regard to the proposed stopping up of Heath Lane, Barkston and Green Lane, Syston. Following comments from all Members, an objection had been raised in regard, mainly, to the removal of access rights to a well used and popular circular walk. The County Council had now responded confirming that if the roads were stopped up, adjacent landowners would legally own the land next to their original boundary, with rights of way easements for necessary passage by others, therefore private vehicular access to properties and land would be maintained. More importantly, bridleway and footpath access would be maintained. In view of this confirmation, the Clerk said that he had withdrawn the Parish Council’s objection. After discussion, mainly on the issue of the retention of access rights for neighbours, the Clerk’s action was confirmed.*
- 9. Signs, A607 – the Clerk reported receipt of a copy of a letter sent by a local resident to the Tourist Office in Grantham, in relation to the sign advertising ‘Belton House ¾ mile’, on the A607 (east) near to the entrance to Syston Park. He had been engaged in litter picking and had walked into the sign, which was obscured by trees but, more importantly, the sign was very low and he suggested that it could be raised on grounds of safety. The Council agreed and asked the Clerk to refer this to LCC.*
- 10. Church Street/War Memorial – the Council were reminded that the County Council had promised to install temporary bollards in this area, which was being worn away by frequent parking, pending the implementation of the ‘No waiting’ scheme. This had not yet been done, however, and the Clerk was asked to remind LCC.*
- 11. Give way sign, West Street – this sign was flush to the wall of the adjacent property instead of facing down West Street, and the Clerk was asked to advise LCC.*

2204. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Decisions had been taken on planning applications as follows:

Demolition of side extension, erection of single storey side extension and garden room and alterations, 3 West Street, Barkston – approved

The Clerk advised that the six applications at the Recycling Centre on the High Dyke at Barkston Heath, on which the Council had been consulted as a neighbouring authority, had now been considered. Four, all relating to an extension of hours for materials deliveries, had been approved. The applications for an increase in the tonnage which could be received at the site, and for significant new building, had both been refused.

Following consultation, comments had been made on planning applications as follows:

Installation of replacement illuminated and non-illuminated signage to public house, The Stag, Church Street, Barkston (two applications – amended plans) – objection – both approved

Erection of two detached dwellings and garages, Land to north of West Lodge, Main Road, Syston – objection

In connection with this application, Councillor Stokes reminded the Council that he had, as requested, asked for the application to be referred to the Development Control Committee. Unfortunately, however, this had not been agreed.

In relation to the above application, Members wondered if it was possible to insist that solar panels be installed on new development of this type. The Clerk said that he would make enquiries with SKDC..

(b) Neighbourhood Plan – the Clerk reminded Members that the Community Awareness Session would be held in the Village Hall on Friday 16th September. The event would be organised by Community Lincs supported by Members of the Council. Following the event, the results would be assessed by Community Lincs who would then produce a report for consideration at the November meeting.

2205. BURIAL GROUND

The burial plot which had sunk had now been reinstated. A quotation had been received for the cutting of the hedge in the sum of £260, which had been accepted. Councillor Rowell advised that Councillor Card and himself intended to remove various dead trees shortly.

2206. PLAYING FIELD

The risk and safety inspection had been recently carried out with no significant issues raised. Councillor Kelly commented on the report and said that the items raised had, or would be, dealt with if appropriate and the site would continue to be regularly monitored.

2207. RISK INSPECTION

The Clerk reported that the six monthly risk inspection had recently been carried out. There was only one minor issue raised in regard to a headstone in the Burial Ground. It was not considered that this was so unsafe as to require any action other than monitoring, which would be regularly undertaken. The Council noted the report.

2208. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Electoral Review of Lincolnshire – the final report had been received. The proposed County Council division which included Barkston and Syston had not altered, except that the originally proposed name ‘Ancaster and Manthorpe’ had not been agreed, and the existing name ‘Grantham North’ had been retained.

(b) Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils – Circular 159 was received and noted. (circulated to members via email).

2209. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Financial update

The Council received and noted the financial updates at the present date, and Councillor Jackson explained these for the information of Members. It was suggested that the balance was a little high at present, and it was agreed that this would be noted for

discussion at the budget meeting. Other issues raised for discussion at the budget meeting were the costs associated with the Neighbourhood Plan, should it be agreed to proceed, and repairs to the War Memorial. In regard to the latter issue, the Clerk was asked to arrange for a condition report to be prepared before the budget meeting.

(b) Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED:-

(i) That payment of the following accounts be approved and confirmed:-

	£
Glendale Countryside Ltd.(Mowing 1/7 and 15/7)	571.17

(ii) That payment of the following accounts now submitted be agreed:

	£
Anglian Water (Supply 6.5.16 – 4.8.16)	10.51
Playmaintain (Playing Field inspection)	99.60
M L Hall (Half year salary)	902.00
Glendale Countryside Ltd. (Mowing 5/8 and 26/8)	571.17
Grant Thornton (Audit fee 2015/16)	240.00

(c) Audit 2015/16

The Clerk reported that the audit for 2015/16 had been completed satisfactorily, with no matters raised by the Auditors, save for two notes in relation to the dates of approval on the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements, where the signatures of the Clerk/RFO and Chair had been dated after the date of approval, which was 9th May.

2210. SYSTON DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk reminded Members that the awareness seminar would be held in Syston Church at 7pm on Thursday 15th September. Flyers had been distributed around the village, and a note had been placed in 'In Touch'.

2211. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION BUT NOT DECISION

There were no proposals for charging for the disposal of black bin waste from non-residential premises (Burial Ground), as had been suggested.

Agreed to consider the provision of a seat at the Hough Road/A607 junction at the budget meeting.

Dated

Signed

Chairman

