

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the BARKSTON AND SYSTON PARISH COUNCIL held in the Village Hall, Barkston on Monday 8th May 2017, following the Parish Meeting

PRESENT

Councillor Miss M.E. Nussey in the Chair

Councillors A.C. Card, P. Connor, S T Elnor, Mrs S.B. Evans, A. Hine, J.A. Jackson, S.J. Kelly and A.J. Rowell.

Also present: Councillor R. Wootten – County Council.

2241. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That Councillor Miss M E Nussey be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

Councillor Nussey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman.

2242. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That Councillor A C Card be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

2243. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillors Mrs Rosemary Kaberry-Brown and Ian Stokes.

2244. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2017, a copy of which had been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and approved as a correct record.

2245. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none declared.

2246. REVIEW OF POLICIES

The Council reviewed the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Audit Plan. No changes had been made since the last Annual Meeting and none were proposed or considered necessary, and the Council confirmed them as written. It was agreed to continue the appointment of Mr A Anderson as Internal Auditor. The Clerk advised that following the last Annual Meeting, he had discussed appropriate remuneration with Mr Anderson, but he had declined to accept anything.

2247. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

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. *Church Street/War Memorial – no further timescale for the installation of the marker posts could be given.*
2. *Marston Road – litter – the Clerk reported that he had inspected the area but that no litter in the quantity mentioned at the last meeting had been observed. Members were of the opinion that there was a significant amount, and as this issue was not one for the County Council, as had been supposed, instructed the Clerk to refer the matter to the District Council.*
3. *Station Road, Barkston – the Area Surveyor had acknowledged the report regarding the marker posts being replaced following works in the area. There were other works taking place, and it was agreed to monitor the situation.*
4. *Marston Road – the Area Surveyor had said that there had been some drainage works at the junction, but the markings referred to patching repairs to be undertaken in the current financial year.*
5. *Fly tipping – the incident of fly tipping on Frinkley Lane had been reported, although it was not clear whether the items had been removed yet. Clerk was asked to chase this with SKDC.*
6. *Footpath, A607/turn into Syston – Clerk and local Councillors to monitor the visibility issue as trees come into leaf.*
7. *Contact with LCC on highway issues – the Clerk reported on changes in the contact system with LCC following a new system introduced earlier in the year. It appeared that changes had been necessary following adverse feedback about the lack of direct access to highways officers, and the Clerk gave details of these. It was also noted that safety critical items would be prioritised, but this would result in reduced time for public engagement in matters such as walkabouts.*
8. *Accessible footpaths – the Chair read a letter from a local resident in regard to the difficulty he had in accessing the Village Hall, due to various issues with narrowness of paths, kerbs and soft ground adjacent to the paths, and he asked that these be looked into and rectified. It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Rowell would accompany the resident on the route mentioned in the letter, the better to understand it before a reference to the County Council.*
9. *Gateway opposite “Innisfree”, Honington Road – it was reported that this gateway was badly rutted due to dustcarts pulling off the road in that location. Clerk to refer the matter to SKDC for action.*
10. *Station Road/A607 junction – a suggestion was made that a mini roundabout be installed at this junction on road safety grounds. It had been noted that traffic still entered the village very fast, and a roundabout would be beneficial in slowing vehicles as well as ensuring a safer exit from Marston Road for vehicles, and for pedestrians crossing the junction. Agreed to refer this to LCC for consideration.*
11. *Hough Road level crossing – the edges of the road at this location had again broken away, and the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council.*
12. *50 mph speed limit, A607 – the Chairman suggested that there should be a 50 mph speed limit on the A607 from the existing 50 limit on the edge of Grantham. There were a great many accesses off this road, many in dangerous locations, and there had been accidents caused by excess speed. Councillor Wootten said that he would establish the accident statistics for that stretch of road and advise the Clerk. It was also suggested that the County Council be asked to consider advance warning of the Barkston 30mph limit.*

2248. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) *Following consultation, comments had been made on planning applications as follows:*

Extension to existing workshop, Chandlers (FE) Ltd., Main Road, Belton (neighbouring authority consultation) – no objection

Residential development (outline), Barkston Motor Sales, Honington Road, Barkston – no objection – subsequently approved conditionally

Detached garage/playroom, Old Laundry House, The Drift, Syston – no objection

To vary condition 6 of planning permission N74/1238/12, to allow wrapped baled material to be stored to a height of 4 metres, Wilsford Heath Recycling facility, High Dyke, Ancaster (neighbouring authority consultation) – no objection

- (b) Neighbourhood Plan – the Council received a report prepared by Community Lincs, following the circulation to every property in the parishes of a leaflet explaining what a Neighbourhood Plan is, and giving other information sufficient to enable residents to vote on whether or not they would support the development of a Plan. Members discussed the report at length, and it was pointed out that as the 50% support agreed at the last meeting had not been achieved, no further action should be taken. This was agreed.*

2249. PICNIC AREA – STATION ROAD, BARKSTON

The Clerk reported on further investigations he had undertaken in regard to the ownership of the picnic area. It had now been clarified that the suggestion as to who might own the land was incorrect, and that the area was unregistered. Appropriate steps would now be taken to register the land, as already authorised. The cost of registering was minimal, although the Council was reminded that there would be some maintenance costs, initially to tidy the area and make it safe, and later for regular maintenance, such as mowing.

2250. BURIAL GROUND

There were no matters to report, other than the proposed removal of tree stumps.

2251. PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk reported that the mower referred to at the last meeting had been received and the invoice paid. Councillor Kelly reported that the safety inspection of the field had been carried out, and no issues noted. Weed spraying was to be carried out shortly.

2252. WAR MEMORIAL

The Clerk reported that the cleaning of the War memorial had been completed and the invoice paid. There had been no other issues reported following the regular health and safety inspection.

2253. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils – Circular 161 was received and noted.

(b) UK Parliament Week – invitation to take part in the “UK Parliament Week” initiative was received and noted.

2254. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Financial update

The Council received and noted the financial updates for the period ending 31st March 2017, and so far for 2017/18, and Councillor Jackson explained these for the information of Members.

A cheque for £1,000 had been received from Barkston Charities. A claim had been made for the refund of VAT from the last financial year in the sum of £1,089.56, and a single item from the current year (Playing Field mower) in the sum of £1,999.

Following a discussion on finances associated with the picnic area, it was agreed to meet all costs in the current year from the Section 137 budget head.

(b) Annual Audit for 2016/2017

The Clerk drew attention to the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/2017, and the Accounting Statements for 2016/2017, copies of which had been circulated to Members. He explained the elements requiring consideration, and Members also took into account Councillor Jackson's financial update at (a) above. Having considered reports, the Council

(i) acknowledged and agreed the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/2017 as circulated; and

(ii) acknowledged and agreed the Accounting Statements for 2016/2017 as circulated.

(c) Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED:-

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

| | £ |
|---|-----------|
| Fineturf Machinery Limited (New mower) | 11,994.00 |
| BDG Mowing Contractors (Mowing – March) | 190.00 |

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

| | £ |
|--|---------|
| St Nicholas Church PC (Contribution – In Touch) | 227.00 |
| Barkston PCC (Contribution – clock) | 140.00 |
| Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (Sub) | 193.46 |
| Anglian Water (Supply 10.2.17 – 31.3.17) | 4.74 |
| South Kesteven DC (Printing, Neighbourhood Plan) | 93.00 |
| Community Lincs Insurance Services (Renewal) | 1484.29 |
| Simon M Williams (Noticeboards) | 450.00 |

2255. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION BUT NOT DECISION

The Clerk advised that the six-monthly risk inspection had taken place on 20th March. No issues had been raised which required attention. Members noted the report.

Dated

Signed

Chairman

