

BUCKMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 9th July 2019

Present:

Councillor Liz Exton Chairman
Councillor Jill Arnold
Councillor Graham Exton

County Councillor B Rhodes
Borough Councillor Malise Graham

MINUTES

- 18/19-20 **Apologies for non-attendance** – Councillors Bygott and Bird had apologised for their non-attendance
- 19/19-20 **Apologies for absence** – Police Constable Roscoe had apologised for her absence and had provided a report
- 20/19-20 **Approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 14 May 2019**
The minutes were approved without amendment
- 21/19-20 **To receive declarations of interest both personal and prejudicial on matters arising on the agenda** – No declarations were made
- 22/19-20 **Public Participation** – Members of the public were not present
- 23/19-20 **To receive reports –**
County Councillor Byron Rhodes
Councillor Rhodes referred to the importance that the Council placed on the ‘Have your say’ process and the council’s desire to have feedback on its funding proposals. In 2013 gritting in winter had been a priority.
Responsibilities for Libraries had been transferred to local committees.
Councillor Arnold confirmed that she had completed the County Council survey.

Leicestershire is the lowest funded county in England. The Council had campaigned for a review by the Government and the introduction of Fair Funding. The government had agreed to a review but Brexit had delayed implementation. A consultation is expected later in the year. Councillor Rhodes had met with the minister responsible for local funding and was favourably impressed.

In May the County Council had declared a climate emergency. The Council was committed to being carbon neutral by 2030; the lead member for Highways would manage the process. Plans to build a solar farm were under consideration.

Borough Councillor Malise Graham

Climate Change was to be discussed at the Borough Council meeting taking place in the coming week. In his role as Mayor, Councillor Graham had initiated a team building exercise within the Borough Council.

A civic service would be held at St Bartholomew's Church, Sproxton at 1100 on 22 September.

The Mayor's Appeal for the coming year would focus on the Rainbows charity and the Mayor would be undertaking a parachuting event in support.

PC Roscoe

The items below had been reported to the police and had become a crime: not all incidents reported become crimes.

In the period 5-5-19 to 4-7-19 in Buckminster

The shop in Buckminster was subjected to an incident on 22/6. I have been contacted by a couple of concerned residents over their belief in a lack of Police involvement. I want to reassure you this is not the case. I can't go into the case but can assure you it is being investigated. There are some evidential difficulties.

The quarry has had a number of visitors and remains a source of concern. It is not the normal one that has been used but the one on the opposite side of the road.

There had been a theft from a garden on Back Street in Buckminster.

There is nothing recorded for Sewstern.

Noise issues surrounding the flying of a model aircraft near a resident's house in Sewstern had been reported. I understand that the issue had been reported to the Parish Council. Please advise if police assistance is needed.

The Clerk

Installation of Airfield Memorial Plaque

The airfield memorial plaque provided by the Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust to be installed at Aerodrome Farm has been received. Plans for the installation are being made.

Planning Consultancy – Skillington Quarry Development

A decision on the planning applications for which the Parish Council acted in a consultancy role is still awaited.

Closure of Roads in Sewstern

Exchanges of emails with the Highways department indicated that it was highly likely that the signs were placed by the organiser of the CICLE Classic race held on 28 April. A full response is not yet available but it is expected that results from the enquiry will be available during the week ending 26 July.

Flooding in Sewstern

Following the decision at the annual meeting I wrote to the Estate setting out the response from Leicester County Council, referring to the concerns raised by Sewstern residents and seeking the Estate's view on the steps to be taken to alleviate the flood risk in view of the rejection of the Flood Authority's proposal. I've had to write a second time but have had a response advising that Mr Lee is on annual holiday, returning on 10 July. I'll continue to seek a response.

BMFA Operations

Two complaints concerning model aircraft flying from the BMFA were received in May.

The first concerned the search for a missing aircraft involving 6 vehicles and 8 men some distance from the BMFA (outside the authorised flying zone) and despite warnings to the contrary resulted in apparently unauthorised access to farmer's crops to conduct the search.

The second concerned a complaint from a Sewstern resident of noise from a model aircraft flying aerobatics over her property. The complaint had initially been made to the police.

Both complaints were referred to the BMFA manager and to the Borough Council. It emerged from the response to the aircraft search that the Estate had in its contract arrangements with the BMFA given permission to BMFA members to access Estate land to retrieve downed aircraft. The Estate has

been asked to advise the Parish Council on any future arrangements that are made which could result in future involvement of the Parish Council.

In the second case a mobile phone video had been made by the resident and on request was provided to the BMFA manager who dismissed the possibility that the aircraft in the video was a model aircraft. The resident was informed.

In its response the Borough Council made it clear that its involvement in establishing the BMFA had focused solely on the change of use of the site on which the BMFA stands. Any regulations governing flying operations were outside the scope of the planning authority.

Street Light Replacement

E.on reported that on 17 June their electrician had noticed that the street light opposite Manor Farm, Stainby Road had been hit, was damaged and hanging. He removed the light and made it safe. The damaged lantern will need replacing with a new 19 watt ECO LED lantern controlled by an all-night photocell and the cost to do this will be £350 + VAT.

It was agreed that the work should be carried out and the clerk was requested to write to E.ON accordingly.

The Chairman

Trees in Sewstern were overhanging the road and affecting visibility on the highway. The clerk would write to the Estate and ask for the issue to be addressed.

During the recent week of extreme weather, action had been taken to monitor the accumulation of rainwater and the potential impact on flooding. Water levels had not reached half way up the dykes and no measurable accumulation had occurred on the highways.

24/19-20 **Co-opting of Council Member**

It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council to Co-opt the sixth member of the Parish Council. The clerk would request an extension to the statutory limit to permit the meeting to take place.

25/19-20 **Report on the LRALC AGM**

The vice chairman had represented the Parish Council at the LRALC AGM. A significant number of council's were represented. It had been difficult to identify the councils that delegates represented as the name tags gave no location information.

The following points were noteworthy:

- Issues raised by larger Parish Councils
- Discussions on Localism

- Warding issues
- The need for stakeholder meeting in some parishes creating links with schools and local businesses
- Discussion on how democracy works
- LRALC funding to support smaller “Parish meetings”

26/19-20 **Planning Matters**

The following applications have been approved:

New Planning Applications – None

Applications Refused – None

Applications awaiting enforcement – None

Planning Consultancy Skillington Quarry – SKDC decision awaited

27/19-20 **Invoices for approval** – E.ON Electricity Supply Invoice £ 234.64

28/19-20 **To Approve and Sign the bank reconciliation for the current period**

Current (Community) Account - £7149.11

Deposit (BMM) Account - £1155.10

Total account balance including un-presented payments - £8069.57

The bank reconciliation was approved and signed.

29/19-20 **Correspondence received** – None

30/19-20 **Next meeting of the Parish Council**

10 September 2019

E Exton
Chairman

Date

DRAFT