

Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting from Thursday 13th August 2020 at 7:00pm
via **ZOOM**

Present: Councillors Lowther (chair) Greaves, Evans and Parry

Officer Present: Parish Clerk

Borough & County Representatives: 3

Members of the public: 1

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Councillor Lowther advised that the meeting was being recorded and Councillor Evans read out the regulations appertaining to recording meetings via ZOOM. Secondly, Councillor Lowther, in line with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, advised 15 minutes would be allowed for Residents' questions with a maximum of 3 minutes per person. After 15 minutes, the Agenda item would be closed.

- Ref: Subject:
- 064/20 Apologies for absence:
Apologies were received from Councillors Smith and Grant
- 065/20 Declarations of Interest:
There were no declarations of interest
- 066/20 Resolution to sign Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 16th July 2020:
The Minutes, which had been circulated to the Parish Councillors in advance of the meeting, were agreed.
- 067/20 Residents Questions:
There were no residents' questions.
- 068/20 Update from Borough and County Councillors:
Councillor Evans was in Attendance.

Councillor Steadman updated the Parish Council on the flooding problems at Redmile. Severn Trent had been to visit the area and a number of options to rectify the situation were being considered. Secondly, Councillor Steadman advised that MBC's Open Spaces Strategy and Action Plan that residents were being asked to comment on was not associated with rural areas.

Councillor Byron Rhodes advised that:

- (a) COVID-19 – three areas in Melton had been defined showing an increase in cases. A testing centre had been set up at Parkside, Melton Mowbray and a few more cases had been detected. Everything was now under control and COVID-19 had not spread to the wider areas.
- (b) Very few people have been using the buses and the concern is will they be using them again. The lack of bus passengers will mean a financial problem for the future.
- (c) The downgrading of the byway at Redmile was addressed. The Parish Council wish to initiate this and Councillor Rhodes advised that he would support our application. This will be an Agenda item for the September meeting. The Clerk has written to LCC to enquire about the possibility of closing the by-way during the winter months.
- (d) Councillor Evans addressed the issue of recycling plastic waste – Councillor Rhodes agreed to look into this.

Both Councillor Steadman and Councillor Rhodes left the meeting at 7.30 pm

- 069/20 Planning:
Applications received for consideration:
- (a) 20/00850/FULHH – Grangewood House, 47 Main Street, Redmile – the Parish Council had no comment to make on this application

Applications Approved:

- (a) 20/00683/TCA – Grangewood House, 47 Main Street, Redmile
- (b) 20/00634/TCA – Jasmine Cottage, 4 Church Corner, Redmile
- (c) 20/00644/TCA – Evergreen House, Bakers Lane, Redmile
- (d) 20/00662/TCA – Overfields, 1 Belvoir Road, Redmile

Councillor Greaves advised that the residents of Redmile were very disgruntled with Melton Borough Council with regards to their attitude in relation to the accumulation of rubbish and the non-emptying of the skips which contained food waste at Evergreen House. This was an Environmental issue and rats together with other infestations were seen not only in the grounds of Evergreen House but also at neighbouring properties. Councillor Greaves requested that Councillor Evans speak with MBC and represent the residents of Redmile. Councillor Evans advised he had spoken with Jasmine Doughty about the situation. **ACTION: Councillor Evans will request that the Environmental Team visit the property within a week.**

070/20 Paddock Land, Plungar – Progress on appeal to planning application:

Councillor Lowther advised that there was no date for the appeal hearing and an Inspector had not yet been appointed. There were no questions from Parish Councillors or members of the public.

071/20 Proposed Solar Farm in Barkestone-Le-Vale:

The Parish Council agreed that this was an important application. A number of Parish Councillors had attended a ZOOM meeting with Peter Grubb from Savills and Parish Councillors from Granby Parish Council. It was suggested by Councillor Parry and seconded by Councillor Lowther that the Parish Council try to get information to Barkestone residents via an Open Air Exhibition, which is compliant with COVID 19 directions, in September. **ACTION: Councillor Lowther to write to Peter Grubb at Savills.**

072/20 Feedback from Severn Trent following their attendance at the previous meeting:

Councillor Lowther advised that he had been in communication with Severn Trent and the talks were on-going regarding the possibility of a drinking fountain in Redmile Play Park. These are not routinely supported by Severn Trent as they require cleaning every day.

Councillor Greaves raised the issue that some residents in Redmile had been awarded compensation by Severn Trent for the inconveniences caused but the amount awarded varied greatly from one household to another. Councillor Lowther advised that a compensation scheme was currently being considered by Severn Trent.

073/20 Byways Open to All Traffic – Church Lane to Long Lane, Redmile:

This item was post-poned to the next meeting. This was agreed under Agenda item 068/20 (c).

074/20 Formation of a Group to deal with the railway path and action urgently needed:

A number of residents had expressed an interest in joining a working group. **ACTION: Clerk to contact interested parties to try to arrange a site visit.**

075/20 Actions Required from Previous Meeting:

Clerk:

To write to MBC in relation to 20/00662/TCA – Overfields, 1 Belvoir Road, Redmile – **letter was sent in relation to this application which has subsequently been approved**

To write to MBC in relation to 20/00664/TCA – Evergreen House, 2 Bakers Lane, Redmile – **letter was sent in relation to this application which has subsequently been approved**

Communicate with Belvoir Estates to arrange a suitable date and time for councillors to visit re. footpaths – **Councillors Lowther and Greaves visited on 23rd July 2020**

Draft a policy for dealing with overgrown trees and hedges – **policy was sent to Councillors prior to the August meeting**

- 076/20 Financial:
- (a) Current account balance at 31.07.2020 - £6,102.34; Deposit Account balance - £18,121.23
 - (b) Payments required for August 2020: Michele Jones - £486.20 – August Salary; G Richardson - £30.00 – Plungar War Memorial; LRALC - £30.00 – Risk Assessment Training; St Helen’s Church, Plungar -£200.00 church yard grass cutting donation
 - (c) Direct Debits: E-on - £122.45 – Streetlighting (August)
- All Parish Councillors, in attendance at the meeting, agreed to the payment of the above.
- 077/20 Councillors’ Reports:
- Councillor Parry:**
- He advised that the Parish Council should look at the Stathern Parish Draft Neighbourhood Plan. The statutory consultation period is 03.08.2020 – 18.09.2020.
- He advised that the picnic benches had now been assembled on Fishpond Lane, Barkestone
- He advised that the new notice-board had been erected and that he held the keys. **ACTION: Councillor Parry to order additional magnets for the board and forward the invoice to the Clerk together with the invoice for any material used in the installation process of both the picnic benches and the notice-board**
- Councillor Greaves:**
- He advised that he would forward a map for Redmile to the Clerk to accompany the Parish Council’s application to join the Speedwatch Scheme. **ACTION: Clerk to complete Speedwatch application**
- Councillor Lowther:**
- He asked the Parish Councillors if they were happy for him to send a letter, on behalf of the Parish Council, supporting the woodland planting in Redmile. All Parish Councillors were in agreement.
- ACTION: Councillor Lowther to write a letter on behalf of the Parish Council**
- He asked the Clerk to contact LRALC with regard to the legalities of Parish Council’s proposed Overgrown Trees and Hedges policy and to confirm with Leicestershire County Council that they are happy to undertake the work and charge the Householder if the Householder does not undertake the work themselves. **ACTION: Clerk to write to LRALC and LCC**
- 078/20 Clerk’s Report:
- The 2019/2020 financial paperwork had been sent to the External Auditor.
- A communication had been sent to Belvoir Estates requesting that a new hedge, instead of a new fence, be installed at Evergreen House, Redmile.
- 079/20 The next meeting will be held on Thursday 24th September at 7pm via ZOOM
- The meeting closed at 8.45 pm