

# Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile Parish Council

Minutes from the meeting of the Parish Council held on  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7:00pm  
in Plungar Village Hall

Present: Councillors Lowther (In the Chair), Evans, Grant and Greaves.

Councillor Smith joined the meeting at 7.30 pm

Officer present: Parish Clerk

Borough & County representative: 2

Members of the public: 5

Ref: Subject:

- 147/19 Apologies for absence – Apologies received from Parish Councillor Parry.
- 148/19 Resolution to sign Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The Minutes were accepted and signed.
- 149/19 Declarations of Interest – Councillors Lowther and Greaves declared an interest in planning application 20/00087/FULHH – 12B Church Lane, Redmile.
- 150/19 Residents Questions - A number of highways issues were raised. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Leicestershire Highways and forward to Councillor Byron Rhodes as requested at the last Parish Council Meeting**
- 151/19 Update from Borough and County Councillors – Councillor Evans was in attendance. Councillor Steadman provided Parish Councillors with photographs of the damage that had been done to 3 properties in Redmile following the flooding on Belvoir Road. It would appear that there is a problem with certain drains in Redmile, which appear to be blocked. Councillor Steadman suggested that the Parish Council gets itself put on the Flood Alert System/Emergency Out of Hours. **ACTION: Councillor Lowther agreed to speak with Severn Trent about flooding issues in Redmile.**
- 152/19 Planning :  
Councillors Lowther and Greaves left the room -  
Applications received for consideration:  
(a) 20/00087/FULHH – 12B Church Lane, Redmile – The Parish Council did not object to this application provided the extension was built in the relevant materials  
Councillors Lowther and Greaves returned to the meeting  
(b) 20/00187/FULHH – 16 Chapel Street, Barkestone-Le-Vale – The Parish Council did not object to this application  
Applications approved:  
(a) 19/01296/FULHH – 5 Church Corner, Redmile  
(b) 19/01308/LBC – 5 Church Corner, Redmile
- 153/19 Footpath Warden Update – Trevor Swinswood, via email, provided the Parish Council with a copy of his report from the previous meeting. The issues remained the same and owing to the inclement weather this had resulted in major problems with many footpaths, fields and canal paths. He advised the Clerk prior to the meeting that he was unable to attend.
- 154/19 Sustrans Update – The Clerk had circulated to Parish Councillors, prior to the meeting, communication including a draft licence for consideration received from Sustrans. It was proposed by Councillor Lowther and seconded by Councillor Evans that the Parish Councillors be given 14 days to accept the terms of the licence or advise of any changes they wanted making. **ACTION: Councillors to advise the Clerk if there are any amendments required to the draft licence.**
- 155/19 Off Road Vehicles on Long Lane/Church Lane – Redmile Bridleway – this will be discussed at the next meeting.
- 156/19 Bird Scarers – Numerous complaints had been made in relation to the timing of bird scarers. An Environmental Officer had been out to the villages and advised that there was no legal limit to the number of times these could be sounded but the guidance was one every 15 minutes.
- 157/19 Barkestone-Le-Vale:

- (a) Notice board – The Clerk advised that she had been advised by the Contractor assigned to the Manufacture of the notice board that owing to the damage done to their workshop as a result of the poor weather they were now not able to provide the notice board. The Parish Council agreed that Councillor Evans could purchase a notice board for Barkestone up to the cost previously agreed. **ACTION: Councillor Evans to source a new noticeboard.**
- (b) Picnic Benches – Councillor Smith advised that he had been in contact with the provider of the benches which were being purchased with the monies allocated to Barkestone from Severn Trent. The Parish Council agreed to purchase the Minster model. 2 will be ordered together with the necessary fixtures and fittings. The Clerk asked Councillor Evans to provide the location of the siting of these benches as a licence would need to be obtained.  
**ACTION: Councillor Evans to advise the Clerk.**
- (c) Bus shelter – Before work can be carried out on the bus shelter there are a couple of conifers that require cutting. The parishioner has given her permission for these trees to be cut. It was proposed by Councillor Lowther and seconded by Councillor Grant that the Parish Council arrange for this work to be undertaken.

158/19 Redmile Road Safety:

- (a) The purchase and installation on private land of traffic mirrors – the Parish Council agreed to look into the possibility of siting a traffic mirror in the church yard and in the grounds of parishioners’ properties. As an alternative, it was suggested that Speed Restriction Flashing Traffic Signs be sited in the village. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways.**
- (b) Following the in-effective street clean as a result of the School holding an open assembly on the same date, the Clerk contacted Melton Borough Council to ascertain the dates for future street cleaning. Councillor Greaves agreed to liaise with MBC to confirm that the cleaning would be going ahead in the weeks indicated.

159/19 Trees and Hedges in Redmile – Councillor Lowther advised that there was still a problem with a hedge In the grounds of a property owned by Belvoir Estates protruding on to the highway.

**Action: Councillor Lowther to advise Clerk of the address of the property and Clerk to write to Belvoir Estates.**

160/19 Severn & Trent Monies –The proposal from the Plungar Village Hall Committee that their proportion of the monies be put towards the cost of the Plungar History Booklet was discussed and the Parish Council agreed that the booklet would be of benefit. It was proposed by Councillor Evans and Seconded by Councillor Lowther that the monies be used for this project.

161/19 Housing Needs Survey – Barkestone-Le-Vale and Redmile – The Parish Council had not been consulted on the questionnaire that was distributed to households in the villages of Barkestone and Redmile. The Parish Council will ask MBC why they are getting involved and who the survey has been commissioned by. It was noted that some of the questions are developer lead and not MBC lead. The questionnaire has ignored the Parish Council and mislead parishioners. It was agreed that the Parish Council would send a letter to Jim Worley with a copy to Midlands Rural Housing.

**ACTION: Councillor Lowther to prepare the letter.**

162/19 Parish Newsletter – Prior to the meeting the Clerk had forwarded to all Parish Councillors a list of ideas for items to be included in the Newsletter. It was suggested that the Clerk divide the items to be included amongst the Councillors. **ACTION: Clerk to advise Parish Councillors of newsletter items.**

163/19 Parish Council Facebook Account – The Clerk had received log-in details which were not working correctly. It was agreed that the Parish Council should devise a policy with regard to what would be included on Facebook. **ACTION: Clerk to continue trying to successfully access facebook.**

**ACTION: Parish Councillors to agree the contents of the Parish Council’s Facebook policy.**

164/19 V E Day Event Planning – The Parish Council agreed that it would not be staging any events to commemorate VE Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

165/19 Financial:

- (a) Current account balance at 31.12.2019 - £6,311.13; Deposit Account balance - £17,755.17
- (b) Current account balance at 31.01.2020 - £6,314.70; Deposit Account balance - £17,755.17
- (c) Bank statement matches receipts and payments listing
- (d) Payments required for January 2020: Michele Jones - £486.20 – January salary;  
Plungar Village Hall - £10.00 – Hire; E-on - £900.00 – Streetlight Repairs, Barkestone;  
E-on - £2,940.00 – Streetlight Repairs Plungar; LRALC - £210.00 – Internal Audit Fee 2019/20

(e) Direct Debit: E-on - £122.45 – Street Lighting (January)

(f) Payments required for February 2020: Michele Jones - £486.20 – February salary; Plungar Village Hall - £10.00 – Hire; ACG Electrical - £55.00 – Plungar Defibrillator Maintenance

(g) Direct Debits: E-on - £122.45 – Street Lighting

166/19 Councillors' Reports:

Councillor Smith advised that a parishioner had reminded him that another parishioner was 100 years of age in April and would it be possible for the Parish Council to recognise this. It was suggested that a hamper be given. The Clerk advised Councillors that the Parish Council could not provide individual gifts to parishioners as any monies given/donated by the Parish Council had to be for use by all parishioners.

Councillor Lowther advised that an inspection by an outside organisation was required for Redmile Play Park. Councillor Greaves advised that he would be prepared to accompany the inspectors.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Wickstead to arrange for the inspection.**

Councillor Lowther advised that a Push Test on the gravestones in the **church yard was due.**

**ACTION: Councillor Lowther to arrange for a Push Test.**

Councillor Lowther advised that the Plumbing business that was in Redmile had now relocated to Belvoir Fruit Farms.

Councillor Lowther expressed his concern that some of the trees in the church yard were in need of attention. The Clerk had tried to communicate with the Diocese on a number of occasions and had not been successful. The Clerk advised that she now had some additional contact names and numbers and would contact them. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Leicester Diocese.**

167/19 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk advised that before the new website could go 'live' all email contacts appertaining to the current website had to be written to with our new email address. This was taking longer than anticipated.

168/19 Date of next meeting: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in Plungar Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm