

Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting from Thursday 22nd October 2020 at 7:00pm
via **ZOOM**

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

Officer Present: Parish Clerk

Borough & County Representatives: 3

Members of the public: 3

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:
- 101/20 Apologies for absence:
There were none.
- 102/20 Declarations of Interest:
There were no declarations of interest.
- 103/20 Resolution to sign Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 24th September 2020:
The Minutes, which had been circulated to the Parish Councillors in advance of the meeting, were agreed.
- 104/20 Residents Questions:
Jamie Austin requested an update on the Byways Open to All Traffic – Church Lane to Long Lane, Redmile. The Clerk advised that she had sent his photographs and the Parishioners' petition to LCC requesting a temporary closure. LCC advised that they would be in contact within 4 weeks. Councillor Rhodes asked that he be copied into any correspondence to LCC. **ACTION: Clerk to send her correspondence to Councillor Greaves who agreed to contact LCC after the 4 week period if nothing had been received by them.**
- 105/20 Update from Borough and County Councillors:
Councillor Evans was in Attendance.
- Councillor Steadman had nothing to report.
- Councillor Byron Rhodes advised that:
- (a) COVID 19 - Leicestershire is Tier 1, at the moment, and Melton has one of the lowest rates in the County. There had been a few cases reported across the Vale and he reminded everyone to be vigilant and follow the Government guidelines.
 - (b) A number of catering staff had been through Leicestershire County Council's apprenticeship scheme
 - (c) Discussions were still on-going in relation to County boundaries
- 106/20 Planning:
Applications received for consideration:
(a) 20/0887/FULHH – 33 Barkestone Lane, Plungar – The Parish Council did not oppose this application
Applications Approved:
(a) 20/00850/FULHH – Grangewood House, 47 Main Street, Redmile
(b) 20/00882/FULHH – Shire Barn, 2 Easthorpe Lane, Redmile – **ACTION: Councillor Greaves to check the decision made by MBC and any reasons given to ignore the Parish Council's comments**
(c) 20/00905/FULHH – The White House, 21 New Causeway, Barkestone
(d) 20/00950/FULHH – 15 Easthorpe Lane, Redmile

- 107/20 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.
- 108/20 Proposed Solar Farm in Barkestone-Le-Vale:
(a) Jim Worley, Assistant Director for Planning and Housing Delivery was in attendance at the meeting. He advised that the application had been received by Melton Borough Council but had not yet been fully validated. When validation was complete, it would appear on the 'weekly list'. It is likely there will be a meeting in approximately 4 weeks' time when the common ground will be established together with any concerns that all interested parties may have. The Parish Council asked about the benefits of having an EIA and Councillor Lowther advised that he had received an EIA from Savills.
(b) Councillor Lowther advised that he had received 8 A1 display boards from Savills for the Solar Farm Proposal Exhibition this weekend, 24th and 25th October, and on 31st October at the Barkestone Hub. Information from the applicant as well as details of how to make your views known will be available. The information is also available to view on the Parish Council website.
- 109/20 Paddock Land, Granby Lane, Plungar:
The Parish Council had received a revised site layout and design from Class Q Ltd following a Housing Needs Survey that had been sent to parishioners. The Parish Council understood that the return rate of the questionnaire was low and they were not in receipt of a copy of the results from the survey. After lengthy discussions, the Parish Council still objects to this application as the new proposal contravenes the Local Plan and SS3 and parishioners were strongly against the application. The Parish Council agreed that if the Agent wanted to speak at a Parish Council meeting he could do so to outline any proposal to enable residents to comment. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Class Q Ltd explaining the Parish Council's position on the revised site layout and design and request a copy of the Developer's Survey.**
- 110/20 Invitation to Belvoir Estates to speak at a PC Meeting regarding future plans for the Parish –
Councillor Lowther had invited Belvoir Estate to attend tonight's meeting but they did not attend. **ACTION: Councillor Lowther to invite Belvoir Estates to the November meeting.**
- 111/20 Peacock Wood, Redmile:
Permission for the planting of the trees in Peacock Wood had been rescinded by Belvoir Estates. Councillor Lowther advised that Belvoir Estates were looking for support from the Parish Council and residents of Redmile and have stated that Belvoir Estates will be submitting a document to MBC setting out their position on planning in the villages.
- 112/20 Installation of Part Night Lighting within the Parish:
The Parish Council agreed to ask E-on to undertake a cost analysis and advise if all the photo cells would need replacing or if some night lighting could remain. **ACTION: Councillor Smith to contact E-on and report at the next meeting.**
- 113/20 Footpath Issues – Progress to Date:
Councillor Lowther and Councillor Parry agreed to meet to mark up the maps that were provided to Councillor Lowther by the Clerk and a visit will then be made to Belvoir Estates to establish which footpaths are the responsibilities of Belvoir Estates and/or the Parish Council. **ACTION: Councillors Lowther and Parry to mark the footpaths on the maps provided.**
- 114/20 Railway Line Path – Progress to Date:
Councillor Evans advised that a number of people were interested in this project and that he hoped the first meeting of volunteers would take place in November. The Parish Council were looking to apply for a number of grants to assist with maintenance of the railway line path. **ACTION: Councillor Evans to arrange meeting.**

- 115/20 Severn Trent Monies:
The Parish Council is in receipt of £2000 compensation from Severn Trent to be divided equally between the 3 villages. **ACTION: Parish Councillors to consider how this money can be spent and bring ideas to the next meeting.**
- 116/20 Communication to Belvoir Estates – Ivy House Farm, Barkestone:
The willow tree has been cut back. The Parish Council recognised that further tree works are required and that the grounds require a major clear-up. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Belvoir Estates.**
- 117/20 Wildflower Verge Scheme 2021/2022 – LCC Initiative:
Councillor Parry advised that he had spoken to LCC. The Parish Council can nominate pieces of land within the Parish suitable for the planting of wild flowers. LCC will visit the proposed areas to ascertain their suitability and would provide a grant to help with the purchasing of the seeds and the seeded areas will not be cut by LCC. Areas were suggested in Barkestone, Plungar and Redmile. **ACTION: Councillor Parry to speak with LCC to discuss the next steps in the process.**
- 118/20 2021/2022 Precept:
The Clerk had sent Councillors a Bank Reconciliation Statement for the first six months of the financial year to the end of September 2020. The Precept will be discussed at the next meeting. **ACTION: Clerk to prepare a full budget of expenditure.**
- 119/20 Actions Required from Previous Meeting:
Councillor Lowther:
Contact Savills to request additional information appertaining to the Solar Farm Proposal at Barkestone – **See Minute Item 108/20**
- Contact Severn Trent to enquire if residents in Plungar would be getting individual compensation letters – **Letters have been received by all parishioners**
- Councillors Parry and Evans:**
Devise a questionnaire for Parishioners to complete, via Survey Monkey, in relation to proposed Solar Farm in Barkestone – **Councillor Parry asked for comments from Parish Councillors to the questionnaire that he had compiled and sent to them, by Friday, 23rd October in order that this could be available at the Solar Farm Proposal Exhibition at the weekend**
- Liaise with potential Group members to form an Action Group to deal with the railway path – **See Minute Item 114/20**
- Councillor Greaves:**
Check the directions given to the Engine Yard on their website and approach Google Maps to see if adjustments can be made to the route shown – **Currently being looked into and feedback will be given at a future meeting**
- Clerk:**
20/00950/FULHH – The White House, 21 New Causeway, Barkestone – contact MBC with Parish Council’s response – **Objections sent. Application approved – see Minute Item 106/20**
- 20/00882/FULHH – Shire Barn, 2 Easthorpe Lane, Redmile – contact MBC with Parish Council’s response – **Objections sent. Application approved – see Minute Item 106/20**
- Write to Toby Ebbs, MBC, inviting him to speak at the October 2020 meeting of the Parish Council – **unable to attend, response sent to Parish Councillors together with an update from Jasmine Doughty relating to Overfields, 1 Belvoir Road, Redmile**

Write to MBC requesting the temporary TPO be made permanent at Overfields, 1 Belvoir Road, Redmile – **no additional information from Jasmine Doughty, as above**

Liaise with Borough Councillor Steadman, with regard to contacting our Member of Parliament in relation to the Solar Farm Proposal at Barkestone – **Councillor Steadman did not write and suggested at the meeting that the most appropriate Member of Parliament to write to was Robert Jenrick**

Write to LCC requesting a temporary order of closure during Winter to the byway from Church Lane, Redmile to Long Lane, Redmile – **see Minute Item 104/20**

Write to Nottinghamshire County Council regarding increased traffic through Redmile to the Engine Yard at Belvoir Castle – **advised that Highways England is responsible for the A52. The Parish Council's request for improved signing from the A52 has been forwarded to the Signage Team**

Write to Land Registry for clarification on the land surrounding Barkestone bus shelter – **documentation received has been forwarded to Parish Councillors. ACTION: Councillor Parry to follow this through**

120/20 Financial:

- (a) Current Account balance at 30.09.2020 - £28,212.62; Deposit Account balance £24,771.67
- (b) Payments required for October 2020: Michele Jones - £486.20 – October Salary; B&H Midland – 83.40 – Redmile Play Park Signage; Community Heartbeat - £87.60 – Adult Defibrillation Electrodes, Plungar; Councillor Lowther - £9.80 – Redmile Play Park Sundries; E-on - £56.33 – Repair to Barkestone streetlights ; G. Richardson - £20.00 – Plungar War Memorial Maintenance
- (c) Direct Debits: E-on - £118.50 – Streetlighting (October)

121/20 Councillors' Reports:

Councillor Greaves:

Gave an update on the Willow Tree on Church Lane having spoken with Western Power Distribution.

Councillor Lowther:

Advised that both he and Councillor Greaves were looking into the purchase of activated speed signs for Redmile. Quotes will be received in due course but the cost to the Parish Council is likely to be £4000 – £5000.

122/20 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk asked Councillor Greaves if the faulty street light in Redmile had been repaired.

123/20 The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19th November at 7.00 pm via ZOOM

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm