

## ST ALBANS PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of St Albans Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 26 March 2024, Emmanuel Church, Church View Close, Nottingham. NG5 9PE

**Present:** Cllr Lari, Cllr Bryant, Cllr Skidmore, Cllr Todd, Cllr White (Chair) and Claire Baker (Clerk) Cllr Jones from 19:31

**In Attendance:** 7 x members of public. Rachel Ellis (GBC)

Welcome to the meeting. 7pm public 15 minutes for questions

No.	Agenda Item	Discussion	Action / Info	By whom	By when
505	Apologies	No apologies were received			
506	Declaration of Interests	None			
507	To approve the minutes of 27 February	Cllr Skidmore proposed as a correct record of the meeting. Cllr Todd seconded. Chair Cllr White signed.	Information		
508	Matters arising not agenda'd	Nothing			
509	Electors to address the Council	The Jolly Gardener updated the Council with regards to the funded Alice in Wonderland event and advised that organisation is going well. The Jolly Gardener advised that they were unaware of the £1500 limit for community grants and as such, had decided to revise their request to £3000 for two events, to be paid as two £1500 amounts (not the original £3450 agreed at the last meeting). The Jolly Gardener highlighted that if any other local groups or services wanted to get involved in the events, then they would be welcomed to help with community engagement. Have flyers etc. for	Information		

	<p>noticeboards and will also be keeping information up to date on the website.</p> <p>The Jolly Gardener referred to the grant application received regarding the Japanese gardens and said he would be happy to offer any assistance to the Friends of Bestwood Country Park if the application was successful and if volunteers would be needed.</p> <p>The Jolly Gardener advised that he was aware of two homeless people camping near to the site that the event would be held and that this would need to be taken in to consideration as part of the risk assessment. Cllr White advised that this had been reported to the Police and the local Street team to hopefully put the people in contact with support services.</p> <p>Treasurer of Bestwood Lodge Tennis Court – provided an overview of the application to help fund the tennis court. He advised that since taking over the Tennis Court, they had began making it more inclusive with online bookings and were building awareness of it as a place for anyone including non members to be able to book a court online.</p> <p>Resident – Referred to both the applications for the Japanese water gardens and the tennis courts and advised that they thought they were both fantastic ideas and would make genuine impacts for the local community.</p>	<p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p>		
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		Resident – Suggested holding a Parish wide event to help with community engagement such as a Bestwood in Bloom style event / competition. Cllrs agreed this would be a good idea and would add this to the April agenda to see how this might be taken forward.	Action	Clerk	30/04/24
510	Councillor Reports	<p>a. Councillor Reports – agreed at last meeting that Cllrs would send in a report. Cllr Jones and Cllr White’s reports were read out at the meeting. Cllrs were requested to complete their reports ready for circulation with papers at the next meeting</p> <p>b. Oral Reports</p> <p>Cllr Lari – update on the first aid course. Working to get the contacts to arrange a course.</p> <p>Cllr Prairie – reported offensive graffiti at the playground. Nothing yet back from GBC. Reported issue with fence between flats and parks but nothing yet reported back from GBC. Have also reported potholes.</p> <p>Cllr White – along with Cllr Todd met with representative with RCAN to talk through a proposal of a consultation on the back of the membership. Bench projects to go on the football field – parks have now accepted proposal for benches and noticeboards and these will be installed. Lecturns in the country park – NCC have found the original graphics we will pay for the amends and the Perspex replacement. Attended FoBCP meeting – work they do is fantastic. Buy in from the Friends to see how the Parish Council is wanting to</p>	<p>Information</p> <p>Action</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p>	Councillors	23/04/24

		<p>maintain the CP. Flytipping – Treegarth Sq and Warren area – there are reoccurring issues re vandalism and ASB, off road bikes etc. Met with senior warden on Muirfield Park and walked around over the weekend, dog fouling etc. Can issue fixed penalty notices but have to see it happening. Rough sleepers have been referred to Gedling street team.</p> <p>STPC website needs to be updated with correct meeting dates and approved minutes.</p>	Action	Clerk	ASAP
511	Reports from GBC	<p>Rachel Ellis advised that she could report to the Parish Council in her role the local Borough Councillor rather than on behalf of Gedling Borough Council. Update future agenda item to reflect this</p> <p>The most recent Borough Council meeting was the budget meeting and that went through along with the approved Parish Council precept.</p> <p>Have been in consultation with Severn Trent as per the water pipe from Hunckall, through Bestwood Village, Bestwood Park and onto Redhill. Meeting held. They will need to dig a trench.</p> <p>Litter pick went well. 10 bags of litter picked up off the street. Hoping to organise them on a monthly basis and hope to get more volunteers</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p>	Clerk	30/04/24

		<p>Community orchard mentioned in Cllr Jones report – positive response from residents. Further discussion needed to placement.</p> <p>Defib training – waiting for response back</p> <p>Vandalism – please keep reporting it and if no response, let Rachel know who will happily nudge.</p> <p>CCTV – continuing to lobbying for CCTV but power is an issue.</p> <p>Potholes – ongoing issue that continues to be reported. Jermaine Road – has been told that this has been repaired.</p> <p>Fence – use it as a cut through and this is an ongoing issue. Did talk to the Borough about whether it should be turned in to a path but the issue is cost.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Information</p>	<p>Cllr Jones</p>	<p>30/04/24</p>
512	Clerk Update	<p>a. 2023/24 AGAR – advised Cllrs that would be meeting with Ken in mid April to discuss the audit process and to ensure that forms would be ready to be approved by the Council before submission of signed returns to external auditors by end June.</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Clerk</p>	<p>14/04/24</p>
513	Correspondence not reported	<p>a. Potholes and lengthsman – Clerk read out an email received from a resident via the contact form on the website regarding concerns around potholes and the lack of response to issues in alleyways.</p> <p>Cllr White advised that the Lengthsman scheme</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Clerk</p>	<p>30/04/24</p>

		<p>had been previously agreed at a Council meeting and this now needed taking forward.</p> <p>Cllrs advised that the resident should report pothole problems to Highways. Clerk to advise resident of response to both queries.</p>	Action	Clerk	ASAP
514	Community Engagement	<p>a. Community Engagement funding allocation – Cllr White provided an overview of his costed report Cllr Todd had also attended the discussion with RCAN and said that as a Council we needed to get better at forward thinking and forward planning. Cllr Skidmore surprised at the high cost and queried if this would result in better engagement from residents than previous consultation. Cllr Bryant – involved in 2 consultations in the Parish (2017 and 2022), can we not use those – how will this bring anything different? Cllr Lari – would this money be better spent on funding grants in the community? Cllr Jones - substantial amount of money but seems more favourable than previous consultation especially as an independent body. Cllr Ellis – 2022 questionnaire, there were issues at that time and a limit as to how much the Council could do to go out to the local residents.</p> <p>Cllr White proposed to support the RCAN consultation process. Cllr Jones seconded. In favours, Cllr Todd, White, Jones. Against, Cllr Lari, Bryant (Bryant against consulting again), Skidmore. Hung vote. Chair used casting vote to engage with RCAN to deliver the consultation.</p>	<p>Information</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Cllr White</p>	

515	Finance	<p>a. To approve payments as per payment list – Cllr Todd proposed, Cllr Skidmore seconded, all voted in favour</p> <p>b. Fixed asset register – formally approve to undertake a risk assessment of all assets in the Parish. Action for next meeting. Fourth noticeboard should be added on along with Christmas lights etc .</p> <p>c. Gov.uk domain – contained in NALC push from Govt to have PC to have an official gov.uk address. Cllr Lari proposed to attend the session to find out more about this and to present the details at the next meeting so that Cllrs could then make informed decisions regarding the potential of a gov.uk domain. Cllr Jones seconded. All in favour.</p> <p>d. Grant application – Friends of Bestwood Country Park</p> <p>Not received the financial documents. Cllr Lari raised concerns that the application has been presented by a volunteer and not e.g. Chair of FoBCP. The applicant advised that he had been asked at a meeting if would be a lead for Japanese Gardens on behalf of FoBCP. Cllr Lari and Cllr Bryant both expressed concerns that without the supporting documents, the application shouldn't be discussed because if it was turned down as a result of not having the documents, then it wouldn't be able to be resubmitted for another 12 months in accordance</p>	Information		
			Action	Clerk	30/04/24
			Action	Cllr Lari	30/04/24

		<p>with the Grants Policy.</p> <p>Cllr Lari proposed to delay grant application until next month. Cllr Bryant seconded. Lari and Bryant voted for but no other agreed.</p> <p>Cllr White proposed that supporting documents to be received by 19 April 2024 to the Clerk and the application would be supported. Cllr Skidmore seconded. Cllr Lari against. Cllrs Bryant, Jones, Skidmore, White and Todd in favour. If paperwork not received by that date, then the application would be rejected and wouldn't be reconsidered for 12 months as per the grant policy.</p>	Action	Clerk / FoBCP	19/04/24
		<p>e. Grant application – Bestwood Lodge Tennis Club</p> <p>Clerk provided an update to questions raised pre meeting by Cllrs with regards to the grant application. Had been no maintenance for around 10 years. Had received other quotes from around £12k which was above their affordability so £8k was the cheaper. Cllr Todd recognised it was nice to see a grant for a project that would impact on lots of residents. Cllr Bryant – nice to see the application. There was a discussion regarding potential future work that may happen in partnership with the Tennis Club. Cllr Bryant proposed, Cllr Skidmore seconded. All in favour.</p>	Action	Clerk / Bestwood Lodge Tennis Club	ASAP



516	Key delivery 2024/25	Standing item. Nothing specific to report.			
517	Sporting community facilities in the Parish	Community Assets for Muirfield Park and Robin Hood Woodchurch Road. Cllr White proposed to remove from the agenda and rely on consultation, Seconded by Cllr Jones.	Action	Clerk	30/04/24
518	Press and public excluded				
519	Staffing	<p>a. Training for Councillors – Councillor training dates to be issued to everyone so that anyone could attend. Cllr White Biodiversity Training. Cllr Bryant Neighbourhood Training both approved.</p> <p>b. HMRC update – Still awaiting a response from Wright Vigar</p>	Action	Clerk	
520	To note date of next ordinary meeting	Tuesday 30 April 2024, 7:00pm			

Approved as a correct record and signed

----- (Chair)