

Baumber Parish Council - Draft Minutes of Ordinary Meeting.
Parish Clerk – Melvin Grosvenor 01507 578657.

Draft Minutes of Baumber Parish Council Meeting on **Wednesday 29 January 2025** commenced at 7.30 pm at Baumber Village Hall.

Those present: Chairman Cllr M Harrison, Vice Chairman Cllr M Jones, Cllr M Baverstock Cllr T Cuttell, Cllr C Smith - left early, Cllr W Gray & Cllr R Yarsley.
Clerk: Mr M Grosvenor. 2 Baumber residents.

0125/48 Apologies for absence.

Received apologies for absence: Cllr G Wilbourn & Cllr P Bradwell.

0125/49 Public Participation.

a) Cllr R Yarsley representation with regards to the refusal of Planning Permission - **S/079/01078/22 LAND ADJACENT SOTBY WOODS HATTON & potential outcome**

b) Representation by Resident & landowner of Baumber House and adjacent land in respect of agenda item **0125/55 - ref: 1024/44 Un - adopted historical footpath West Lane - St Swithin's - kissing gate & access to Footpath 92 Adoption application in progress.** Reported damage and removal of replacement fencing by person/s unknown and withdrawal of support for footpath adoption application. Clerk provided Members of details of previous site meeting with landowner suggesting reinstatement of the fencing and retaining continued access to footpath with potential financial support provided by Baumber PC. Members reiterated willingness to provide financial support for reinstatement of damaged fence and provision of approved kissing gate, to maintain a positive working relationship between BPC and the landowner, whilst the application for the adoption of the footpath is in progress to facilitate the continuation of this valued historical local and public amenity. Landowner to provide written feedback in due course.

1025/50 Declaration of Interest.

No declarations noted.

0125/51 Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 23 October 2024 approved and signed as a true record.

0125/52 Clerks report on matters outstanding:

Update ref: 0724/27. a) Reference Minutes of Meeting 17 July 2024 and previous BPC Minutes.

Ref 0324/66 Update: b) Speed Limit reduction:

Update: 26/06/2024 Further email received from Silver St resident raising concerns regarding ongoing speeding issues etc., Clerk forward this to Highways & LRSP etc., 28/06/2024 - Response received via Cllr P Bradwell:

'Dear Mr Grosvenor

I refer to your email dated 26th June regarding your council's request for a speed limit to be introduced on the B1225, which has been forwarded to me for reply.

The route has been assessed against our speed limit policy and the criteria have been met for a limit to be introduced. The mean speed indicates that a 40mph limit may be proposed and a scheme is therefore being prepared. The Parish Council will be in receipt of the consultation documents in due course.

I hope this allays the concerns raised by residents and apologise for the delay in my response'. **Resolution:** Chairman, that the Clerk and Cllr P Bradwell be thanked for their dedication and perseverance over the past 2-3 years in achieving this welcome notification especially as BPC has been requesting this reduction for over a decade. Clerk to continue to liaise with Highways re the next stage. Update: 13-08-2024. Clerk submitted BPC consultation response in respect of proposed reductions in speed limit on West Lane to 30mph & Silver St to 40mph. Response included a request for Hunters Lane to be reduced to 40mph - the reduction has not been approved, *'as there is no development on this road and does not meet Highways criteria*. 02-10-2024 Received LCC Highway official public notice due to be published on 30-10-2024 confirming West Lane & Silver St speed limit reductions. Clerk posted notice and plan on BPC notice board.

The notice states: *'Objections or representations to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be made in writing or email to Chief Executive - Lincolnshire County Council, by 28/11/2024*. **Update:** 28-01-2025. Confirmation No objections received - LCC Highways currently in the process of arranging the installation of the new speed limit signs on West Lane (30mph) and B1225 - Silver St (40mph).

Update: 0724/27 - 0524/15 - 0324/63. Public Participation item a) Resident of Silver St Baumber - B1225 raised significant concerns regarding speeding traffic causing noise and threats to resident's safety, whilst walking and accessing their properties on the narrow footpath, which is only wide enough for one person.

This narrow footpath is in a poor condition and is caked in mud and debris from the spray of water and muck from fast moving traffic, which has built up over a long period and exacerbated by the repeated flooding of part of Silver St. The spray is also splattering over the walls, front doors and windows of those properties with no front gardens and directly adjacent to the road surface, significantly impacting on the residential amenity of these Baumber residents. resident has submitted a letter of complaint to BPC. Cllr P Bradwell/Clerk arranged Silver St walk over site meeting with Richard Fenwick (RF) Head of Highways Asset and Local Management Services & Cllr M Baverstock on 26 April 2024, to review condition of footpath and speeding policy which was discussed at length. Also to approve proposed location for new traffic calming signs. RF. - Agreed to arranging cleaning of gullies and footpath and initiate works to improve condition of footpath which was agreed to be essential. Further update to May 2024 meeting and Silver St resident condition of the pull in, muddy footpath & works required at the dyke-drain prone to flooding during period of heavy rain. Also requested Cllr W Gray to arrange for a ELDC road sweeper to clean the excess mud from road side & blocked gullies - completed. Works undertaken on 05/07/2024 to clear dyke-drain and provide run off from roadside to help prevent flooding.

Update: Although Footpath works remain outstanding (LCC Highways) Cllr W Gray during the summer again arranged for a road sweeper to clean Silver St road side and gullies.

Update: 23 October 2024. Cllr Bradwell advised meeting that the works are in hand but there appears to be an issue with the limited width of the footpath which is not compliant with current Highways regulations. Cllr Bradwell will continue to liaise with Highways senior management for a satisfactory resolution. - Jan 2025 Cllr MJ & Clerk Observations. LCC Highways have undertaken repair patching of small areas of footpath in front of the row of houses adjacent to the road surface.

Update: October 2024. LCC Highways have kindly replaced all Baumber's name plate signs with new *'Baumber Please Drive Carefully'* signs. A new sign has been installed on the A158 approaching Baumber from Lincoln and on the B1225 before the Hunters Lane Hemingby Lane cross roads. This sign marks the southern end of the proposed 40mph speed limit. Note: the new B1225 - Silver St sign by Scholey's farmyard will be moved once the 40mph speed limit is in force to the north of the Church Lane turn to the A158.

Note: Cllr W Gray has approved transfer of grant funds for other traffic calming measures.

A158 Leylandi Trees: January 2024 Storm felled additional Leylandi trees on A158 & caused road side footpath to be impassable. **Update:** Footpath repaired and reinstated 12/06/2024. All of the remaining trees still require need either felling or topping & fallen trees have not been cleared away. **Update:** 16/10/2024. The trees have been logged for removal. LCC have advised removal of the tree stumps is in hand. **Update Jan 2025.** All Leylandi trees have been felled and remaining tree stumps cleared away between the 30mph sign and Old Police House. The row between Old Police House and adjacent to P Bulwinkles have been topped. Matter considered to be concluded.

Update ref: 0524/15 -1022/50 B1225/A158 junction permanent street lights switch off. LCC Highways confirmed existing A158 redundant lights (29-43) to be removed, Clerk received the following response 28/05/2024:

'Your ongoing concerns about the impact of switching off the lights at the junction are noted. As previously indicated, this is necessary to allow for the removal of the lights already switched off in the vicinity as a part of the Street Lighting Transformation project in 2016/17, as they are all on the same cable system.

As a result of a swift response from LRSP, with no concerns being raised by them, and in order to make the change during the shorter nights, we have this morning been informed that the lights in question were in fact switched off last week on Thursday 23 May 2024. We can assure you that we will now be monitoring the impact of this using information from LRSP and no permanent removal of any of the columns will take place for at least twelve months. Matter for review May/June 2025.

0125/53 Financial Statement at 29/01/2025.

Description	DR/CR/Ref	Amount £
Bank Reconciliation Balance B/F Bank Reconciliation 27/09/2024		5526.05
Note: Balance Includes Cllr W Gray Funding Traffic Calming signs		850.00
Invoices/Payments 23/10/ 2024		
Glendale Village cut 18 July 2024.	DR 382	223.46
Clerk Admin- Postage Expenses Aug/Sept/Oct 2024.	DR 383	42.89
	DR 374	266.35
Balance Brought Forward		5526.05
Balance Carried Forward		5259.70
Credit: LCC Highways Grass Cutting Contribution 2024.	CR	2390.06
Bank Reconciliation 27/12/2024. Total		7649.76
Invoices/payments due 29/01/2025		
Residual balance LIVES Invoice (VAT)	DR 384	20.00
Glendale Village Cut Nov 2024	DR 385	223.46
Clerk 2nd Stage remuneration 2024/25	DR 386	1100.00
Baumber Village Hall hire 2024/25	DR 387	250.00
Clerk Office expenses Nov/Dec 24 Jan/Feb/March 2025	DR 388	70.00
Litter Picking Boots Cllr MJ receipt	DR 389	64.99
Sub Total		1728.45
Balance B/F		7649.76
Balance C/F		5921.31
VAT Refund claim submitted 2024/25	CR	247.90
Estimated Reserves 31/03/2025 Total		6169.21
Reference Financial Statement - Budget 2025/26.		
Precept 2025/26. No increase held at 2024/25.	CR	3267.60

0125/53 Financial Statement cont/..

a) Invoices/payments due approved.

b) Consideration of Clerk & RFO Financial Statement & proposed budget for Financial Year 2025/26 in order to set Precept for 2025/26. Members **Resolved:** to hold Precept at £3267.60.

Note: The Financial Statement & Budget is based on the assumption that LCC's Grass Cutting Contribution is equal to or in the region of the sum received 2023/24 £1116.74 not the higher sum received 2024/25.

c) Consideration of revised arrangements for the maintenance of St Swithin's churchyard. Clerk has liaised with Glendale in respect of Churchyard tree maintenance to cut back excessive low growth from established trees. Glendale tender at £600.00 per day to include chipping waste.

Update: Chairman M Harrison advised meeting that this matter needs to be referred to St Swithin's PPC for consideration, approval or referral to the C of E Lincoln diocese.

Consideration of ongoing contract with Glendale regarding the Churchyard grass cutting. No formal Resolution forthcoming. Update: Chairman M Harrison. Matter still under review. However, Cllr M Jones & Clerk completed a site visit with a new grass cutting contractor. Details provided to Members - **Resolved:** to accept tender, Clerk to send confirmation.

d) Clerk advised meeting following resignation of Cllr J Fable a revised Bank Mandate needs to be arranged. **Resolved:** for 2 new cheque signatories. Updated Bank Mandate completed.

0125/54 Planning.

1. Update ref: 0524/18 - S/079/01078/22 LAND ADJACENT SOTBY WOODS HATTON.

Planning Permission - Installation of a temporary ground mounted 49.9MW solar farm with associated infrastructure, construction of vehicular accesses, CCTV cameras on 4m high poles a 15m high communications tower and security fencing to a maximum height of 2.2m. Following the letter received from the office of Secretary of State dated 28 September 2023 - on 27 October 2023 ELDC granted Full Planning Permission.

The Development Consent has been quashed following a Judicial Review (JR) on the grounds that the '*Consent Decision was unlawful, as it failed to have sufficient regards to the material considerations in relation to the policy of the development of solar farms on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land*'. The JR challenge against ELDC Consent was initiated and funded by the Hatton resident's group. The application is now subject to further consultation and consideration, in respect of the applicants Site Search Document reference 5546097.

Members Consideration of the applicant's recent submission. Members unanimously **Resolved:** to continue to object to the proposal and were not persuaded that the applicant's recent site search submission has in this case, adequately justified the use of BMV land. Concerns were also raised regarding the proposed one way construction traffic management system, which will direct all of the traffic movement including HGV's through Gt Sturton onto the Caistor High road (B1225) through Silver Street and on to the A158 through Baumber. Especially given the ongoing concerns regarding adverse traffic impacts on Silver St residents. Clerk submitted BPC's Consultation response by email 26 March 2024. Awaiting update on committee meeting date and any further consultations. Hatton Residents Group provided a double sided Impact information sheet.

Update: Planning committee convened on 04/10/2024 - Officer's recommendation to approve - Majority Committee decision to refuse on the grounds of landscape impacts & Setting of Grade 2 listed Corner Farm and historic agricultural barn with conversion consent for recreational/holiday accommodation. **Update. Decision letter published 31/10/2024. Refused consent.**

3. Update ref: 20/21/05 Manor Farm Lincoln Road Baumber - Alleged 5 Contraventions of Development Consent. - Case update still awaited from ELDC Development Control. Members considered concerns raised regarding the felling of the line of approximately 20 trees lining the internal access to Manor Farm.

0125/55 - ref: 1024/44 Un - adopted historical footpath West Lane - St Swithin's - kissing gate & access to Footpath 92 Adoption application in progress. Evidence provided by Andrew Roberts. Recent discussion with one of land owners who offered kind support.

Update: 10/10/24 Clerk posted to the 2 involved landowners Service of Notice of Application for Modification Order - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Definitive Map Modification Order with covering letter requesting support for application. 23/10/2024 Clerk has submitted all completed forms and resident's evidence to the Definitive Map Officer LCC. **Update:** Ref Agenda Item **0125/49 Public Participation.**

0125/56 Correspondence. None of note.

0125/57 Minor Items. Concerns were raised regarding the overgrown hedgerow bordering on West Lane, which requires trimming before the spring bird nesting season by end of February. Given the relatively short window available, on this occasion; Members

Resolved: that the Clerk would liaise with MB & TC and recommended local contractor's to undertake the hedge trimming of West Lane and Baumber Village Hall car park.

0125/58 Date of Next Meeting/s: Wednesday 19 March 2025. All Parish Council meetings commence at 7.30pm at Baumber Village Hall.

Annual Baumber Community Meeting: Members **Resolved:** to set the date of this meeting to be convened on 23 April 2025 commencing at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.