

# BAUMBER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Baumber.

Those Present: Messrs. M Jones (Chairman), R Espley, M Harrison, Mrs J Fable (Vice-Chairman), & Mrs F Espley (Clerk). Also attending were Messrs. G Roberts & C Pippard, & Mr M Grosvenor who was assisting the Clerk.

Apologies: Mr S Scholey, Mrs S Willerton & Mrs S Elton

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were read out by the Chairman, agreed and signed as a true copy. Then the Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were read out by the Chairman, agreed and signed as a true copy.

## Matters Arising

Re: Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr Grosvenor had spoken to Mr Panton, Head of Planning at ELDC, and also Mrs Shorland, in charge of housing strategy and they had advised him that setting up such a Plan would be an onerous task and that a useful, easier, and more suitable alternative would be to organise a Parish Plan, examples of which are available to view at ELDC. Baumber village is designated an 'unsustainable village' whereby there should be no development on green field sites, but ok on brown. It was agreed that Mr Grosvenor would look into this Plan along with the assistance of Mr G Roberts.

## Correspondence

Re: Email from Australian family asking for Baumber's help tracing relatives. It was agreed that, out of politeness, the Clerk should reply regretting being unable to help as no access to records.

## Finance

Re: Precept. Mr Grosvenor pointed out that Baumber's annual Precept would have to rise considerably to allow for local government cuts necessitating the Parish Council having to carry the costs of grass cutting, though we understand we could receive a 20% transitional relief from LCC, along with extra wages for the Clerk in line with HMRC legal requirements regarding minimum wage and hours worked. Thus the Precept was set at £2940, an increase of 200% on last year. Mr Grosvenor thought it would be wise to enclose a covering letter explaining the sharp rise.

Re: Grass Cutting. As mentioned above, we received a letter from LCC offering a 20% transitional relief amount (perhaps for one year only) to help towards cost of our grass cutting previously paid for. It was agreed to contact Glendale and ask for a quotation for a similar number of cuts as before. Safety Cuts are to be provided by LCC but we are unsure as to the extent of this service. Amenity cuts are now our responsibility.

Re: LALC Training Courses. Mr Grosvenor and Mrs Fable expressed interest in various training courses held throughout 2017 by LALC, so a one-off payment of £55 allows any member of the Parish Councillor to attend.

## Planning

Mr Grosvenor went through what he'd written as our submission against the Red Lion Appeal making note to include surroundings including neighbouring towns and villages to give the Inspectorate a flavour of our area and the historical significance and position of the Inn. It was thought, due to a mix-up of dates, and an extension for us to complete our submission, that the decision to demolish the Red Lion had already been made, with Mr Grosvenor's efforts being of no account.

The Date of the next Meeting was set at Wednesday 22nd March 2017 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.