

BAUMBER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 19th October 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Baumber.

Those Present: Messrs. M Jones (Chairman), Mrs J Fable (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs S Elton, Cllr R Espley, Cllr M Harrison, Cllr Mrs S Willerton, & Mrs F Espley (*Retiring Clerk), Mr M Grosvenor (*Clerk in waiting)

Also attending were Messrs. G Roberts, Mr & Mrs C Pippard, Mr & Mrs P Williams.

Apologies: Cllr Mr Stuart Scholey; it was noted and confirmed that Cllr Mr S Scholey was not in attendance at the BPC meeting Wednesday 20th July 2016.

Note:

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on Wednesday 20th July 2016 were read out by the Chairman, agreed and signed as a true copy (*after amendment to minutes regarding sight of a initial draft drawing of an outline site plan to BPC for a potential housing development in field OS 223 off West Lane for 5 dwellings of various sizes received from Mr John & Mrs Patricia Scholey)

Matters Arising:

*BPC noted that whilst the Councillors discussed this potential proposal at the 20th July meeting, as this was not in the form of a formal and validated planning application submitted to ELDC and only in a initial draft outline form, it was agreed at the 20th July meeting and confirmed at this meeting, that any submitted formal planning application would follow due planning process and be reviewed and discussed on merit by BPC at that time and be subject to full consultation with local residents. Cllr Mrs Fable had also raised concerns over any development in field OS223.

Re School: The Chairman provided confirmation that Baumber School will reopen with a new Headmaster and staff, after half term week with 12 children attending and that the school care taker had informed him that the grounds would be tidied up and consideration would be given to neighbours of the school. BPC Councillors look forward to the School being run successfully as previously planned.

The R Clerk was asked to write for confirmation if the 20mph Speed restriction signs are to be reinstated.

Grass cutting: Mr Roberts reported that he had written to LCC & ELDC outlining the concerns raised at the previous meeting '*specifically regarding road safety in view of the fact that Baumber is affected by 2 main roads and visibility on and off the junctions of these roads should be a priority*'. LCC's response dated 2nd August was passed to BPC confirming that the concerns raised would be passed on to LCC Councillors, with a decision to follow after further consideration as to whether the cuts would take place or not.

The Clerk also informed BPC that no reply has been received to BPC's letter of complaint sent to LCC or Councillor Hoyes, as per the previous minutes. Clerk was asked to send a follow up letter setting out the serious concerns and requesting community '*safety cutting*' at all of the main road junctions. At present householders along the A158 generally cut the verges outside their properties, it was noted there could well be Health & Safety/Insurance issues, should the villagers take on cutting council-owned areas of grass.

Mr Pippard raised concerns over overgrown hedgerows, particularly along Hunters Lane & M Harrison explained the position of landowners and their duties in this respect, by advising that hedge cutting would take place in line with these. It was noted that the state of the footpaths and where relevant, hedge trimming etc., appears to be as a result of the County Council's budget cuts.

Re Declaration of Pecuniary Interest Forms: These have been completed hopefully correctly, Councillors were reminded that a training course is available.

Neighbourhood Plan: Messrs G Roberts presented documents detailing the process and raised the suggestion that BPC in conjunction with the local community consider the setting up of a steering group to approach and engage with ELDC to establish what is involved, in the possible formation of a local Neighbourhood Plan, along with the time scales, which will also be subject to community consultation. Mr M Grosvenor (as Clerk in waiting) stated he would look into current Government policy, which seemed to be encouraging all local communities to engage in this process, as a Government commitment to localism in planning plus procedures and support arising from ELDC. Councillors were concerned about incurring any costs as BPC did not have any funds available. Concerns were also raised as to whether a plan would make any difference to the community as a whole, based on past experience.

Correspondence.

Main Road Lighting. LCC informed BPC that only the street lights along the A158 between Farmers Row & Hightoft from Autumn -Winter 2016 would be switched on all the other lights would be switched off with the exception of the lights at the junction of the A158 & Caistor High Road. Why the area between the 30mph limit signs was not included was questioned. Clerk to write.

Letters & email were also received from:

Messrs. G Roberts;

re Parish Council meeting 20th July raising his concerns that the presentation of a draft out line drawing plan of a potential housing development on field OS223, should not appear to be pre determined, by BPC and that as and when any plans are forthcoming that there would be an open general public event arranged to enable the community to view the proposal and respond to both ELDC and BPC.

Mr B Duckworth & Mrs A Duckworth email dated 27-07-2016 to Chairman calling for an extra ordinary meeting in the light of reading the minutes of the Parish Council meeting published, raising their concerns on the basis that it appears a proposal and a planning application for a development had been submitted by Mr J & Mrs P Scholey to the Parish Council. This matter was/is clarified as stated in the minutes above.

At the Parish meeting 19-10-16 Mr Roberts read out a letter from Mr & Mrs B Duckworth; Expressing apologies for not being able to attend, requesting any up-dates on the aforementioned potential development on Field OS223. Plus concerns that the No Through Road sign was not clear and that there has been an increase in traffic particularly HGV's entering West Lane from the A158 in either direction to gain access to The Caistor High Street, ignoring the No Through Road signs on either side of the junction from the A158 with West Lane.

Since Mr Duckworth's letter the signs are now clearly visible from each direction. The Parish Council has constantly complained to ELDC about vehicles erroneously using West Lane but to no avail.

Letter to Chairman from Mr M Grosvenor as a formal request to be considered for the publicised vacancy of Parish Clerk on the retirement of the present Clerk Mrs F Espley. Mr Grosvenor & Mrs Espley are now liaising to facilitate a smooth transfer during a transition period up to and including the next Parish Council meeting in January 2017.

Finance:

The latest bank statement shows a balance of £1717.10

Planning:

Re: A Full Planning Application has been submitted to ELDC by Mr & Mrs Swainston for extension and alterations to The Lilacs Lincoln Road. Planning Application No S/11/02027/16 The plans were considered & it was agreed that there were no grounds for objection.

Red Lion Appeal: Letter from ELDC confirming that an appeal ref APP/D2510/W/16/3151819 has been received against ELDC's decision to refuse outline Planning Permission to demolish the Red Lion Public House and for the erection of 7 houses on the site.

The closing date for Submissions from BPC and any interested parties to The Planning Inspectorate Initial Appeals Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN (Enclose 3 copies) is stated as 03-02-1900 which is clearly incorrect. Mr M Grosvenor agreed to review the appeal time table and to contact both ELDC & The Planning Inspectorate to clarify the status of the appeal's progress and obtain all appeal documentation. Further information will be circulated to Councillors pending the outcome of this search.

Re: Formal Complaint: A Formal Anonymous complaint has been received by the Monitoring Officer @ ELDC regarding the Parish Council's minuted response after having viewed and discussed the initial draft site plan provided by Mr J & Mrs P Scholey. BPC has responded to this setting out the Parish Council's *position as per these amended minutes. There has been no follow up comments from ELDC to date

It was agreed that a Parish Council Councillor meeting attendance & signing in record sheet will be introduced at the next PC meeting. This record sheet would also act as a record for any Councillor's declaring a Pecuniary Interests and the point at which they left the meeting while relevant matters were discussed and the point at which they returned. The record sheet may also record attendance at the BPC meeting of all other persons present.

Date of next meeting was set at Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....