

Belton with Browston Parish Council Meeting

CHAIR: DAVID MILLS VICE CHAIR: NIGEL LIGHT

Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 5th November 2024

At New Road Sport & Leisure Centre

IN ATTENDANCE: D. Mills (Chair), N. Light (Vice Chair), K. Barber, S. Bridges, M. Cox, S. Neal, J. Riseborough, J. Minnis, G. Searby, K. Comer, Kate Ruddock (Parish Clerk) and five members of the public including Borough Cllr Murray-Smith.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm

PUBLIC SECTION

A member of the public was present at the meeting to ask for advice concerning the issue of dog fouling along a grassed area at the front of eight council flats in Berry Close. The resident requested for signage to be erected to inform and hopefully deter dog walkers from allowing their dogs to foul directly in front of the front windows of the flats. It was agreed to pass this matter onto Borough Cllr Carpenter to ask if he could assist with getting the relevant signage installed.

With no further business the public section was closed and main meeting commenced at 7.08pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Greenacre and Gay and Borough Cllr Carpenter. To accept the apologies proposed Cllr Riseborough, seconded Cllr Neil. All in Favour.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Parish Councillors are Trustees of Belton Playing Field Charity.

3. COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

The Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting an email from Mr Kevin Comer expressing an interest at being co-opted on to Parish Council. Mr Comer had also previously attended two parish council meeting in the public section.

Cllr Cox proposed to co-opt Mr Comer onto the parish council, seconded Cllr Riseborough. All in Favour.

4. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Minutes from the meeting held on 01/10/24 had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record proposed Cllr Barber, seconded Cllr Cox. All in Favour.

5. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

6. BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

It was agreed for the Clerk after the meeting to contact Borough Cllr Carpenter to obtain updates on the following items:

Fern Gardens grass verge

Has it been agreed that wooden posts can be added to prevent parking on this verge?

Can posts also be added around the grass verge on Rosedale Gardens for the same reason?

New Road – Cycle path

When will the cycle path be swept and the brambles cleared which are starting to cover some sections of the path.

Heather Road property – Overgrown tree

Has NCC Highways written to the property owner yet asking that they cut the tree back?

6. ADMINISTRATION & FINANCIAL MATTERS

	PAYEE/DETAIL	V.A.T	AMOUNT
DD	BT	£16.96	£101.76
DD	EDF – electric	£28.79	£604.50
DD	Currys - Printer	£16.67	£99.99
DD	Amazon - ink	£5.01	£30.05
DD	SSE - gas	£8.52	£178.98
DD	Biffa Bins	£7.30	£43.78
BACS	Employment		£5542.89
BACS	K. Gipson – ½ road tax		£175.00
BACS	D. Skipper – ½ road tax		£175.00
BACS	M. Riches – cut allotment hedge	£48.00	£288.00
BACS	Heart 2 Heart Norfolk – bleed kits		£170.00
		£131.25	£7409.95

Income:

New Road = £1147.50

HMRC VAT = £120.97

Bohemians Electric Refund for tea hut £243.10

Lloyds Interest from short term investment £1814.79

	Council A/C
Bank Balance BF	£103,961.73
Bank Balance after meeting payments	£99,906.66

To propose payment for the payment sheets above Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Cox. All in Favour.

Lloyds Bank Charges

The Clerk reported she had receive notification from Lloyds Bank stating as from 14th January 2025 the Parish Council's treasurers account will be moved to a community account and therefore monthly bank charges will be applied which will include a monthly maintenance fee of £4.25 per month.

Clerks Pay Increase

The Clerks reported Nalc have now confirmed the pay increase from 1st April 2024 which totals 3.4%.

Bleed Kits

Following the New Road management meeting 2 bleed kits have been ordered from Heart 2 Heart Norfolk costing £85 each. The kits will be kept within the Parish Council defibrillator cabinets.

8.VILLAGE MAINTENANCE & NCC HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Dog Foul Signage

Stickers have been collected by the caretaker from the Town Hall and are being put up around Bell Lane and Sandy Lane.

Bell Lane Field & Churchyard

It was agreed for the caretakers to undertake one extra cut this month at both sites before the equipment is then cleaned down and serviced for the winter.

Street Lights

Four streetlights that are not working on Bell Lane field / New Road have been reported to NCC and GYBC

Bracon Road Wigwag

The Highways engineer advised rather than relocating the wigwag on Deben Road the best option would be to ask the property owner to trim back their hedge to make the sign more visible. If the sign were to be moved there would be a cost involved as Westcotec would have to move it.

Passageways

The passage running from Rosedale Gardens to Station Road South had been looked at and two property owners will be written to asking that they cut back their overhanging hedges/tree branches. The passageway running from Heather Gardens to Station Road North had also been looked at and GY Services have been contacted to ask if they can cut back the overgrown vegetation as it is now starting to grow over the street light.

Back Lane

Back Lane had been looked at prior to the meeting. It was reported the lane is generally in a good condition, however the caretakers will take another look in the new year.

Deben Road/Bracon Road

Complaints had been received that the bushes on the grass verge had become overgrown and were effecting visibility at the junction. Therefore the caretaker has now cut back the vegetation.

Bell Lane Field

During an inspection of Bell Lane field the Clerk and Caretakers met with one of the GYBC Environmental Rangers who was undertaking their weekly inspection of the equipment. The Officer confirmed the checks are always undertaken weekly therefore it is not necessary for the parish council caretaker to also undertake the same checks.

Bell Lane Skate Park

The Clerk reported she had received a letter from a resident requesting the Council look into installing additional skate park equipment on Bell Lane field.

During discussions it was agreed if any new equipment of any type is installed on the playing field it would have to be funded through grant funding due to the costs involved, a new working party would have to be created to look into this further.

A143 – Cherry Lane Bus Stops

It was generally agreed the new bus stops on the A143 would be a good idea, however there needs to be bays for the buses to pull into off the A143, for passengers to get on and off the buses safely. It was agreed to pass these comments onto NCC Highways.

9. CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

It was agreed to proceed with the award again this year and for an advert to be placed within the next edition of the Village Voice. The closing date for nominations will be the 31st January 2025. As previously there will be one award open to residents of Belton with Browston and to non-residents of the parish provided the work for which that person is nominated is within the parish.

Anybody who has received an award covering the previous two years will not be eligible this time round. Nominations can be for more than one person for the same service/good deed. Parish Councillors cannot be nominated for the award.

10. PARISH PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

The Clerk reported GY Services have replied to the request to relocate the litter bin on Rectory corner stating currently there is no any budget to do so at the current time.

The quote from the designer at NCC regarding the installation of a mini-trod on the Rectory corner came to £5200, so the Parish Council would need to apply for £2600 funding from the PPS and then have £2600 paid from Parish funds.

It was agreed by all members that the project would not be financially viable at the current time.

11. NEW ROAD SPORT & LEISURE CENTRE

Car parking & site capacity

Cllr Light reported during some weekends this year the car park and overspill car park had been completely full, this then resulted in cars being parked on other areas of field and outside the gates. Cllr Light proposed to try to tackle the problem of overcapacity, the council could explore the option of using a parking management firm, with the aim to prevent parking on verges and other sections of field, and by collecting parking fees during weekends and busy periods. The council would set their own charges, rules and exemptions which would come at no cost to the council, the money generated could then be reinvested at the site to improve the overspill car park.

During discussion it was agreed by members not to progress with this proposal. Members felt it would be unfair to charge parking fees only at the weekend and may result in hirers no longer using the site. It was also thought it would encourage people to park along New Road instead to avoid parking fees. It was agreed site capacity should be looked at first along with identifying any other areas on the field that could be used for extra parking.

Overspill car park maintenance

The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Folkes to obtain advise and a quote to repair sections of the overspill car park and will report any update at the next meeting. It was also agreed widening of the front gate needs further investigation.

Bohemians FC – installation of new non permanent steel container

Cllr Light reported the club had asked for a new 3m x 3m steel storage container to be sited on the field which would be used to store the extra equipment they now have.

It was agreed by all members this would be permitted with the condition the club checks with GYBC to find out if any planning permission would be required before the container is purchased.

Biffa Bin Collections

The Chairman reported due to the amount of rubbish generated on site now the bin collection needs to be increased from a fortnightly collection to a weekly collection. This was agreed by all members.

Grass Cutting

The Clerk reported Garden Guardian had been contacted to provide a quote to cut New Road field only, this item will then be on the December agenda for discussion.

Pitch Maintenance & Signage

The Bohemians FC will be undertaking pitch maintenance later this week. Parkers Pitches will be using half rate disc seeding (which is buried into the soil at around 2/3 inches) and will also be fertilising the pitches and repairing the apron of the field. The signage inbetween the two dug outs at the far end of the field has now been taken down

Tea Hut

It was agreed to permit Belton FC to site their new replacement tea hut at the top end of the field to the right hand side of the dug outs rather than in the middle of them with the aim to improve visibility.

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Following discussion it was agreed by all members that in future all Councillors will now be notified and able to comment on all planning applications when comments are needed to be submitted to GYBC prior to the next meeting. Proposed Cllr Riseborough, seconded Cllr Cox. All in Favour.

13. PLANNING

Application submitted to GYBC prior to the meeting

06/24/0137/O Greenfield, Cherry Lane, Browston

Outline application with full details of access for the erection of 1 no. 3-bedroom dwelling to be constructed and used as a self build dwelling, with cart shed

It was agreed by majority to submit no objections subject to neighbours comments for the above application.

Applications Approved:

06/23/0351/CU New Road Sport & Leisure Centre, Belton

Change of use to use part of the playing field to sui generis mixed use of playing field with car boot sales to be held on up to 14 Wednesday a year between 10am and 2pm

06/24/0594/TRE 36 St Johns Road, Belton

Proposed works to tree (TPO 4 1998) English oak - T1 - T4 - Lower canopy encroaching GYBC housing properties; crown lift to a maximum of 3m leaving adequate clearance

Applications Withdrawn

06/24/0510/NWA Garden Villa, Browston Lane

Non-material amendment to planning permission 06/23/0914/HH (Removal of hedges, railings and reprofiling verge, and construction of new brick boundary wall and access gates) - to retrospectively amend the approved drawings and raise the height of the new brick wall to a maximum of 2.0m at the piers, with lower infill panel heights.

Applications Proposed Use

06/24/0314/PU Holly Cottage, Sandy Lane, Belton

Application for a Certificate of Lawful Proposed Development to confirm that development pursuant to outline planning permission 06/19/0195/O and reserved matters approval 06/22/0252/D has been lawfully commenced and that development under that permission can lawfully continue

14. TIME & DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3rd December 2024, 7.00pm at New Road Sport & Leisure Centre

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7.46pm