



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 March 2023 at Walkeringham Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Roberts (Chair), Hooton, Heath, Vessey, Derbyshire, Steel, Wilsey, Beard, Dilly, Cty. Cllr. Taylor and A Hayward (Clerk)

Members of Public: 0

Public Session: No comments made

032/23 **Chairman's Remarks**
Cllr. Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting.

033/23 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received as follows:
Cllr. Oxley (work commitment)
District Cllr. Sanger (other commitment)

Resolved: to accept the apologies and the reasons given.

034/23 **To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and to consider any applications for dispensations in relation to disclosable pecuniary interest**
None received.

035/23 **Approval & Signing of Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2023 were discussed, proposed, seconded, voted and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

036/23 **Matters for Consideration**

1. Walkeringham Gateway Signs

Cllr. Steel confirmed that the NCC Local Communities grant has not yet been opened for this year. He would continue to do research into the procurement and installation of the gateway signs and will report back once he had more information.

2. New Litter Bin

Resolved: to request an additional litter bin for Sidsaph Hill.

3. Civility and Respect Policy

The Clerk presented the draft Civility and Respect Policy to the meeting.

Throughout the sector, there are growing concerns about the impact bullying, harassment, and intimidation are having on local (parish and town) councils, councillors, clerks and council staff and the resulting effectiveness of local councils.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC), One Voice Wales, the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and county associations have responded to this by setting up a Civility and Respect Working Group to oversee the Civility and Respect Project. NALC is encouraging Parish/Town Councils to adopt the draft policy.

Resolved: to adopt the policy and sign the pledge

4. May Local Elections

The Clerk outlined the arrangements and submission deadlines for the local election which is to take place on Thursday 4th May 2023. The election is for both Parish and District Councillors. The deadline for the submission of nomination papers is Tuesday 4th April.

5. CIL Monies – 100% Exceptional Circumstances Relief - PA 19/00945/RES, Station Road

A reply has been received from Bassetlaw District Council to the series of question put to them by the Parish Council last month, as follows:

1. When was the application for exemption from CIL made and why is the application not logged on the portal like the application to modify the S106?

The application was made to the Council in February 2020. This application is not publicised on the Council's public access system like an application to modify a Section 106 agreement as the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations do not require us to do so.

2. Are the S106 and CIL obligations treated differently, if so, why?

Section 106 obligations and CIL does have to be considered different as planning obligations are entered in to under the Town and Country Planning Act whereas CIL is managed by the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations. Section 106 obligations can be considered as a reason to grant planning permission but the CIL process is entirely separate. For example, if we receive a receive evidence that the scheme is unviable with a full Section 106 obligation this must be considered as part of the decision-making process as it is a material planning consideration.

3. Why isn't the viability assessment available with the other papers? Can this be made available to the Parish Council?

The CIL Regulations do not require us to publish viability assessments associated with applications for exceptional circumstances relief. However, if there was a viability assessment setting out that the scheme would be unviable with certain Section 106 obligations this has to be published.

4. How did BDC test and assess the developer's claims?

The submitted viability assessment was scrutinised by an independent Chartered Surveyor Appointed by the Council.

5. Who at BDC made the decision re. CIL exemption, where is that recorded for the purposes of transparency?

The decision was taken by the CIL Team based on the advice of the independent surveyor

6. Are changes to the CIL obligations reported in the BDC's annual report? If not, why not?

The CIL Regulations set out the matters to be included within the Infrastructure Funding Statement and this does not include applications for exceptional circumstances relief.

7. Why was the Parish Council not informed of the claim and outcome?

As there is no requirement to publicise an application for exceptional circumstances relief in the Regulations the Local Planning Authority has to treat any viability assessment as containing commercially sensitive information.

The District Council's response was discussed at length and serious concern was conveyed about what appeared to be a lack of transparency and scrutiny in the procedures. It was agreed to respond to the answers and press for further information about how the Independent Surveyor is appointed, who are they and how the application is assessed arrive at their decision.

037/23 **Councillors' Reports****County Councillor's Report**

No report.

District Councillor's Report

No report.

Cllr. Sanger had forwarded a comment informing members that the Independent members had taken up the issue of developers having the option of applying for CIL relief purely on the grounds of financial viability and this option is going to be reviewed by the District Council with a view to removing this clause.

Cllr. Sanger was attending the annual Bassetlaw Achievers Award. Mrs Jan Fox had been nominated for her many years of service as Secretary to the Burial Board.

038/23 **Consultations/Upcoming Events**

- North East Bassetlaw Forum on 15 March – Cllr. Roberts to attend
- Online Event with the Police & Crime Commissioner on 22 March – Cllr Steel to attend
- Football Foundation Webinar re. Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund on 30 March

039/23 **Cemetery Matters**

Income Received (Feb): £0

040/23 **Financial Matters**

Financial Report as at 15/03/2023:

Income for the financial year to date:	£37,544.91
Expenditure for the financial year to date:	£36,262.03
Balance	£22,835.52

The following payments were proposed, seconded, voted and agreed.

Cheque	Amount	Payee	Matter
2260-2263	1,085.16	Staff	Salaries and expenses
2264	332.60	HMRC	PAYE
2265	10.00	Walkeringham Village Hall	Hall hire
2266	240.28	NALC	Annual Subscription

041/23 **Faults and Repairs**

- Leaves and other debris in many of the road gullies. Clerk to request a visit from the BDC road sweeper.
- The damaged 'Walkeringham Road' sign at the junction of Woodenbeck and Walkeringham Road has not yet been replaced. Clerk to chase up.
- Some of the potholes have been filled but here are still many that require attention.
- Via East Midlands has inspected the cracks of North Moor Road as well as the area near West Moor Road which was slippery and have concluded that no further action is to be taken.
- The broken clay pipe on the High Street has now been fixed.

042/23 **Planning Matters****New Planning Applications**

None

Planning Decisions

None

043/23 **Correspondence (not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda)**

Via East Midlands – Roadwork Bulletin re. work on Stockwith Road

044/23 **Councillors' reports and items for inclusion on the next agenda**

Cllr. Roberts reminded members that the annual assembly will be held in April and the parish council meeting will follow immediately after that.

Cllr. Vessey asked for contributions for the April/May newsletter.

Cllr. Taylor joined the meeting and confirmed that the NCC capital grant scheme will be launched around April time. A new Highways Manager had been appointed and she would liaise with him once the parish council had made a decision on the location of the proposed speed survey.

045/23

Date of the next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was agreed and confirmed as Wednesday 19 April 2023 to take place in Walkeringham Village Hall after the annual assembly.

Meeting closed 8.41 pm

Signed

Date