

OSBASTON PARISH COUNCIL

OSBASTON
Nr. Nuneaton

Chairman:- Mr R Payne
Tel: 01455 290489

Clerk:- Mrs S Reading
Tel: 01455 642330

Email:- osbastonpc@gmail.com

Minutes - 219

A meeting of Osbaston Parish Council was held on Thursday 8th March 2018 at Barlestone School.

1) Apologies:

Mr I Ould

2) Present:

Mr R Payne (Chair), Mr D Sanderson (Vice Chair), Ms H Earp, Mr S Butler, Mrs M Ingham, Mr W Crooks, Mrs S Reading (Clerk).

3) Minutes of last meeting:

Read and approved from December meeting.

4) Matters arising:

None.

5) Finance:

a) Statement of Accounts:

It was reported that the current account held £ 5561.70 and deposit account held £2,240.33 as at 22.02.18. Totalling £7802.53.

b) Invoices and quotes received:

Invoice - Barlestone Primary School – Room Hire March

Invoice – Leicestershire County Council – Street Lighting 2017/18

c) Cheques for approval:

Barlestone PS – Room Hire March 2018	£18.00
LCC – Street Lighting 2017/18	£592.81
Mrs S Reading – salary	£237.50
Mrs S Reading – expenses (postage stamps	£6.72

6) External Audit:

Osbaston Parish Council still undecided as to whom to use for external audit. Clerk to contact other Parish Council Clerks to see who they are using and report back to councillors as soon as possible for a decision.

7) Recent Planning application outcomes:

Goatham Cottage – To fell 2 x trees – no objections.

Gate Inn – Condenser unit – no objections. Mrs Reading, Clerk, to email HBBC with this information.

8) Street Lighting – Service Level Agreement:

We have received the above from Leicestershire County Council in regards to maintenance, energy provision and converting to LED lights. This needs to be read, signed and returned before 31st March 2018. OPC are happy to enter into the Service Level Agreement but a query was raised in regards to the number of street lights that are to be converted. The supporting spreadsheet attached to the SLA shows OPC have 6 SOX type lights that are being phased out and therefore will need converting. What it doesn't make clear is whether the predicted costing figure for 2018/19 is with all street lights being converted (11) or just the 6 SOX lights mentioned. The clerk to contact LCC to confirm these details before SLA is signed and returned. Once the clerk has this information it will be relayed to all councillors and a decision made.

9) Barlestone Cemetery Contributions update:

As far as Osbaston PC were aware a 'gentleman's agreement' was in place with Barlestone PC in regards to residents of Osbaston being afforded the same burial rights at the cemetery as Barlestone parishioners if OPC made a donation towards the cemetery. Our understanding was that this agreement was due to the fact that Osbaston do not have a cemetery and that the majority of its residents originally hailed from Barlestone. This meant that Osbaston parishioners would pay the same rates and not double as others from outside the parish of Barlestone have to. Recently though it has come to the attention of OPC that this is not being adhered to, and after some investigation by the Chairman, Mr Roger Payne, has not be in place for some time. Mrs Reading (Clerk) checked previous minutes to see if there was anything noted in relation to this and although she went back through the minutes many years there is nothing formal to back this agreement up. The first entry relating to contributions towards Barlestone cemetery is from 1994, but as stated previously does not mention any agreement made between the Parish Councils. A discussion then followed as to what OPC would like to do in the future and to perhaps revise our current annual donation. Mr David Sanderson suggested substantially reducing down our current donation if Osbaston residents are to be charged double. This idea was seconded by Mrs Marian Ingham. A further discussion followed and it was agreed that we have a responsibility to our parishioners, as we have no cemetery of our own, to ask BPC if in the spirit of co-operation an agreement could be made for Osbaston parishioners and what donation BPC would consider appropriate.

The clerk to draft a letter and circulate to all OPC members before forwarding on.

Once an outcome to this situation has been agreed OPC will write to its parishioners and inform them of this.

10) Affordable housing needs surveys:

Following on from our last meeting the above surveys are now here and ready to be delivered. Surveys were divided up amongst councillors for distribution this weekend.

11) Data Protection Officer:

This item is unresolved as yet due to lack of information.

12) County Councillors reports:

All recent reports received have been forwarded to all councillors and are attached below.

13) AOB:

Council Crooks Report – This will be forwarded to OPC councillors. Please see below.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed:- _____ Dated:- _____



County Councillors report – December 2017

General:

I have attended 22 meetings this month, and attended 5 parish council meetings. Unfortunately I missed two parish meetings due to unanticipated casework. Casework has again reduced, down to 6 individual cases. 12 outstanding have been satisfactorily resolved. I of the outstanding cases involves an ugly neighbour dispute and will be time consuming.

Major meetings that I attended included County Council on 6.12.17, Cabinet on 12.12.17, chairing the Safer Communities Board, attending the Transformation Board, and a meeting with Clinic Commissioning Groups and the NHS in Leicester.

Local Issues:

Last month I updated everyone on my request for a full safety assessment of the B585 from the A444 to the 30m.p.h. zone at Market Bosworth. Proposals have now been drafted, and I will be working with the relevant parish councils and borough council colleagues to determine a joint response. In brief it would impose a maximum 50m.p.h. zone for the B585 between Market Bosworth and the A444.

Road gritting has become an issue with the onset of snow. There are three conditions that negate the effectiveness of road gritting. The first is that it just doesn't work if the temperature plunges below -6 degrees. The second if, after gritting, it then snows and covers the grit, and the third is when it rains and the grit is washed away. All the complaints I have received have been forwarded to Highways for comment. I'm very grateful to Ambrose Long (Sutton Cheney Parish Councillor) for keeping me well informed.

One issue that continues to be difficult to resolve is at Convent Corner in Stoke Golding. Apparently County Hall has now received the Bond but isn't proposing to do anything until the summer holidays in 2018. That is clearly unacceptable to the majority of the residents who live there and the issue is currently being discussed.

Cabinet met on Tuesday 12th December. Items on the agenda were: The Medium Term Financial Strategy, (This is now out for consultation and you need to respond). Melton Mowbray Distributor Road proposals, Market Harborough Transport Strategy, Progress with implementing the Working Age accommodation strategy, Working Together to build Great Communities, Review of a policy statement from the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act, and a recommended change to Treasury Policy.

On 6.12.17, a full County Council meeting took place. For the first time, a debate was held following a petition containing in excess of 10,000 signatures. The debate revolved around the proposal to close the residential facilities at Maplewell Hall School. The Leader gave a general position statement, the Annual Delivery Report and Performance Compendium was discussed, the Youth Justice Plan approved, and a debate held on Fair Transitional Arrangements for 1950s Women.

Further details and reports for each subject can be found at politics.leics.gov.uk, just type in cabinet reports and agendas.

I chaired the Safer Communities Board on 1.12.17. Items for discussion were the National Probation Service and changes to its role and function, an update on Domestic and Sexual Violence, a Domestic Abuse campaign launched in November, the impact of

the 'Supporting Leicestershire Families programme, an update on the effectiveness of 'Prevent, links between this Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board, and Neighbourhood Watch.

Finally may I wish you all a happy New year.

Ivan Ould
County Councillor for the Market Bosworth Division

County Councillors report – January 2018

General:

I have attended 26 meetings this month, and attended 5 parish council meetings. Unfortunately I missed two parish meetings due to my wife's medical appointment and a clash with the Children in Care council. Casework has expanded, with specific issues involving 5 of the 12 parish councils, and constituent issues numbering 16 in total. Planning and highways, plus who owns what, and the impact of inconsiderate behaviour have been the predominant issues this month

Major meetings that I attended included Cabinet on 9.01.18, chairing the Children's Partnership on 11th, attending the A5 Strategy Group in Market Harborough on 12.01.18, attending Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny on 15th, speaking at a National Conference in London regarding school funding, visiting the Disabled Children's Tem at Coalville, attending the Health & Wellbeing Board on 25th, meeting the police & Crime Commissioner on 30th, attending a meeting regarding an improvement strategy for both the City and County Councils.

Local Issues:

A minor victory occurred, in that the 'Keep Left' signs on the A444 have been replaced at the junction with Watery Lane. Carlton have set me a new target regarding getting a bulb replaced that has been reported ad nauseam. I will do my best.

One local issue that is causing much angst regards planning applications for ancient hedge removal in Shackerstone Parish. I'm not yet fully up to speed on this issue yet, as it involves the Borough Council more than County, but I am aware of public concern over prairie farming and its impact on the landscape and wildlife.

Cabinet met on Tuesday 9th January. Items on the agenda were: The Early Help Review, the School Funding Formula, In-house Fostering Fees review, Adult Social Care Transport policy, Suicide prevention and Stop Suicide campaign. Further details and reports for each subject can be found at politics.leics.gov.uk, just type in cabinet reports and agendas.

Ivan Ould

County Councillor for the Market Bosworth Division

County Councillors report – February 2018

General:

I have attended 28 meetings this month, and also attended 6 parish council meetings.

Major meetings that I attended included Cabinet on 9.01.18, County Council on 21st, feedback from a Peer Review of Special Educational Needs provision in Leics., 3 Strategy Co-ordination meetings, 2 Celebration of Achievement evening events at the Walker's Stadium, Leicester, for Children in our Care, a visit to the Child Protection Team at Loughborough, attending the Regional Migration board in Melton, the launch of the Transgender Toolkit for Schools, (a joint venture with the City), Schools Forum, and attending the Community Engagement Meeting at the George Eliot Hospital to discuss their recent grading 'Requires Improvement' from the Quality Control Commission.

Within the Division I also attended a site meeting in Stoke Golding regarding drainage issues, and formally supported requests from Sheepy Parish Council and Market Bosworth Links Group.

Police Matters:

My guess is that you are already aware of the Market Bosworth Police Facebook page. However, in case you are not, it is well worth a visit and contains information on road traffic accidents, as well as the usual policing matters. I find it very comprehensive and usually visit daily.

Local Issues:

Individual Casework in Parishes currently stands at 5 issues in Witherley, 2 in Sheepy, 2 in Twycross, 2 in Higham, 2 in Stoke Golding, 1 in Cadeby, 3 in Shackerstone, 1 in Market Bosworth, and 2 in Nailstone. Parish Council casework is often more protracted.

I am pleased to report that Carlton's target of last month has been successfully resolved, and that I have involved the Highways Department regarding A5 issues raised with the Chair of Higham Parish Council. I have responded to proposals by Midlands Connect regarding the future development options for the A5. One such option, Number 2, is being opposed by me as this would involve an expressway along the route of the B5000. My formal objections have been copied to Higham, Witherley, and Sheepy Parish Councils. It is pleasing to report there is movement on drainage issues affecting Sutton Cheney Parish Council.

Highways have become involved, at my request, in the damage to verges adjacent to Twycross Zoo and the issues involving the school bus for Market Bosworth Academy.

One local issue that continues to cause much angst regards planning applications for ancient hedge removal in Shackerstone Parish. It would appear that the requirement for me to be impartial could not be delivered, as I'm already on record as stating that I'm against ancient hedgerow removal, and the applicant is constituent of this Division. As such he is entitled to expect me to be impartial, so I have not commented.

Cabinet met on Friday 9th February. Items on the agenda were: The Medium Term Financial Strategy, Delayed Transfers of Care performance update, Fire Safety in Leicestershire Schools, a reconfiguration of In-House Learning Disability residential accommodation, Highways Authority Planning and Charging review, and an item from which the press and public were excluded.

County Council:

This was a one item agenda, the adoption of the Medium Term Financial Strategy based around a council tax increase this year of 5.99%. Although amendments were proposed by the Liberal Democrats, and backed up by Labour, both amendments were lost. Effectively we balance the budget for the next 2 financial years but by 2022 there will have to be a further £13M of cuts to be found.

Further details and reports for each subject can be found at politics.leics.gov.uk, just type in cabinet reports and agendas.

Ivan Ould
County Councillor for the Market Bosworth Division

January/February 2018 Report to Parish Council from Councillor Bill Crooks

Planning

Housing requirement for the Borough now stands at 531 properties per year, which is down from the 610 previously proposed.

The Strategic Growth Plan looks to go out to consultation in January and will take us up to 2050.

The Local Plan, again this will go to consultation in January, but will take us up to 2036.

There were 1500 planning applications processed in the year.

Other information

3.7 million bins are emptied, which covers 48,000 households.

The population of the Borough stands at 112,000. This is made up of 51% Female and 49% Male.

403 staff employed at the Borough Council. The number has stayed the same over the last three years. The workforce is split equally 50/50 Male, Female. 76% are full time employees and the average age is 47 years. There are 2.5% disabled employees and 4.5% ethnic Minority.

A report on these figures is to go to full Council in February giving the Pay Policy for financial grades from the Chief Officer downwards. Recent news advises us that UNISON have turned down the 4% pay rise over two years. Unison are to talk to their members on where to go from here.

The Government is to give Councils the power to charge 100% premium on empty properties. Also new powers to deal with fly tipping which will allow them to fine residents who use unauthorized disposal companies (which cost Councils £57m last year). A fixed penalty for Fly Tipping has already been agreed.

The Council Tax for the Borough as agreed last year will be £5 per household and will continue for 4 years.