

Market Bosworth Parish Council
Public information pack
6 August 2020 Parish Council Meeting

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C Monkman, Parish Clerk, 30 July 2020

ITEM 4 REPORTS

4(a) County Councillor's report

To be forwarded to councillors for information on receipt.

4(d) Parish Clerk – Situation Report

2019-20 Audit: The external auditor has completed the audit for the year ended 31.03.20. An unqualified audit opinion has been given as follows: "On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met". The Notice of Completion of Audit and Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the AGAR have been published on the notice board and website in accordance with statutory requirements.

Car park: HBBC have the chance of some funding for Electric Vehicle charging points. Normally 2 EV points would need 3 spaces. HBBC emailed the Clerk on 15.07.20 to enquire if the Parish Council would support the idea of 2 EV points in Rectory Lane car park, requesting response by the morning of 16.07.20. It was not possible to bring this to full council given the timescale so the Clerk responded that it would make sense to add Rectory Lane CP to the list of sites to be assessed for suitability with no obligation, then if the Rectory Lane CP site is found to be suitable the Parish Council can decide whether it supports the idea of installing 2 EV points or not.

Heath Road Play Area: Works to upgrade a bench have been authorised at a cost of £52.50.

ITEM 6 PLANNING MATTERS

6(a) Planning applications determined:

No additional applications had been determined as at 28.07.20.

6(b) Planning application comments submitted under delegated powers

None.

6(c) New Plans to comment on

None.

ITEM 8 RECOVERY PLAN

Toilet block: The group has not been able to meet since the last Parish Council Meeting due to members being on holiday. However, Mark Hryniw HBBC Town Centre Manager has contacted HBBC's estate and asset management team for advice as to what they would do to reopen the toilet block and to find out whether they can assist - Mark will report back in due course. Also, the cleaning contractor has agreed to reduce the monthly charge for a period of 3 months (normal rate to resume from 1st October 2020) from £312.22 + VAT to £228.00 + VAT. Other developments are that the group has exchanged ideas as follows:

- 1) Screen off the urinals so gents can only use cubicles, thereby improving social distancing.
- 2) Install an outdoor sink and foot pump sanitiser: the majority of feedback on this idea raises concerns about cost of plumbing for outdoor sink, practicalities in cold weather, and placement because wherever they are placed would narrow access to the gents' and/or ladies' facilities.
- 3) Hand sanitiser: wall or foot pump versions could be installed, one in each of the ladies' and gents' facilities.
- 4) Use only one facility and make it unisex: concerns raised as to the fact that even more cleaning would likely be required due to high usage and there would be additional pressure on ability to socially distance if everybody is going to just one side of the building. Vandalism and mess has previously only been in the gents' facilities so there could be risk to the ladies' facilities if this is implemented.
- 5) Remove the railings to widen access. Costly and exposes the facilities to vandalism, the prevention of which was why the railings were installed in the first place.
- 6) The main issue is that additional cleaning is necessary to facilitate reopening and the current cleaning contractor is not available to do this.

ITEM 9 CEMETERY WORKING PARTY REPORT AND MEMORIAL INSCRIPTIONS

9(a) Cemetery working party report

On 28.07.20 Cllrs N Palmer, K Hughes and the Clerk met with Glympton Construction on site to discuss arrangements for commencement of works to construct 3 paths w/c 03.08.20. The work should be completed within the week.

A visual inspection of the cemetery was also carried out on 28.07.20. Findings were noted and have been reported to the Parish Council for consideration especially in relation to renewal of the maintenance contract in January 2021.

9(b) Memorial inscription

The Parish Council has received an enquiry from a memorial mason to say a family is looking at purchasing a plot for interment of ashes for their late mother. The family would like the headstone on the plot to commemorate both their mother and their father although the father will not be interred in the plot. Would this be permissible? Some cemeteries allow such additional inscriptions, others do not because where would one draw the line as to other members of the family?

The Parish Council has not received such a request before hence the matter is being brought to full council for decision in case the same is asked in future. The Parish Council has previously been asked if it is possible to purchase a plot just for a commemorative headstone and the request was refused because otherwise it would be a waste of a plot. In this instance, though, the plot would be being used.

ITEM 11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

11(a) Path and tree quotations

Details of the quotations received have been distributed to Parish Councillors separately for consideration.

Does the Parish Council wish the Clerk to apply for the S106 available (£1,299.00 from the King William pub conversion to flats in 2011 which had no time limit to be claimed and which took several years for HBBC to obtain from the developer) for the Memorial Garden path project?

11 (b) Income received and items of expenditure approved and to approve

Bank balances at 22 July bank statement: Community current account £94,317.56; Business Money Manager account £106,952.31.

Income received:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
HMRC	VAT repayment	£861.90	£0.00	<u>£861.90</u>
				<u>£861.90</u>

Payments made since July PC Meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Market Bosworth DCC (DD)	Office rent	£175.00	£0.00	£175.00
BT (DD)	Telephone and broadband	£191.42	£38.28	£229.70
Premier Company	Toilet block cleaning contract	£228.00	£45.60	£273.60
The Graphic Print	5 x b/w copies of Neighbourhood Plan update	£18.55	£0.00	£18.55
HBBC	Lease of land at Heath Road for play area	£1.00	£0.00	£1.00*
Market Bosworth DCC	Invoice for meeting room hire x 2 in March 2020	£35.63	£0.00	£35.63
PKF Littlejohn LLP	Audit fee	£400.00	£80.00	£480.00
Parish Clerk	Net salary (August)	£1,166.09	£0.00	£1,166.09
Leicestershire County Council	Pension contributions (August)	£401.59	£0.00	£401.59
Around the House	Works to 2 x benches in Memorial Garden	£125.00	£0.00	£125.00
Around the House	Works to 1 x bench in Heath Road Play Area	£52.50	£0.00	<u>£52.50</u>
				<u>£2,958.66</u>

Invoices not yet received for works carried out in July:

Bosworth Groundcare	Maintenance contracts 3 & 4; churchyard mowing
J P Grounds Maintenance	Maintenance contracts 1 & 2
Erud I.T.	Monthly office 364 subscription & support fee

*The Clerk has requested a direct debit form to enable annual payment by direct debit rather than cheque.

ITEM 12 CORRESPONDENCE

12(a) Consultation on LCC Pension Fund's Funding Strategy Statement

The Leicestershire Pension Fund is required to consult with the Fund's employers, including Market Bosworth Parish Council, when it makes changes to the Fund's 'Funding Strategy Statement'. A consultation has been launched in respect of changes relating to exit credits. The relevant consultation document has been forwarded to all councillors for information by email with the emailed agenda for this Parish Council Meeting. Printed copies have not been included for those who have printed agenda packs due to the length of the document. The accompanying bulletin stated:

On the 14 May 2018 Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 were amended to require the Pension Fund pay an exiting employer an exit credit, if it left the scheme in surplus. This was subsequently challenged nationally.

Prior to 14 May 2018 if a Fund employer left the scheme in surplus, this amount remained in the Fund and was used to pay the ongoing future liabilities (pensions and spouse's pensions).

On 8 May 2019, the Government published a policy consultation entitled "Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"): Changes to the Local Valuation Cycle and the Management of Employer Risk" which addressed a number of different aspects of the LGPS, including the issue of exit credits.

In February 2020 the Government issued a partial response to its consultation of 8 May 2019, specifically on the issue of exit credits. The response document summarises the responses received from various Funds and details the revised proposals for changes to the rules on exit credits. These rules were then converted into amending legislation, and on the 20 March 2020 the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2020 came into force, dealing with exit credits. These regulations are backdated to the 14 May 2018.

The new amendment regulations on the 20 March 2020, broadly reverse the position back to the 14 May 2018, via a policy discretion. The policy should be detailed in the FSS.

The proposed changes for the Leicestershire Fund are shown in yellow and these are on pages 16 and 42 to 44 of the attached FSS. If you wish to comment on the proposed changes, please email the Pensions Manager

The consultation takes place between the 20 July and the 31 August 2020.

All comments received during the consultation will be considered and the final version of the FSS will be taken to Pensions Committee for approval in September 2020.

12(b) Correspondence received and distributed for information

Email from Free Church in respect of proposed outdoor service in the Market Place on 09.08.20 at 10.30 am.

Minutes of the July Bosworth in Bloom Committee Meeting.

Notification of formal consultation on Newbold Verdon Neighbourhood Plan.

Leicestershire Highways' electronic Parishes and Communities newsletter, summer edition.

Letter from Dr Luke Evans MP, thanking parish councils for their work during lockdown, enclosing promotional material in respect of how to contact him and a Best Small Shops Competition initiative.

Other correspondence received

Copy correspondence between Carlton Parish Council and the County Council in respect of Bosworth Marina where planning conditions relating to planting have not been met. Acknowledged.

Email from the Market Bosworth Bowling Club to say their application to the Parish & Community Initiative Fund towards a new verticutter was successful. Added to the grant already awarded by the Parish Council and fundraising activities this has enabled the Club to proceed with purchase of the verticutter.

Email expressing concern about the fact that pedestrians are being forced to walk dangerously down the middle of Main Street to ensure social distancing when people are queuing outside the Co-Op. Response has been sent to assure the correspondent that the Parish Council is aware and is working with HBBC and LCC on a solution.

Email expressing dissatisfaction on behalf of the Wednesday Market traders about the fact that the public toilets remain closed. Response has been sent to explain why the facilities remain closed at present and to confirm the Council is looking at options on reopening them.

Email from a local resident expressing concerns about the fact that the Co-Op is now selling newspapers and magazines which could negatively impact on the Newsagent. Response has been sent to confirm that the Parish Council is aware and has written to the Manager accordingly.

Emails from the Scouts and the Guides asking if they can book the Parish Field for regular outdoor meetings. Both groups were under the misunderstanding about ownership of the Field, believing it and the Parish Hall belonged to either the Parish Council or the Church. They had therefore assumed toilet facilities in the hall could be made available with the field. Responses sent to explain that regular bookings are not possible, the field being a public open space without toilet or car parking facilities but there is nothing to stop the groups using the field from time to time as they wish for outdoor activities as per other members of the public.

Notification that Making Tax Digital will become compulsory for all VAT registered entities regardless of turnover (currently only those with turnover exceeding £85k are required to comply) with effect from 1 April 2022, exact date for organisations such as parish councils yet to be determined.