

ST ALBANS PARISH COUNCIL – COUNCILLOR REPORT

For Parish Council Meeting (Date)	May 2024
Submitted by Councillor (Name)	David White

Areas visited and activities undertaken since the last Parish Council meeting:

Community:

Dog Waste:

Excess dog waste and fouling in the Bestwood Lodge Drive area. This is located in a Nottingham City Council Park which is wedged between two sets of houses belonging to Gedling. Liaised with both Councils to see any opportunity in an uplift in maintenance as children are using the area.



Abandoned Vehicles:

Two vehicles abandoned in the Warren and lodge area. [reference 61***2223 and 63***1]

Vandalism:

Bestwood Path number 3 entering country park. Gate damaged by off road bikes. This is further damage to thus gate having been recently repaired. Remedial repairs done and the gate has been fixed temporarily. Work ongoing with Notts Police/Council.

Projects:

Bench & Noticeboard

License for groundwork has been signed off and returned to GBC by hand. On-going planning with contractor. Initial groundwork survey conducted and ground was water logged. Date arranged for work to commence; however, work van was broken into and all tools stolen.

Lecterns Bestwood Country Park – still outstanding, waiting for illustrations from NCC.

Engagement

Warren Primary planter – delayed due to contractor vehicle issue. Compost has been purchased with discussions ongoing with site manager for arrangement to deliver and erect planter ready for the teacher and children to plant. [new date 24/05].

Oakwood School PA system - Residents in the Warren area close to the school have been affected by the PA system the school have. Appears that it is sounding at all hours including weekends/public holidays. Advised on Noise Pollution GBC responsibility. Informal contact made with the school to seek a resolution.

Wildlife:

Contact from resident in respect to GBC spraying. Concerns that breeding birds have died as a result. Enquiries made with GBC and a Vet to establish any thoughts. Vet provided detailed feedback. Alleyways are overgrown so unlikely from spraying – feedback provided.



Fig1. Gate Bestwood Path3



Fig2 Bench Woodchurch Road.

Parish Administration:

Unity Trust Bank [Parish Account]

- a. Payment Grant applications Jolly Garden (Feb), and Bestwood Lodge Tennis Club (Mar). No payment received. Organised to have payments loaded on to the UTB account. Both payments paid in April.
- b. Grant application FoBCP still outstanding.

D-Day Landings Celebration: Agenda Item 533b (April 24) - Ordered made through supplier, organised payment and awaiting delivery. Agenda item can be closed.

Armistice Day Poppies: Agenda Item 339 (July 22) – Ordered 50/100 Poppies. Received with VAT receipt. (50/100 to be ordered).

Parish Asset Register -Liaised with auditor to ensure the Asset Register was updated with items that included the Defibrillator Muirfield Park accounted for.

Risk Assessment – Required as part of the AGAR process and insurance. Conducted full risk assessment of all assets. 2 x Defibrillators are checked monthly, battery maintenance required for Hollies defibrillator (expiry date). 2 x padlocks required to be replaced BLD noticeboard due to rust.

Asset Register cont.- Benches Woodchurch Road x 4 require replacement. All four metal structures are rusted. Wooden section of the seats is damaged from wear and tear. The ground work has worn away leading to all 4 x benches sinking.



Fig3 Bench Woodchurch Road.

Website/Cllr Email

Request to update website directly with website provider. Raised in March six months of draft minutes and also meeting date corrections. This included organising three new Councillors parish email accounts. Outstanding is signing minutes need sending over to website.

New Financial Regulations: Attended Zoom meeting as Chair 22/05 in respect to roll out of the new financial regulations. Detailed and some complex issues as the regulations will not be issued in final draft. This is because individual parishes and town councils will need to adjust to fit their individual requirements.

Community Consultation RCAN – Invitation given to all Cllrs to attend meeting with Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire at the Bestwood Lodge Hotel (10/05). Attended with Cllr. King, Todd and myself. Apologies received by Cllr Jones. Discussed April's meeting and feedback. Outstanding matters to be resolved within the Council which RCAN have assisted chasing within GBC. It is intended to work closely with RCAN who will be able to provide assistance with a future proposal following further resolution with the Council.

Councillor Training – Agenda Item 503a, 519a & 536 (Feb, Mar & April 24) -Date identified for Code of Conduct training agreed, x 2 Cllrs have expressed interest. Cllr training waiting confirmation from training provider for dates. This training is referred to now as **Parish Councillor Training**. This will provide and overview of Cllr role but is also geared as refresher training so is a good fit for all Cllrs.

Any issues identified?

Unity Trust Bank – Requirement for additional Cllrs to play an active role in authorising payments in good time.

Actions to be taken?

Cllrs. Have been invited to apply for access, two responses to date.

Training: Courses offered to Cllrs including Code of Conduct – 2 expressions of interest. Further Cllr training dates requested, awaiting response from training provider.

<p>Activities planned before the next Parish Council meeting:</p> <p>Drafting finance reserve policy in support of future capital projects to be presented at parish council meeting. (Community consultation).</p>	<p>Consultation with residents on issues concerns including Parish and Local Authority representation. Many issues raised by residents including community cohesion/projects and long-term ambitions.</p>
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