



Balderton Parish Council Amenities Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 13th August 2025 at 7pm

Attendees:

Balderton Parish Councillors: Vanessa Bracegirdle, Ronalie Bright, Jane Buxton, Mandie Elson (Chair), Jean Hall, Debbie Moore and Joy Sellars

Staff: James Brown (Head Groundsman), Marion Fox Goddard (Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer)

Public: 0 residents joined the meeting

Meeting agenda pack with reports can be found on our website:

<https://www.baldertonparishcouncil.gov.uk>

25. Declarations to record the meeting

The clerk recorded the meeting.

26. Apologies for absence - Karen Callingham, Roy Fairbairn, Simon Forde

27. Declarations of interest

Jean Hall – Newark and Sherwood District Council Councillor.

28. Public Open Forum

No residents joined the meeting.

29. Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on April 9th, 2025

The minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate record and Councillor Elson duly signed them.

30. Clerk's update¹

The following report was noted. (*See italics for updates during the meeting*)

	Item	Update
1	Lake	Covenant – Clerk will bring a report to full council – date to be confirmed. See items 31 and 32.
2	Allotments	We have one half plot that is in the process of being relet. We have 9 Balderton residents on the waiting list.
3	Church Wall	We are waiting for permission (known as the faculty) for the works from the diocese. We had planned 2 days preparing the site in July, but this

¹ Note: *Italics indicate where report has been updated (verbal during meeting) since agenda pack issued.*

	Item	Update
		was deferred until the faculty is in place. A National Lottery application for funding will be submitted as soon as possible.
4	Memorial safety testing/Cemetery management.	<p>Memorials that failed the hand tests in the cemetery have been rechecked. 17 have been fixed by the memorial owners. Another letter has been sent to the registered owners where we have contact details. There are notices and stakes on all the unstable memorials to keep them safe whilst waiting for owners to rectify.</p> <p>2 sets of gates have been repainted.</p>
5	Village Centre	<p>Meeting due to be arranged with Cllr Fairbairn to progress work identified in the Disability Access Survey for the Village Centre and Coronation Street Park.</p> <p>The repairs to electronic main gate at Coronation Street Park which were started in May led to a further issue being found which, due to the age of the system, required a new motor to be ordered. The lead time on this is 6 weeks. It is hoped this will be delivered and installed this month.</p> <p>Fire extinguisher checks have been completed.</p> <p>Electrical works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The alarmed pull cords have been replaced in the Village Centre and changing rooms disabled toilets – these now have visible LED and audible alarm should a user need to pull the cord to seek assistance. ii. The lights in the Village Centre and changing rooms disabled toilets have been changed to PIR (Passive Infrared). iii. The external lights on the Dance School have been upgraded to LED iv. The 3 stores off the main hall have new LED lights. v. 12 emergency lights failed the routine 3-hour tests last month, so these have been replaced.
6	Litter pick	The litter pick on Sunday 6 th July was a success. <i>January 25th 10am to noon - next litter pick.</i>
7	Bowling Green	The watering system leak has been fixed.

31. Notes from Grove Angling Club meeting held on 23rd July 2025

The committee noted the draft notes. Prior to the meeting the club had confirmed that draft copy notes are a true and proper record and are suitable to publish on our website.

32. Update on Balderton Lake

The committee noted the following update:

The grounds team have done a significant amount of work fixing pegs and steps down to the pegs since the last Amenities Committee meeting.

The Head Groundsman has researched natural ways (coir rolls/matting systems) to tackle bank erosion and to procure plants, bulbs, and seeds for the lake site, following the recommendations of the EMEC Ecology report. Councillors and staff due to meet to discuss which areas of the lake to prioritise. In the 2025/2026 budget, £12,000 was allocated for improvements on this site.

Signage has been procured for Heron Way car park and the Pump Pond and is due to be installed (see the following 2 pages for images). There has been some young people fishing at the Pump Pond. We have reported this to the local beat team (Nottinghamshire Police), and they are patrolling the area. The signage includes who to report issues to including contact numbers. Councillors are requested to remind people to report issues to the relevant body every time:

- antisocial behaviour - call 101 (police) or online form at <https://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/>
- poaching - call 0800 807060 (Environment Agency 24-hour line) and 101 police
- any damage around the lake - email office@baldertonparishcouncil.gov.uk

During the meeting, the Head Grounds man updated the committee on the significant amount of work the grounds staff have done to repair pegs and steps around the lake. Cllr Elson thanked him for all the hard work on this, and the Head groundsman said the majority had done by his colleagues whilst he had been doing other works. A query was raised regarding whether hay bales would be used in the lake this year; due to the small amount of duckweed this was felt as unnecessary. The Clerk asked everyone to report any significant changes this year.

33. VJ Day 80 – 15th August 2025

Cllr Buxton and the Clerk briefed Councillors on the imminent 80th Anniversary of Victory Over Japan Day Commemorative event and Beacon Lighting, bringing together veterans and residents to reflect and remember the courage, resilience, and sacrifice of those who served on every front in World War 2.

34. Correspondence

- a. Cricket – The council noted that Balderton Cricket Club have applied to the Rural England Prosperity Fund for the artificial wicket plus a batting cage

The meeting closed at 19.45pm