Balderton Parish Council

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 at 7pm in the large hall of Balderton Village Centre, Coronation Street, Balderton, NG24 3BD

Attendees:

Balderton Parish Councillors: Vanessa Bracegirdle, Ronalie Bright, Jane Buxton (Chair), Karen Callingham, Martyn Cox, Mandie Elson, Roy Fairbairn, Jean Hall, Debbie Moore, Dean Scott, Joy Sellars

District & County Councillors: Simon Forde and Kay Smith

Officer Support: Interim/Locum Parish Clerk, Sharon Pyke and Administrative Officer, Clare Hemsley

Public: 1

Meeting agenda pack with reports can be found on our website: https://www.baldertonparishcouncil.gov.uk Blue underlined text indicates hyperlinks in this document take online readers to relevant information online.

250. Welcome

The Chair welcomed those present. A reminder was given that the meeting would be recorded in support of minute taking.

251. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rutkowska

252. Interests

Councillor Hall declared a general interest as they also serve as a District Councillor

253. Co-option

a) The applications from the four candidates were **NOTED** along with confirmation from the Locum Clerk that they were valid applications
b) Each candidate made a short representation and answered Councillors' questions
c) A vote to elect three new Councillors proceeded, Councillors Jakub Hague, James Hague and Leigh Marshall were elected. A thank-you was extended to the unsuccessful applicant for their interest in democracy and wanting to serve Balderton residents
d) Councillors Jakub Hague, James Hague and Leigh Marshall signed their acceptance of office forms, received their copies of the Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders.

Councillors proceeded to take their place around the table so that the meeting could proceed.

254. Public Forum

The following representation was made regarding the Lowfield development. Whilst the resident has a good working relationship with the site manager, it appears that the developer does not want to use Mead Way as a transport route. The resident considers that the developer has breached planning conditions because of the number of vehicles accessing the site. This is having a detrimental effect on immediate residents some of whom are putting their houses up for sale, there have been some near miss accidents and materials coming off the vehicles causing damage. Immediate residents can't enjoy simple pleasures such as being in their gardens. The small pond is overflowing but the good news is that the birds are back at the big pond. Path 13 needs clearing up. NSDC Councillor Forde said part of the issue is that the developer has not been found to having broken any of its planning conditions. NSDC Councillor Hall continued to be available to the resident to take up matters.

255. County and District Councillors' Reports

NSDC Councillor Forde talked to his report which had been circulated to Council and outlined the three year project that NSDC Councillors Forde and Hall had been working to implement and progress a 40 point plan. In essence a Neighbourhood Plan framework. Eight points are completed while 22 are approved and have funding so are in various stages of progress. The remainder require funding and are not solely for NSDC to implement. Whatever the outcome of the Local Government Review, there is a plan that can be progressed.

NSDC Councillor Smith said she is still finding her feet but active with resident issues. The Local Government Review is on track.

NSDC Councillor Hall outlined that she had conducted an 'estate walk' of her ward which included identifying housing needs. She had also attended Prevent training, Neighbourhood Planning sessions, the Commonwealth Service, taken part in a community litter pick and attended RCAN's Community Hall funding workshop. The Council's application to renew the designation of Flowserve sporting site as an Asset of Community Value had been unsuccessful as the lapse of time hosting sports at the site had been too long. This green space is afforded other protections.

County Councillor Smith sent his apologies because of attendance at a Planning Committee meeting.

The locum Clerk enquired whether the previously circulated report to Council from County Councillor Lee should be read out and were there any questions? The response was no.

256. Minutes

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of 25 February 2026 meeting were an accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes as confirmation.

257. Parish Councillors' Report

Councillor Buxton attended the Commonwealth Service held at St Giles Church, the Health Advisory Committee Board (one of the takeaways was that there would be no A&E at Newark Hospital), a National Association of Local Councils (NALC) session on Local Government

Reorganisations and had attended Nottinghamshire County Council's online grant funding session which would be re-run as an attendance event at the Village Hall on 22 April 2026.

Councillor Callingham also attended the Commonwealth Service and attended briefing sessions relating to the Local Government Review and Neighbourhood Planning. She had also taken part in the community litter pick along with fellow Councillors.

258. Finance

a) The payments made in December 2025 were **VERIFIED**
b) The bank reconciliations for December 2025 were **APPROVED**
c) The payments made in January 2026 were **VERIFIED**
d) The bank reconciliations for January 2026 were **APPROVED**
e) The Clerk's bank logon and multi-factor authentication arrangements were **APPROVED** to be transferred to the locum Clerk

259. Financial Regulations

The Financial Regulations were **APPROVED** for adoption

260. Financial Risk Register

Council noted that areas of risk had increased which were primarily due to a lack of sufficiently experienced and qualified resource. This topic has been raised at Personnel & Policy Committee along with an action plan. The updated Financial Risk Register was **APPROVED** with a desire to see how the increased areas of risk would be addressed.

261. IT Policy

The IT Policy was **APPROVED** for adoption

262. Assertion 10

The locum Clerk outlined the work completed to date and would update the document to reflect the Council's adoption of the IT Policy. This places the Council in a positive position in terms of this assertion although it is anticipated that the requirements in meeting this assertion will likely increase over the coming years.

263. Insurance

a) To approve the vehicular insurance charge of £1,128.98 + £783.37 for engineering and construction insurance which are under brokerage agreements
b) To approve the insurance charge of £5,754.50 for the Council's assets and cover relating to its operations as a Council, an employer, and public facing responsibilities. It was noted that the charge is in the second year of a long-term agreement.
c) It was **AGREED** to delegate the checking and confirmation of the insurance documentation to the Clerk and Councillors Fairbairn and James Hague

264. Lake

The report was noted and the contractor was **AGREED** should the aquatic weed reappear over the summer.

265. Grant Application

The locum Clerk confirmed that the Council had in a previous year supported a DAaRT programme grant application request and that the budget for grant funding had been awarded. It was **AGREED** to make a £325 grant award from next year's budget.

266. Local Government Re-organisation Consultation

As the closing date for the consultation was the following day, the Administrative Officer took Council through the consultation so that the responses could be submitted online.

Councillor Moore left the meeting

267. Planning

To consider the following planning applications/consultations (Balderton Parish Council is a consultee). Newark and Sherwood District Council is the planning authority that will decide on whether permission is granted):

a) 25/02030/HOUSE
25 Christopher Crescent, NG24 3BS - Proposed single storey rear extension
No comment

b) 26/00277/OUT
Cromwell House, 11 Bullpit Road - Outline planning permission for the erection of two detached dwellings with all matters reserved except access
Objection based upon highway concerns and insufficient parking provision per house

c) 26/00315/FUL
St Giles Church Hall, 43 Main Street - Replace the windows to the Community Hall
Support

268. Planning Inspectorate

It was **NOTED** that such infrastructure is needed and that Council awaits the receipt of further information from Cadent Gas Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire

269. Planning Appeal

The appeal dismissal by the Planning Inspectorate of 25/00126/FUL at 207 London Road, NG24 3HB for the proposed change of use of an existing family dwellinghouse (Class C3) into children's care home (Class C2) was **NOTED**

270. Annual Parish Council Meeting

It was **AGREED** to move the Annual Parish Council meeting from 13 May to 20 May 2026

271. Correspondence

There was no correspondence

272. Exempt Business

It was **AGREED** under the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 - Staffing Matters

273. The exempt notes from 25 February were **APPROVED** and signed

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274. The locum Clerk's contract was **APPROVED** and signed

275. An update on Staffing Matters was provided

Meeting Closed at: 9.31pm

Chairman (name): _____

Chairman (signature): _____

Date: _____

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