

Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Baldersby and Baldersby St James held at 18:00 on 30th May 2023 at The Mission Room, Baldersby

Attendees: Cllr Hart (Chair), Cllr Brown, Cllr Shaw, The Clerk and two members of the public.

1. Apologies.
Apologies had been received from Cllr Whitham and County Cllr Brown
2. To note the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May 2022
The minutes were duly noted and authorised by the Chair.
3. Report by Councillor John Hart , Chairman Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council
The report is attached as Appendix 1.
4. Financial Report by Keith Pettitt, Parish Clerk and RFO, Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council
The RFO reported that the opening balance for the year was £10,950.13 and the closing balance was £5,406.26. the main reason for the drop in reserves was the purchase of the VAS equipment for £4,905, currently installed on the A61. This had proved successful in slowing the traffic down on the 30-mph section of the road. He also noted that the cost of grass cutting had increased by approximately £800 during the year. Maintenance work on the play area had also accounted for an additional cost of £570. The Accounts are attached as Appendix 2.
5. Questions from the floor.
There were no questions from the floor.
6. Date of next meeting.
The next meeting would take place between 1st March 2024 – 1st June 2024.

The meeting closed at 6:17

Appendix 1

Baldersby & Baldersby St James Parish Council

Chairman's report for Annual meeting on 30th May 2023

Introduction

I would like to start off by thanking my fellow Parish Councillors for their hard work over the last year; I'm pleased to report that last Summer we co-opted Peter Whitham which brought our number up to the full five places that we are allocated. I am very sorry to report that in March our long serving councillor and valued colleague, Stuart Carter died – he will be greatly missed by us and the wider community. Happily, Anthony Wilson who lives in Baldersby St James has kindly agreed to be co-opted onto the council and we look forward to welcoming him at the next meeting.

Baldersby Speeding Measures.

This had emerged as a key issue for many residents, and I am pleased to report that after managing our way through the various processes required by the Highways Department, our own speed awareness equipment was installed in January of this year. The overall cost of more than £4,000 made it the most expensive unfunded expenditure this council has ever undertaken which meant we had to dip into our reserves. Allied to regular visits by the police speed monitoring units, many residents have noted an improvement in the attitude of drivers using the A61 through our village.

Precept

During the year, we carefully reviewed the precept for 2023/24 which despite the high expenditure on our new speeding equipment was only increased by £290 to £6,120. Due to the increase in the number of properties in our parish, I am pleased to report that all residents experienced a small reduction in their annual precept which is no mean achievement given current inflation rates.

Village School

After many decades of having a primary school located in our parish, our School in Baldersby St James closed last September. Valiant attempts to resist this unwelcome development were made by various parishioners - the considerable efforts of the various action groups which were formed were much appreciated by many people but in the end the owners of the building exercised their right to take back their building.

Playing Field & Pavilion

Further attention has been given during the past 12 months to the playing field which, we are very grateful, continues to be made available to residents for uses that the owners are willing to accept. In addition, the future of the pavilion sited on the playing field has also been further considered. Pending firm decisions being taken on the long-term future, remedial work to preserve the building from further deterioration has been carried out. I record here our thanks to the pavilion subcommittee for their diligent work. The play equipment on the playing field which is available to all our residents continues to be looked after and repaired by the Parish Council who in addition ensure the grass is regularly cut.

Proposed change to weight restrictions between Wards Corner & Asenby and Other issues

In Autumn 2021, HBC made us aware of proposals they were making to end the weight restriction on Wide Howe Lane between Wards Corner and Asenby. The Parish Council recognised that allowing unrestricted use of this minor road to large commercial vehicles would have damaging effects to the way of life of many of our residents and we wrote to HBC resisting this change in the strongest terms. We have recently learnt that these proposals have been dropped so I am pleased to report that this matter has finally been fully put to bed. Other issues that have been successfully dealt with in the past 12 months include the siting of new public waste bins and some residents' over hanging shrubs where, I am pleased to report, the required action to ensure our footpaths are kept clear was taken in all cases.

Planning Applications

We have dealt with a number of applications throughout the year, supporting those that were appropriate and objecting on behalf of the residents to those which would not maintain the character of the Parish. A number of parishioners made representations against proposed changes at the Baldersby Nursery (Old Baldersby Station) and I am pleased to report that after BPC raised its objections, these proposals have been withdrawn.

Litter Pick

Our annual Litter pick took place in March; I am pleased to say the event was well supported with approx 18 residents getting involved, around 36 bags of litter were collected and the outcome is we have a much cleaner local environment.

Platinum Jubilee & Coronation Day Celebrations

Following a leaflet drops around every household, a community picnic took place on the village green on the afternoon of Sundays 5th June 2022 & 7th May 2023. These occasions were well supported which indicates there is an appetite from our residents for village social events. In the case of the recent Coronation Day event, thanks must go to Sylvia Thane and various other parishioners who helped to make it happen.

Parish Clerk & Parish Council website

I take this opportunity to record my thanks to our Parish Clerk, Keith Pettitt who has established himself at the heart of all our activities - we are most appreciative of the high-class services which he provides to this Parish. I am very pleased Keith stuck with Baldersby when he recently decided to reduce the number of his Parish Clerk appointments. It is worthy of note that during the past 12 months Keith has assisted with the creation of a new Parish Council website which I am sure will serve us and the community well in future years.

General Outlook

What continues to remain at the heart of everything we do is we try to listen to our residents and to seek to support them where appropriate. I have every confidence that with the benefit of our current team, we will continue being able to successfully strive at trying to ensure the interests of our residents are best served.

John B Hart

30th May 2023

Appendix 2

Baldersby Parish Council				
<u>Total Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31/03/2023</u>				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Previous year
Receipts				
Precept	5,830.00	-	5,830.00	5,660.00
Bank Interest	-	-	-	
NYCC	-	-	-	
HBC	-	-	-	
VAT Refund	1,127.89	-	1,127.89	364.18
Commuted Sums/CIL	-	-	-	
Bowling Club	-	-	-	
Cemetery	-	-	-	
Other	200.00	-	200.00	11.77
Total receipts	7,157.89	-	7,157.89	6,035.95
Payments				
Salary and related costs	2,219.66	-	2,219.66	1,606.05
Office expenses	126.64	-	126.64	76.95
Audit Fees	50.00	-	50.00	
Training	-	-	-	
Membership/Subscriptions	133.00	-	133.00	130.00
Insurance	429.55	-	429.55	411.48
IT	-	-	-	15.56
Room Hire	90.00	-	90.00	80.00
Grasscutting	3,378.00	-	3,378.00	2,570.00
Community	-	-	-	
Playground	649.20	-	649.20	72.00
Sports Pavilion	677.21	-	677.21	388.54
Misc.	43.50	-	43.50	-
Defibrillator	-	-	-	150.00
Donation	-	-	-	25.00
Christmas Lights	-	-	-	231.60
Football Goals	-	-	-	325.98
VAS	4,905.00	-	4,905.00	
Total payments	12,701.76	-	12,701.76	6,083.16
Net receipts / (payments)	(5,543.87)	-	(5,543.87)	(47.21)
Transfer	-	-	-	
Balance brought forward	-	10,950.13	10,950.13	10,956.34
Balance carried forward	(5,543.87)	10,950.13	5,406.26	10,909.13
Made up of:				
Virgin Money	5,406.26			
Score deposits held	-			
Cash float	-			
Spare	-			
	5,406.26			-