

BRICKHILL

PARISH COUNCIL



2018/19 - 5

Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 6th September 2018 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Blakeman, Johns, Seymour, Cross, Holloway, Jarman-Webb, Bailes, Retout, Borough Councillor S Corp and the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms) were in attendance.

Absent: Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Bowler, Reeve, Ward, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden, Rider and Borough Councillor Moon.

1.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence:</u></p> <p>Cllrs Mark Fitzpatrick, Mark Bowler, Ann Reeve, Cathrine Ward, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden, Wendy Rider and Borough Councillor Stephen Moon.</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Fitzpatrick, Cllr Blakeman chaired the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</u></p> <p>i) <u>To receive written requests for a dispensation:</u> None received.</p> <p>ii) <u>To consider any requests for a dispensation:</u> None received.</p>	
3.	<p><u>To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th July 2018:</u></p> <p>The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Public Open Session (15 mins):</u></p> <p>None.</p>	

5. **Financial Matters: To consider and agree action:**i) To approve bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment:

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Chris Horne	BACS 40	£ 180.00	Rotivate Wildflower Meadow WG
Mike De Boyer	BACS 41	£ 80.00	PA System etc GOTG 18
Home Counties Toilet Hire	BACS 42	£ 456.00	Toilet Hire GOTG 18
Matthew Garrett	BACS 43	£ 365.00	Magic GOTG 18
Face Painting Magic	BACS 44	£ 150.00	Face Painting GOTG 18
NB Removals	BACS 45	£ 60.00	Van Hire GOTG 18
Bradley Gumble	BACS 46	£ 700.00	Teacup Rides
Jay Rollins	BACS 47	£ 280.00	Circus Skills
Glitter-arty	BACS 48	£ 110.00	Face Painting GOTG 18
Milhouse Marquees	BACS 49	£ 1,425.25	Marquee Hire GOTG 18
Friend of the Raptor Foundation	BACS 50	£ 100.00	Birds of Prey GOTG 18
Sundorne Bouncy Castles	BACS 51	£ 345.00	Bouncy Castles GOTG 18
St Johns Ambulance	BACS 52	£ 138.00	First Aid GOTG 18
British Telecom	DD	£ 87.24	Broadband Charges
J Mrehwa	BACS 53	£ 12.00	Refund for Allotment Keys
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£ 5,568.10	Salaries July
Shaun Reilly	BACS 54	£ 931.00	Allotment Work

John O Connor	BACS 55	£	1,140.00	White Line Markings
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 56	£	1,087.90	Grounds Maintenance
Rialtas Business Solutions	BACS 58	£	142.50	Alpha Software Support
Bamboo Data	DD	£	19.35	Telephone Charges
White Hart Press	BACS 57	£	638.00	Newsletter Printing
Rialtas Business Solutions	BACS 59	£	142.50	Allotment Software Support
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 60	£	228.33	Office and Hall Hire
Wave	BACS 70	£	210.01	Water at Allotments
Expresslines	BACS 61	£	160.00	Trip to Aqua Park
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£	5,069.78	Salaries August
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£	25.20	Payroll Provision
A Ward	1222	£	30.00	Newsletter Deliveries
J Mbanje	1223	£	30.00	Newsletter Deliveries
NPower	BACS 62	£	41.96	Electricity for the fountain
Otis Ltd	BACS 63	£	544.71	Lift Repairs
Otis Ltd	BACS 64	£	4,634.88	B Community Centre - oil leak
Mazars	BACS 65	£	480.00	Audit Fee
Came & Co	BACS 66	£	1,287.18	Annual Insurance
NPower	BACS 67	£	30.10	Electricity for the Fountain
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£	18.52	Telephone Charges

St Marks Church Community Cent	BACS 68	£ 196.33	Office Rental, Hall Hire	
S Bottoms	BACS 69	£ 34.99	Expenses	
Highline Adventure	BACS 71	£ 634.50	Spider Mountain GOTG	
	Total Payments	£ 27,634.33		
<p>ii) <u>To consider a donation to Brickhill Scouts of £40 for the use of the Scout Hut: It was resolved</u> to make a payment of £40 for the use of the Scout Hut during the Summer Bushcraft Activity.</p> <p>iii) <u>To note the signing off by Mazars of the Annual Return:</u> It was noted that no issues had been identified by the external auditor. The Clerk agreed to put the formal notice on the boards and the website as well as the complete AGAR.</p> <p>iv) <u>To note the review of the insurance cover:</u> The Clerk reported that she had reviewed the policy and was of the view that it covered the assets and responsibilities of the parish council.</p>				<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>6. <u>To receive an update by Cllr Bailes on Woodlands Park and agree further action:</u></p> <p>i) <u>Vehicle Break-ins / Police response</u></p> <p>Cllr Bailes reported that on the evening of the 6th of August, a lone individual entered the estate on a bicycle at around 3am and spent little over an hour trying car doors and where able to effect entry, ransacked the cars taking small high-value items such as wallets and cash. At one point on his rampage he abandoned an emptied wallet and defecated on the drive of one resident.</p> <p>A total of 7 people made themselves known to Cllr Bailes the following day, raising (or attempting to raise) at least 5 crime reports. Three had captured private CCTV video and in at least one case, the video was clear enough to identify the individual.</p> <p>The police have failed to tie together the reports and make any appreciable contact with the victims. None of the reference numbers appeared on the crime report published to the parish council. Cllr Bailes said that he will continue to attempt to co-ordinate the handover of key video evidence from residents to the police.</p> <p>Residents were given the run-around by 101 service where crime reference numbers were refused, reports were not associated and residents were told either their video was of no use or that their complaint was the only one despite three related incidents within 20 reported incident numbers.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Chief Constable and the Police Crime Commissioner to express the Parish Council's disappointment in the poor intelligence handling by 101.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>			

ii) **Dogs on Leads Signs - Bridleway**

CLlr Bailes had been disappointed to hear from Andy Cooper at the borough council that in order to add a location to a PSPO, the order itself would have to be varied and the borough council are not making any further variations to the current order as that ends in July 2019.

Prior to this order ending, the borough council will look at whether it needs to add any new locations to an extension of the order and this location has been added to the list for consideration. Unfortunately given the work needed to undertake a variation of an order and the time it takes it is not practical to make variations on a regular basis.

CLlr Bailes has requested that Andy Cooper of the borough council reconsider this on the basis that the proposed protected route along the bridleway from Anjulita Court to Westrope Way is a busy pedestrian route for some of the most vulnerable residents of Woodlands Park.

iii) **Adoption / other projects progress**

No further progress made this month. It does not appear that estate adoption is any closer, therefore progress on these issues cannot proceed at this time. There does not appear to have been any material on-the-ground progress in adoption in over 20 months. I am attempting to organise a meeting with the Borough Council and Persimmon to explore routes to better co-operation both before and during adoption.

iv) **General Woodlands Park snagging lists**

There remain 18 open actions, three of which date back some considerable way. 3 actions have been closed this month and 1 added.

The majority of requests were highly seasonal; dog-on-leads signs for the Anjulita-Westrope bridleway, no fishing signs for the balancing pools, and mowing of estate grass and country park grasslands.

v) **Woodlands Park Litter Pick**

CLlr Bailes reported that the litter pick had been well supported by local ward councillors and residents on what was one of the hottest days of the summer.

In all, 5 full sacks were removed from the entrance to the estate and the country park. A very good effort, well done by all!

vi) **Littering by Users of Football Pitches**

A resident contacted the ward councillors regarding the state that the pitches are left in after formally organised weekend football matches. She had to collect a significant number of empty plastic bottles from on and around the pitches. After directing her to Paul Pace at Borough Hall, an extremely encouraging response was received.

Mr Pace advised he would be identifying the teams and writing to their captains to advise that any further littering by the teams would result in them being denied access to the pitches until such time that they had convinced the Borough Council that they have a plan in place to mitigate littering by teams and their support.

7.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Borough Councillors:</u></p> <p>The written reports from the Brickhill Borough Councillors and the Great Barford Borough Councillors were received. Both sets of councillors were thanked for providing reports and the Clerk agreed to arrange for them to be placed on the website.</p>	Clerk
8.	<p><u>To note that the parish council has signed the lease for the remaining strip of Waveney Green:</u></p> <p>The Clerk reported that this had now been signed by Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Blakeman and that the Clerk would return to it HCB Park Woodfine. Once the lease has been signed by Bedford Borough Council and a copy returned to the parish council, the Clerk will seek permission from the borough council to install a footpath linking Francis Groves Close with the main footpaths across Waveney Green. A quotation for this work has already been approved by the parish council.</p>	Clerk
9.	<p><u>To agree to formally request of Bedfordshire Police that Woodlands Park be officially covered by the Bedford Urban Policing Team:</u></p> <p>Cllr Bailes said that the poor response to the vehicle break-ins on 6th August (as per item 6i above) was partly exacerbated by police staffing/leave arrangements, but to a much greater extent the changing of Woodlands Park rural policing arrangements from PC Kerry Jones at Riseley Station to PC Charlotte Norris (6270) at Biggleswade.</p> <p>PC Jamie Goodrum (8122) asserted that the rural policing arrangements had been changed in Feb/Mar 2018 and all Parish Councillors notified. Checking with Cllr Fitzpatrick, this critical change had not been notified to Brickhill Parish Council. More alarmingly, while Borough Councillors for Great Barford had appreciated the change of personnel, they had not been notified of the change of location/responsibility.</p> <p>Servicing Woodlands Park from Biggleswade Police Station rather than Lime Street Police Station is absurd; it is highly unlikely rural officers will travel from Biggleswade to this outer extreme of the Great Barford ward to support the local community on anything other than an infrequent basis. Cllr Bailes has complained personally to Inspector Masters but has received no response.</p> <p>It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Chief Constable to express the disappointment of the parish council at the lack of notification of fundamental changes to critical arrangements for Woodlands Park and to make a recommendation in the strongest possible terms that Woodlands Park be included in the local policing arrangements for Brickhill.</p>	Clerk
10.	<p><u>To request that Bedford Borough Council include the green at top of Brickhill Drive to be covered in a high court injunction to prevent unauthorised encampments:</u></p> <p>In their report, Cllrs Royden and Rider had said that following the injunction for Waveney Green which the High Court had awarded, they were now seeking an injunction to give the same level of protection for the land off Brickhill Drive where there had been another disgusting encampment over the summer.</p> <p>It was resolved that the parish council would give the borough council their support.</p>	Clerk

11.	<p><u>To consider the status of the proposed works to the lighting at the Brickhill Community Centre and agree any action:</u></p> <p>The Clerk provided an update. She had requested permission from Bedford Borough Council to undertake the work and was awaiting approval. She had also written to bpha to request permission to install one of the two proposed lighting columns on their land at the entrance to the car park as well as running a cable along their garages to join up with the electricity cable running from the community centre which powers the lights already located on the garages.</p>	Clerk
12.	<p><u>To consider and agree action regarding a litter pick or bulb planting community event:</u></p> <p>It was resolved to delay the decision to the October meeting as there were not many councillors present at this meeting.</p>	Clerk
13.	<p><u>To consider and agree action regarding correspondence from Bedford Borough Council re: Empty Homes – Proposed Compulsory Purchase Action – 1 Frampton Court, Severn Way, Bedford, MK41 7BZ:</u></p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk should respond to say that the parish council were neither in favour nor against this as a number of parish councillors felt that they did not have enough background knowledge to make an informed decision.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p><u>To review the list of outstanding matters and agree any further action:</u></p> <p>This was reviewed. Cllr Blakeman thanked the Clerk on behalf of the parish council for another successful Gathering on the Green in July this year.</p>	
15.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>Thursday 4th October 2018 at 7:30pm at St Mark’s Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY.</p>	

.....Approved by Chairman
4th October 2018