

BRICKHILL

PARISH COUNCIL



2014/15 – 8

Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 8th January 2015 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Blakeman, Rider, Wilkins, Crofts, Chrusciak, Reeve, Charles Royden, Ward and the Clerk, Sue Bottoms were in attendance.

Absent: Cllrs Waterhouse, and Corinne Royden.

1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Waterhouse and Corinne Royden sent their apologies. It was resolved to accept these.	
2.	Resignation of Cllr Mulvenney: Cllr Fitzpatrick noted with regret the decision of Sheila Mulvenney to resign and the parish councillors expressed their thanks for her work during her period on the Parish Council.	
3.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda i) <u>To receive written requests for a dispensation:</u> none received. ii) <u>To consider any requests for a dispensation:</u> none received.	
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting: It was resolved: to approve the minutes of 6 th November 2014 as a true record of the meeting.	
5.	Public Open Session (10 mins): None.	
6.	To receive an update and agree action regarding the proposal for Brickhill Parish Council to fund the installation of solar panels on the Brickhill Community Centre: Following advice from BATPC, it was resolved that Cllr Fitzpatrick should obtain quotes for the work.	Cllr Fitzpatrick
7.	To receive an update regarding the Woodlands Park Working Group: The Clerk and Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the Group had met twice and had continued to narrow down the original list of suggestions which had been received from the Woodlands Park residents. Some of the original suggestions were the responsibility of the Borough Council and some, for example noticeboards, were thought the responsibility of the Parish Council once the Woodlands Park area became part of the Brickhill Parish on the 1 st April 2015. In the case of some projects, there might be the possibility of applying for grants towards the cost. It was resolved that at the next meeting of the Group, a comprehensive list of projects be identified on which the £20,000 could be spent and that the Group members be asked to take ownership of the ideas by being willing to investigate options and pricing. It was hoped that the Group could meet before the next	Clerk Cllr Fitzpatrick

	Parish Council meeting and a list of projects could then be voted on by the Parish Council.	
8.	<u>To receive an update on the latest version of the proposed Local Council Award Scheme:</u> The Clerk reported that this had now been launched. There are to be three levels; foundation, quality and quality gold. It was resolved to register for foundation status which is at no cost to existing quality parish councils. This lasts until January 2016. After the elections, the Parish Council can decide whether to work towards fulfilling the criteria of the Award Scheme.	Clerk
9.	<u>To receive an update regarding the Pensioner's Christmas Party:</u> The Clerk reported that this had been a success with 43 out of the 45 invited able to attend. The food was complemented on and Beauchamp Middle School choir provided great entertainment. Thanks to Alison Southern for her help on the day. Unfortunately no parish councillors had been able to attend and the Clerk asked that next year the date chosen for the party is one on which some parish councillors are available.	
10.	<u>To receive an update from Will Sparrow regarding youth project in the Parish:</u> Concern was expressed about the lack of contact regarding progress. There had been no attendance at the recent CSF meeting. It was resolved that the Clerk contact Will Sparrow/ Borough Council to express concern and to stress that until results were forthcoming, there was to be no expenditure on an end of term trip.	Clerk
11.	<u>To consider/agree action regarding submission to BBC of sites as protected green spaces:</u> Bedford Borough Council are currently preparing the Local Plan 2032. The National Planning Policy Framework introduced a new form of protection for green areas of Local Green Spaces. It was resolved that the Parish Council request the following areas: Waveney Green (both the area looked after by Brickhill Parish Council, but also the Borough-owned area between our area and Francis Groves Close), Robin Hill, Merlin Gardens, Falcon Avenue (the area between the two roadways up to Hawk Drive), green space at the top of Brickhill Drive (both sides of the road: one between Goldcrest Way and Brickhill Drive, the other between Brickhill Drive and the allotments), 'Brickhill House' site - the two areas: one between Brickhill Drive and Plover Way, the second on the other side of Plover Way. Finally, Rooksmead green (where the pond is).	Clerk
12.	<u>To receive an update/agree action regarding publication of a statement regarding the discretionary aspects of the LGPS rules and regulations:</u> This item was deferred to the February agenda.	Cllr Fitzpatrick
13.	<u>To receive a verbal report from Borough Councillors:</u> Cllr Charles Royden reported that there had been concern about a spate of burglaries in Falcon Avenue but following arrests by the police it was hoped that the problem had been addressed. 20mph zones are continuing to be rolled out across the parish funded from the Mayor's fund allocated for the installation of such zones. There is an 85%	

approval rate in favour within the parish but obviously that is not universal. The implementation of yellow lines in agreed locations has been delayed because of the weather. £750,000 has been spent by the Borough Council across the region on upgrading bus stops. Over the next couple of months, the verges in Mallards Hill and Rooksmead are to be extensively improved with the installation of grass crete. Cllr Royden was thanked for his report.

14. **Financial Matters:**

i) To approve bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment:

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
Chris Horne Gardens Ltd	958	£156	Collection Grass on Cons Area
Chris Horne Gardens Ltd	959	£180	Grass Cutting Allotments
Bedfordshire Bat Group	960	£100	Installation of Boxes
Viking	961	£160	Stationery and Stamps
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£3,021	Salaries for November
Steve Dear Tree Services Ltd	962	£72	Planting of London Plane
Mr R Framp	963	£6	Key Refund
Mrs R Colgrave	964	£6	Key Deposit Refund
R Colgrave	964	£6	Key Refund
iThink Telecom	DD	£18	Telephone Charges
NSYS	965	£695	NSYS
A Southern	966	£80	Christmas Competition
White Hart	967	£800	Newsletter Printing

	St Marks	968	£53	Meeting Room Hire	Allotments Officer Clerk
	P Chester & Sons	969	£325	Plumbing Works	
	Vintec	970	£810	Asbestos Survey	
	E Spavins	971	£18	Newsletter Delivery	
	J Barrow	972	£57	Newsletter Delivery	
	A Southern	973	£13	Christmas Competition	
	Bedford Security Services	974	£114	Padlock and keys	
	C Newcombe	975	£56	Plot refund	
	Bedford Borough Council	DD	£3,164	Salaries December	
	S Bottoms	976	£160	OAP's Christmas Party	
	Signs Express	977	£191	Signs Express	
	N Oliviera	978	£6	Key Deposit Refund	
	Paul Riches Skips Ltd	979	£538	Skip hire Allotments	
	Wrighton & Barker	980	£359	Granite wedge for Wav Green	
	Otis Ltd	981	£495	Lift Service	
	Anglian Water	982	£288	Water Charges Sept-Dec	
	Paul Hawking Gardening Service	983	£53	Shrubs adj wall at BCC	
	iThink Telecom	DD	£18	Telephone charges	
	Doreen Lambert Catering	984	£862	Catering for OAP Party	

		St Marks Church Community Cent	985	£18	Hall Hire		
		Bedford Borough Council	986	£687	Litter Collection and Grass Cutting		
			Total Payments	13,572.91			
	<p>It was resolved to approve the bank reconciliations and to agree these payments.</p> <p>ii) <u>To consider and agree action regarding the budget 2015-16 and precept request:</u> Within the discussion, concern was expressed about the size of the deficit with regards the allotments. It was resolved that Alison Southern investigate how other allotments are managed and whether the Brickhill allotments could be taken over by a charitable trust in 2016-17. Cllr Crofts thanked St Marks for allowing the use of its hall for CSF meetings for free. It was resolved to accept the budget for 2015-16 and to request a precept of £115,129.</p> <p>iii) <u>To consider and agree action regarding revised Financial Regulations:</u> The Clerk explained that the revisions were to enable electronic means to be used to pay invoices instead of cheques. It was resolved to accept the revised version.</p> <p>iv) <u>To consider and agree action regarding a donation to Beauchamp Middle School:</u> It was resolved by a majority of 6:2 not to make a donation.</p>						
15.	<p><u>Staffing Matters:</u></p> <p>(Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), press and public are excluded from this item of the agenda.</p>						Clerk
16.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u> Thursday 5th February 2015 at 7:30pm at St Mark's Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY. Cllr Ward agreed to do the surgery at 7pm.</p>						Ward

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Approved by Chairman

5th February 2015