



Minutes of the meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 9th January 2014 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Waterhouse, Blakeman, Wilkins, Crofts, Reeve, Chrusciak, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden, Rider, the Clerk, Sue Bottoms, Andrew Prigmore (Bedford Borough Council) and one Member of the Public were in attendance.

Absent: Cllrs Josephs and Mulvenney.

1.	Apologies for Absence: Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Josephs and Mulvenney. It was resolved: to accept the apologies for absence.	
2.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda i) To receive written requests for a dispensation. None received. ii) To consider any requests for a dispensation. None received.	
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting It was resolved: to approve the minutes of 7 th November 2013 as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	Public Open Session (10 mins): i) <u>Brickhill News:</u> The Parish Council was complemented on the layout of the latest (December 2013) edition. ii) <u>The Green Wheel:</u> Following discussion that, Cllr Chrusciak agreed to walk the route between Woodlands Park and the Carron Road Estate with the resident concerned. iii) <u>Integration of Cycling, Pedestrians and Motor Vehicles in Tyne Crescent:</u> It was resolved that this be put on the February agenda.	Cllr Chrusciak The Clerk
5.	Average Speed Cameras, - Attendance by Andrew Prigmore of Bedford Borough Council: Mr Prigmore reported that it would cost £50,000 to provide cameras on a section of road. The suggestion would be a pair of cameras and a pair of dummies at a total cost of £85,000. Brickhill Drive was discussed as a likely location. Joint funding would be sought. Currently there are 6 schemes committed to, all with joint funding so the Borough Council budget until the end of 2014-15 has already been allocated. But should one of those schemes be delayed, then there would be the possibility of another scheme taking its place. Vehicle activated signs cost £8-£10,000. It was resolved that Mr Prigmore should analyse the statistics relating to road accidents on Brickhill Drive to establish the percentage which were speed related. Following receipt of that, further consideration could be given. Mr Prigmore also agreed to the painting of a slow sign on Brickhill Drive approaching the roundabout with Kestrel Drive following discussion regarding the difficulties experienced by vehicles exiting onto Brickhill Drive.	Mr Prigmore
6.	To receive an update re. the Community Governance Review: Cllr Fitzpatrick updated the Parish Council on the Borough Council consultation process and timescale. Whilst it had not been possible to get final numbers, there had not been a significant amount of	

	<p>responses to suggest the Borough Council move away from the current draft recommendations. Representation had been made by Cllr Headley of Putnoe regarding certain houses on Rowallan Drive, Troon Close and Lombardy Close (6 properties in total) being moved from Brickhill Parish and back into Putnoe.</p> <p>It was resolved: to take no further action regarding the 6 properties. Cllr Fitzpatrick was thanked for his report.</p>	
7.	<p>To receive an update on the Energy Survey of Brickhill Community Centre: Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the Parish Council had obtained 50/50 funding from the Mayor's Climate Change Fund for the survey. There is an outstanding query about the report (regarding the primary source of energy used for the Centre heating system) but it is still useful to help in deciding additional works to be carried out in the Centre for example, insulation and lighting. Cavity wall insulation in the brick walls, insulation above the suspended ceiling in the original hall and additional insulation above the toilets on the ground floor could cost £18,000. Three quotations had been sought for the installation of more efficient lighting in the new hall, committee room, offices and corridors and sensors to control lighting in the corridors and toilets. The one estimate received to date for the lighting works was for £6,670 (plus VAT) which would lead to an energy saving per year of between £900-£1300.</p> <p>It was resolved: that the Clerk submit an application for matched funding from the Mayor's Climate Change Fund for lighting and/or insulation works to Brickhill Community Centre. The maximum expected costs to the Parish Council being £10,000. Cllr Fitzpatrick was thanked for his hard work.</p>	The Clerk
8.	<p>To receive an update on the Pensioner's Christmas Meal 12th December 2013: The Clerk reported that the event had been seen as a success by all. Thanks were expressed to her and the Assistant Clerk, Alison Southern for their hard work. Everyone enjoyed Scott Lower School Choir who had performed Christmas songs and carols. It had been hoped that 40 persons would be attending but on the day a few were ill. Following discussion it was resolved that it should remain a Christmas event with the details to be decided at a later meeting. Consideration would also be given to refining the method of selecting the guest list.</p>	
9.	<p>To receive an update re. Youth Innovation Zone and agree any further actions: Cllr Reeve reported that no youths had attended the November meeting and it was her opinion that the Bizy Cafe should close and the remaining monies be returned to Bedford Borough Council. The Parish Council thanked Cllrs Reeve and Crofts for all their hard work over the last year.</p> <p>It was resolved: that the Clerk contact the Borough Council to organise the return of unused funds and to establish what was to happen regarding equipment purchased. It was thought that as per the contract, equipment and items over £150 had to be offered back to the Borough Council. The Clerk was to ask if the table tennis table could be retained for use by Community Centre Groups.</p>	The Clerk
10.	<p>To discuss and agree action regarding the vacancy on the Parish Council: There had been two candidates for the vacancy, each had sent in personal statements. One of the candidates, Cathrine Ward addressed the meeting. Following a ballot in which Cathrine Ward received a majority vote, she was duly appointed as a Parish Councillor and invited to join the table.</p> <p>It was resolved: that the Clerk should arrange for Cathrine to receive the necessary paperwork and to write to the unsuccessful candidate.</p>	The Clerk
11.	<p>To receive an update regarding the nomination for the Community Right to Bid for the Tiger Moth: The Clerk reported that this had been submitted and the deciding panel was due to meet shortly. It was noted that refurbishment was underway at the site and the "for sale" sign had been taken down. Cllr Chrusciak agreed to investigate planning issues regarding the site.</p>	Cllr Chrusciak

12.	<p>To receive an update and agree action on the Community Plan: Cllr Fitzpatrick reported the main focus at the moment was on “A Greener Brickhill”. The Brickhill Better Energy Group (Brickhill BEE Group) was officially launched on 5th December. The Group had secured £1,200 from the Centre for Sustainable Energy to hold a “Green Open Homes” event in Brickhill on 26th January. Other application for funding have been agreed or are still outstanding. It was resolved: to support the Group’s participation in the event by signing the “offer letter”. This will allow the £1,200 to be released and the Parish Council will oversee making payments (this will require a signed request from two members) until the Group has its own bank account. This was not to involve the Clerk or Assistant Clerk in additional workload. The Brickhill BEE Group wishes to set up a Community Energy project in Brickhill to help reduce the carbon footprint by generating energy locally, with profits being ploughed back into the local community with a focus on tackling fuel poverty.</p> <p>It was further resolved: to approve the spending of the remaining sum in the “Community Plan Support” budget item for 2013-4 on assistance for the Brickhill BEE Group. This is expected to include £35 for registration of the Community Interest Company, £35 for Data Protection registration and £300 for the event on the 26th January. Cllr Fitzpatrick was thanked for his hard work.</p>	The Clerk
13.	<p>To agree an outline action plan for forthcoming Parish Council events 2014-5: It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To have two litter picks. The Clerk to arrange the first on the 15th March (location to be decided). ii) To ask residents for further suggestions for bulb planting in the Autumn of 2014. iii) To take up the kind offer from Barrie Ingram to organise some evening walks in the late Spring/early Summer. iv) The Clerk to contact Julian Frost regarding any planned “Action Days”. 	The Clerk Cllr Fitzpatrick
14.	<p>To agree whether to support an application for funding to tarmac the section of the bridleway from Kimbolton Road towards Woodlands Park (part of the “Green Wheel”): Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that this section is unpaved and can become very muddy in wet weather. In addition, work would be carried out to improve the two bridges, some signs and planting. The provision of an all weather surface would make it possible to walk or cycle all the way from Clapham Park Wood to Willington or further all year round. The BIFFA environmental grants charity has a “main grants” scheme offering grants of up to £50,000. Parish Councils cannot apply but charities can. He was planning to suggest that Brickhill Community Association apply, with additional funding coming from elsewhere. A quote has been requested from Volker Highways who have previously done work on Waveney Green. The Borough’s original estimate for the work was £92,000. Cllr Fitzpatrick was not asking for a financial contribution from the Parish Council at this stage but might do so in the future. He was speaking with Ravensden PC at its January meeting.</p> <p>It was resolved: that Brickhill Parish Council should support the surfacing of the bridlepath provided that the existing row of trees and bushes between the bridlepath and Kimbolton Road is retained.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick
15.	<p>To receive a report from Borough Councillors: Cllr Royden reported on how ward fund spending had been used during the current financial year including the purchase of a dual bin on Waveney Green, bollards near Tesco and the extension of no verge parking zones. Plans were in place to extend the railings outside Scott Lower School where there is congestion on the pavement opposite the Old Lodge. In addition he reported that the sale of Little Farm Park was almost completed. It was resolved to accept the report. Cllrs Royden and Rider were thanked by the Parish Council.</p>	

16.

Financial matters:i) To approve any accounts for payment:

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
iThink Telecom	DD	£24	Telephone Charges
G Moore Skip Hire	782	£182	Skip for Allotment
C Jackson & Sons (Bedford) Ltd	783	£144	C Jackson & Sons (Bedford) Ltd
G Moore Skip Hire	784	£256	Skip Allotments
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£4,237	Bedford Borough Council
All Nations Church Brickhill	785	£40	Room Hire CSF
Bedford Borough Council	786	£333	Waveney Green
Shaun Reilly	787	£685	Allotment Clearance
Chris Horne	788	£336	Grass Cutting Allotments
Brickhill Lower School Football	789	£500	Purchase of Equipment
Steve Dear Tree Services Ltd	790	£456	Tree Works at Allotments
Mark Fitzpatrick	791	£160	Replacement for 768
St Marks Church Community Cent	792	£32	Room Hire
White Hart Press	793	£800	Printing of Nov Newsletter
Paul Hawking Gardening Service	794	£45	Rose Beds WG
Red N Security	795	£358	Inspection
Red N Security	795	£498	Inspection
Mrs Spavins	796	£21	Newsletter Delivery
Mrs Charman	797	£9	Newletter Delivery
D Alder	798	£12	Newsletter Delivery
M Atkinson	799	£12	Newsletter Delivery
J Barrow	800	£21	Newsletter Delivery
Scott White and Hookins	801	£660	Scott White and Hookins
Office Supply Ltd	802	£283	Printer Cartridges
JBSR	803	£5,748	Concrete works to Centre
BATPC	804	£1,525	Affiliation Fees
St Marks Church Community Cent	805	£14	Hall Hire
Red N Security	795	£358	Inspection
A Southern	806	£35	Christmas Card Competition
S Bottoms	807	£119	OAP lunch, keys etc
Doreen Lambert	808	£746	OAP Meal
Otis	809	£474	Lift Inspection
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£2,402	Salaries

	iThink Telecom	DD	£19	Telephone		
	St Marks Church Community Cent	810	£28	Hall Hire - Community Plan		
	Energy Assessment Associates	811	£312	993110032		
	Anglian Water	812	£265	Allotment Water Oct-Dec 13		
	M Fitzpatrick	813	£3	Refreshments - Litterpick		
	Bedford Borough Council	814	£1,667	WG		
	SLCC	815	£165	Membership		
	Metrosigns 2000	816	£90	Replacement perspex for N/B		
		Total Payments	£23,355.58			
	<p>It was resolved: to accept the accounts.</p> <p>i) <u>To agree the budget for 2014-15 and to agree and complete the precept request:</u> The Parish Council considered the budget as recommended by the Finance Advisory Group at its December meeting. Following discussion it was resolved to accept the budget and to set the precept at £98,970 which leaves the Parish Council tax unchanged for the 4th year at £33.16 for a Band D property.</p> <p>ii) <u>To agree action regarding a personnel matter</u> (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>					The Clerk
17.	Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 6 th February 2014, 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY					

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Approved by Chairman
6th February 2014