



**Minutes of the meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Waterhouse, Blakeman, Wilkins, Crofts, Reeve, Chrusciak, Mulvenney, Rider, Ward, the Clerk, Sue Bottoms were in attendance.

**Absent:** Cllrs Josephs, Charles Royden and Corinne Royden.

1.	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Charles Royden and Corinne Royden. <b>It was resolved:</b> to accept the apologies for absence.	
2.	<b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b> i) <u>To receive written requests for a dispensation:</u> Cllr Fitzpatrick had requested a dispensation with regards agenda items 7 and 8 as he is a Director and member of Brickhill BEE Group CIC. He requested a dispensation to take part in discussions and vote on the business transacted under items 7 and 8 as it was in the interests of persons living in the Parish. Cllr Chrusciak proposed, Cllr Crofts seconded and <b>it was resolved</b> to accept the request. ii) <u>To consider any requests for a dispensation:</u> none received.	
3.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting:</b> <b>It was resolved:</b> to approve the minutes of 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2014 as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	<b>Public Open Session (10 mins):</b> None.	
5.	<b>To receive an update regarding the nomination for the Community Right to Bid for the Tiger Moth:</b> Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that following advice from Locality, the Clerk had written a response to the Borough Council based on that advice. The Borough had responded that whilst a detailed business plan was not required, they needed more concrete evidence of the level of community support. Following discussion, <b>it was resolved</b> to give further consideration to this item under (9) below.	
6.	<b>To consider and agree when and how to consult with the residents of Woodlands Park following the outcome of the Community Governance Review:</b> Following discussion, <b>it was resolved</b> to wait until it was clear how much monies would be transferred from Ravensden Parish Council to Brickhill Parish Council. Once that was established to then consult with the residents of Woodlands Park. The likely timescale would be towards the end of 2014.	
7.	<b>To consider a request for permission to install PV panels to the roof of the Community Centre:</b> (Cllr Waterhouse took the Chair for items 7 and 8). Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the BEE Group was in the process of registering as a Community Interest Company. One of its main aims is to work with partners within Brickhill to install renewable energy systems at various locations. The BEE Group was asking the Parish Council if it were willing to allow solar PV panels to be installed on the roof of the main hall. This would be a total of 28 panels attached by clamps designed to fit the specific roofing structure. The Community Centre would benefit from the free electricity generated by the panels	Cllr Fitzpatrick

	whilst any profits from the scheme would go towards the costs of the Brickhill BEE Group's work to help residents of Brickhill in fuel poverty. <b>It was resolved:</b> that permission be granted. The Clerk would check with the Borough Council that they have no objections.	The Clerk
8.	<b>To consider a request for a grant/loan towards the PV panels:</b> Cllr Fitzpatrick explained that the Brickhill BEE Group is seeking finance to cover the £16,167 cost of purchase of the PV panels. An application has been submitted requesting a grant of £7,000 from the Scottish Power Green Trust; Brickhill Community Association will be asked for a grant of £1,000. This leaves a balance of £8,167. When the BEE Group is fully up and running, finance for renewable energy systems is likely to come from a combination of individuals and commercial lenders, offering money at a low rate of interest owing to the nature of the social enterprise. In order to get this demonstration project off the ground, a request was being made for Brickhill Parish Council to contribute the balance of £8,167. This could be in the form of a grant or loan. If the latter, Cllr Fitzpatrick suggested an interest free loan repayable within 5 years or a combination of a grant and loan. Following discussion and a majority vote in favour, <b>it was resolved</b> that, the Parish Council would loan £8,167 to the Brickhill BEE Group for the purchase of the PV panels. <b>It was further resolved</b> that it was expected that the Brickhill BEE Group should use its best endeavours to acquire the £7,000 and the £1,000 highlighted above. But should those funds not materialise and there be no other grants available, the Parish Council would be willing to loan the full amount of £16,167. The details of any loan would need to be finalised but would be over a 25 year period and annual interest on the outstanding capital would be paid at a rate equivalent to that received by the Parish Council on its investments. Any loan would also be subject to the Clerk confirming with BATPC that it was considered acceptable practice by a parish council.	Cllr Fitzpatrick The Clerk
9.	<b>To discuss the possibility of setting up a Neighbourhood Plan for Brickhill:</b> Following discussion <b>it was resolved</b> to investigate the procedure and timescale involved in applying for a grant to undertake such a plan. With regard to the Community Right to Bid/Tiger Moth, following discussion and an amendment, <b>it was resolved</b> to take no further action on this matter until a decision had been taken regarding whether or not to set up a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Parish.	Cllr Fitzpatrick The Clerk
10.	<b>To report on the summer walks programme:</b> Cllr Fitzpatrick explained that local resident Barry Ingram of the Ramblers Association and Ivel Valley Ramblers has offered to organise a series of evening summer walks all starting and finishing in Brickhill. There would be no cost involved but support to publicise the events would be needed. <b>It was resolved</b> to accept this kind offer.	Cllr Fitzpatrick
11.	<b>To agree arrangements for the APM 28<sup>th</sup> May:</b> <b>It was resolved</b> that the Clerk write to the headteachers of local schools, leaders of local groups etc inviting them to attend and present a report.	The Clerk
12.	<b>To receive a report from Borough Councillors:</b> Cllr Rider produced a written report. She highlighted the reporting App and encouraged the public to make use of it to send photos of and report environmental issues. <b>It was resolved</b> to accept her report and to thank Cllr Rider and Cllr Royden for their work on behalf of the parish.	
13.	<b>To agree a response to the Local Plan 2032:</b> Discussion took place concerning the Public Meeting held on Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Chrusciak had kindly agreed to complete the response on behalf of the Parish Council. <b>It was resolved</b> to accept his response. He was thanked for his work. The Clerk to forward the response to the Borough Council.	Cllr Chrusciak The Clerk

14.	<b>Financial matters:</b>				
	i) <u>To approve any accounts for payment:</u>				
	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Amount £</u>		<u>Detail</u>
	Companies House	831	£35.00		Register of Brickhill BEE Group
	Bedford Borough Council	DD	£3,382.56		Salaries for February
	Red N Security	776	-£358.00		BCC Fire Alarm etc
	Mrs Charman	832	£15.00		Replace Missing Cheque 688
	P Chester & Sons Ltd	833	£684.00		Maintenance Work on Fans
	Bedford Borough Council	834	£797.93		Insurance Charge for BCC
	Broker Network	835	£57.67		Insurance for Fidelity Cover
	S Chilvers	836	£44.90		PAT Testing at BCC
	Open Spaces Society	837	£45.00		Annual Subscription
	BATPC	838	£8.00		Good Councillor Guides
	Brickhill Community Centre	839	£7.00		Room Hire for Community Plan
	White Hart	840	£638.00		Newsletter
St Mark's Church	841	£38.50	Hall Hire		
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£5,395.56</b>			
<p><b>It was resolved:</b> to accept the accounts.</p> <p>ii) <u>To consider and agree action regarding future banking and investment arrangements:</u> The Clerk reported she had identified a number of possible other institutions which offered a similar rate of interest to the Stafford Railway Account which would enable the Parish Council monies to be spread. <b>It was resolved that</b> the Clerk open accounts with the Skipton and Newbury Building Societies and that £50,000 be moved into the Skipton and a further £50,000 into the Newbury from the Stafford Building Society.</p>				The Clerk	
15.	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2014, 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY				

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 Approved by Chairman  
 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014