

**Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held in St Marks Church and Community Centre on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present:**

Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Green, Holloway, Barlow, Brazier, Grant, Blakeman, Rider, Jarman-Webb, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden and the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms) were in attendance.

**Absent:** Cllrs Johns, Lamswood, Ward, Rani and Borough Cllrs S Moon and P Martin-Moran-Bryant.

*Summary of the meeting: -*

*Table 1 – The Minutes*

Item	Description	Action
1.	<p><b>Apologies for Absence:</b></p> <p>Cllrs Johns, Lamswood, Ward, Rani and Borough Cllrs S Moon and P Martin-Moran-Bryant.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:</b></p> <p>i) To receive written requests for a dispensation: None received.</p> <p>ii) To consider any requests for a dispensation: None received.</p>	
3.	<p><b>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022:</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Public Open Session:</b> None.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <p>i) To agree the bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment:</p>	

Item	Description	Action
	<p>These are listed in the table below. <b>It was resolved</b> to agree the bank reconciliations and the accounts for payment.</p> <p>ii) To note the local government pay scales for 2021-22</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to note these.</p>	Clerk
6.	<p><b>To receive reports from the Borough Councillors:</b></p> <p>Cllr Charles Royden said that a copy of the report by the Brickhill Borough Councillors had been circulated and the Clerk had put a copy on the website. He apologised for the lateness in sending this out to his fellow councillors.</p>	
7.	<p><b>NDP: To review the draft plan and agree the next steps:</b></p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick apologised for the lateness in sending out his report.</p> <p>The purpose of the NDP is to give a local view on planning matters and must conform to, but can also add to, what is contained in the Local Plan. The policies in the NDP (once approved) will contribute to the process undertaken by the borough council in determining any planning applications.</p> <p>Fortunately, there are no requirements in the Local Plan 2030 for a housing allocation for this parish and no areas in Brickhill open to such large developments. As a result, the policies in the NDP will focus on, for example, ensuring that any planning applications protect the nature and character of housing in Brickhill and will, amongst other things, attempt to protect bungalows from being turned into large family homes.</p> <p>The policies in the NDP will also work towards protecting green spaces and existing community facilities. In the past, the parish council had sought designation for a wide range of open spaces in Brickhill but only the North Brickhill Country Park and Waveney Green met the criteria for inclusion by the borough council in the Local Plan 2030.</p> <p>As part of the NDP, additional areas are being looked at including the area on Brickhill Drive behind the scout hut, the</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick

Item	Description	Action
	<p>pond on Brickhill Drive and the strip of land on Falcon Avenue. It is thought that there is justification and evidence to include these within the NDP.</p> <p>There are areas on Woodlands Park including the ponds, the area off Crispin Drive and the area recently planted with trees off Ashmead Road, which are not part of the Country Park.</p> <p>The advice from Dave Chetwyn of Urban Vision, who is advising the NDP Group, is to make a case for these to be included in the Local Plan 2040 as part of the submission by the parish council in the consultation for that local plan rather than in the NDP.</p> <p>Dave Chetwyn recommends that Brickhill has a vision and some aims within the NDP.</p> <p>The intention is to consult with residents hopefully in April/May, giving them information on the NDP and its aims. This will provide feedback to refine the basic policies which the NDP Group has developed. As a second stage, following further refinement of the policies, there will be a further consultation with residents in the Autumn.</p> <p>The final draft NDP will eventually go out to a referendum amongst residents which is decided on a straight majority. Cllr Fitzpatrick hoped this would be by the end of the year but it may be early 2023.</p> <p>He noted that EWR would not be included in the NDP because national projects and policies override the NDP.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> that the NDP Group could move forward with the first stage of consulting residents.</p>	
8.	<p><b>To discuss the Annual Parish meeting to be held at 7pm on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022:</b></p> <p>The Clerk noted that this is not a parish council meeting, but a meeting of groups in the parish hosted by the parish council.</p> <p>She has sent out invites to the local schools, Park Wood, the local churches and the scout and guide groups. She has also advertised it on social media and the notice boards.</p>	Clerk

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	<p>Given the current continuing presence of COVID, it made sense to hold the meeting virtually via Zoom and she would send out links and an agenda nearer the time.</p>	
9.	<p><b>To receive an update on the Mowsbury Walk Play Area:</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that following concerns (see e-mail under correspondence) and given that RPM were due to start the work to complete the resurfacing, she and Cllr Fitzpatrick took the decision to close the play area.</p> <p>Work has now started and should be completed by early next week (weather permitting).</p>	
10.	<p><b>To review and agree the Complaints Policy:</b></p> <p>This was reviewed and it was resolved to agree it with no change.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p>i) E-mail re: pedestrian safety travelling to Hawk Drive (sent out 7<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>Cllr Charles Royden said that he and Cllr Rider were using their borough councillor ward fund to provide plans for safe pedestrian crossings on Waveney Avenue. These are especially important for children crossing to Brickhill Schools by Avon Drive roundabout and Falcon Avenue.</p> <p>ii) E-mail from BBC on Scope of SPD re: Forest of Marston Vale (sent out 7<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>iii) Survey by PCC (sent out 7<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>iv) E-mail re: state of Starling Way (sent out 7<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>v) Public Notice and plan for proposed formalisation of double yellow lines on Hawk Drive (sent out 7<sup>th</sup> March).</p>	

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	<p>vi) E-mail re: Regent Close crumbling pavements (sent out to Cllrs Charles Royden, Rider and Fitzpatrick).</p> <p>vii) Bedford Borough Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2022 (e-mailed out 15<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>viii) LivShare Life public consultation for this scheme to be held late afternoon/early evening on 28th April. (e-mailed out 18th March).</p> <p>ix) E-mail re: state of Mowsbury Walk play area (circulated 24<sup>th</sup> March). The Clerk had responded.</p> <p>x) Crime stats (circulated 30<sup>th</sup> March).</p> <p>xi) E-mail requesting consideration be given to a litterpick for Woodlands Park especially in the public park, footpaths and drainage ditches.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> that the Clerk should contact Bedford Borough Council and establish availability for litter picking equipment and choose a suitable date in June.</p> <p>xii) E-mail re: implications of non-attendance by parish councillors. The Clerk had responded to the resident explaining the process.</p> <p>xiii) Draft Letter to Wendy Morton, MP, Minister for Transport re: EWR proposed route through Bedford to Cambridge.</p> <p>Cllr Barlow had e-mailed out his draft letter and asked that Brickhill Parish Council agree to sign up to it. A number of borough councillors and affected parish councils had already done so.</p> <p>Following discussion, <b>it was resolved</b>, that any individual parish councillors who wish to sign up to this version of the letter could do so. Cllr Barlow would draft a revised version of his letter taking into account the concerns raised in the discussion and would bring it to the May meeting for the parish council to consider.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Barlow</b></p>

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12.	<p><b>Review of outstanding matters:</b></p> <p>This was reviewed.</p> <p>i) Pig Park on Woodlands Park:</p> <p>The Clerk and Cllr Fitzpatrick met with Ria Lock from BPHA to discuss the grant which it had given to the Parish Council a number of years previously which had been intended to improve the safety of the access to the Owl Park given its close proximity to the road. There had been a delay in spending this grant due to the time it had taken for the adoption process to be settled between the developer and the borough council.</p> <p>Since then, the safety concern has been resolved and so BPHA were happy that consideration be given to spending the grant on improvements to the Pig Park.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that attempts to identify the company involved in carving the original pigs had not been successful and the borough council were not keen in replacing them with wooden alternatives because of the costs of maintenance and also they can be quite slippery when wet.</p> <p>The Clerk would arrange a meeting with the officer from the borough council to look at options. She would keep BPHA informed.</p> <p>ii) Bench for Waveney Green:</p> <p>The Clerk would discuss this with the relevant officer.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
13.	<p><b>Date of the Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) at 7.30pm at St Marks Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise. This is dependent on any COVID restrictions in existence at that time.</p>	

Approved by .....

Chairman  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Table 2 Reconciliations for Approval (see item above)

Payee	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Details
D Britton	BACS 135	£ 121.36	Salaries March
NSYS	BACS 136	£ 926.24	Website Maintenance
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	BACS 137	£ 994.96	Pensions March
S Bottoms	BACS 145	£ 2,184.75	Salaries
HMRC	BACS 146	£ 1,049.21	PAYE March
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£ 14.32	Telephone Charges
Wave	DD	£ 879.46	Allotment Water
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 147	£ 1,346.40	Tree Lights
NPower	BACS 148	£ 7.00	Electricity for Fountain
A Reeve	BACS 138	£ 630.00	Allotments Dec 21 - March 22
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 139	£ 1,098.75	WG grass and litter
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 140	£ 366.42	MW grass and litter
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 141	£ 188.33	Office Rent March
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 142	£ 37.50	Hall Hire NDP
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 143	£ 10,000.00	Rooksmead Parking Scheme
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 144	£ 16.80	Hall Hire
BATPC	BACS 1	£ 1,848.00	Membership
Urban Vision	BACS 2	£ 8,820.00	NDP Consultancy
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 3	£ 12.90	Hall Hire
Otis	BACS 3	£ 643.57	Lift Servicing
BT	BACS 4	£ 143.59	Broadband
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£ 31,329.56</b>	