

BRICKHILL

PARISH COUNCIL

2024-25-8

Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held in St Marks Church and Community Centre on Thursday 6th February 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:

Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Green, Grant, Holloway, Blakeman, Rani, Testa, the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms) and Borough Cllrs Sawyer and Royden.

Absent: Cllrs Lamswood, Ward and Harrison and Borough Cllrs Vann and Rider.

Summary of the meeting: -

Table 1 – The Minutes

Item	Description	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Lamswood, Ward and Harrison and Borough Cllrs Vann and Rider.	
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.	To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2025 The Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	Public Open Session: None.	

✉ St Mark's Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY
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Item	Description	Action
5.	<p>To consider and agree action re: filling the vacancies on the Parish Council by co-option:</p> <p>At the last meeting, Jack Harrison was incorrectly co-opted to South Ward. At the next meeting, Cllr Harrison will resign from South Ward and be co-opted onto West Ward.</p>	Clerk
6.	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>i) To agree the bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment:</p> <p>It was resolved to accept these.</p> <p>ii) To consider a proposal from Scott Primary re: grant.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved agree to a grant of £2,160 to support the project to use Jo Jingles for nursery and reception children.</p> <p>The Clerk will notify the Headteacher and arrange the payment. Cllr Fitzpatrick will make contact with the new Headteacher of Brickhill Primary.</p>	Clerk Clerk Cllr Fitzpatrick
7.	<p>To receive reports from the Borough Councillors:</p> <p>Reports had been received from the Borough Councillors for Brickhill and De Parys.</p> <p>The Clerk would arrange for the reports to go on the website.</p> <p>Cllrs Royden and Cllr Sawyer spoke to their reports.</p>	Clerk
8.	<p>To consider and agree any action re: a plan to upgrade some play equipment on Waveney Green and Mowsbury Walk:</p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved Cllrs Testa and</p>	

Item	Description	Action
	<p>Harrison should look at what current equipment is located at Waveney Green and Mowsbury Walk with a view to make a proposal to upgrade the older equipment. They would bring their findings to a later meeting. Included in this should be to expand the rubber mulched areas including between the benches and the new waste bins and the footpath. The Clerk will forward to Cllr Testa previous contacts used to supply the latest equipment installed.</p>	<p>Cllrs Testa and Harrison</p> <p>Clerk</p>
9.	<p>To request an extension to areas in Brickhill covered by the Borough Council's Public Spaces Protection Order for dog control:</p> <p>The Clerk had forwarded to Bedford Borough Council the detailed report provided by Cllr Fitzpatrick. The Borough Council officer reported that he had visited the new locations requested. The play area in Crispin Drive is suitable for the Dog Exclusion Order but the play areas at Laxton Way and Russet Close are not as they are too open with no effective barrier preventing dog access.</p> <p>He also reported that he had enlarged the area covered for the Mowsbury Walk play area to cover the whole of the fenced area.</p>	
10.	<p>To consider and agree action re: a Parish Council work plan:</p> <p>It was resolved that the Clerk should circulate the last active plan to all parish councillors. Parish Councillors are asked to propose what the Parish Council could aim to achieve over the coming year.</p>	<p>Clerk and all Parish Councillors</p>

Item	Description	Action
11.	<p>To receive any update re: NDP and implications from the Borough Local Plan:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick provided an update. He reported that he had spoken with Dave Chetwyn of Urban Vision today. His advice was that we should not remove the parts from the plan that relate to housing needs, but instead use some simple references to documents used by the Borough Council for the Local Plan 2030, the emerging Local Plan 2040 and census statistics. As a result, Cllr Fitzpatrick will be changing the plan and the Consultation Responses document.</p> <p>Dave Chetwyn emphasised the need for all the documents, including the Basic Conditions Statement, to be completely in a finished state before the Parish Council is asked to approve them. Dave Chetwyn will draft the Basic Condition Statement. He has also offered to join a call with an appropriate person from the Borough Council (probably Jon Shortland) to discuss the issues raised by Jon Shortland on 21st January at the Town and Parish Councils meeting. At that meeting, it was reported that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has changed, putting more land at risk from speculative housing.</p> <p>The recommendation by Jon Shortland was that as soon as the NDP is finished, the Parish Council should try to identify sites within Brickhill for potential development and start the NDP process over again including sites for housing. The problem is that there is no notional number required for Brickhill in the Local Plan 2030 nor in the Local Plan 2040. Cllr Grant will be raising the matter at the BATPC meeting scheduled for next week. The County Advisor is trying to contact Jon Shortland as there are implications for other councils within Bedford Borough.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick

Item	Description	Action
12.	<p>To consider and agree action re: Brickhill Community Centre – DEC application:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick has received a quote of £275 for the cost of providing a combined Display Energy Certificate and Recommendation Report. An application for 50% has been submitted to the Mayors Climate change Fund which has been approved. The funding should be in our bank account by the end of the following week.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick
13.	<p>To consider the EWR consultation and updates:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick produced responses to the two consultations and thanked his fellow parish councillors for their comments and input. The response to the EWR informal consultation has been submitted. In addition, the response to the Planning Inspectorate has also been submitted. Cllr Fitzpatrick was thanked for his hard work in producing these responses.</p>	
14.	<p>To receive any update on outstanding matters from previous meetings:</p> <p>i) RTI accuracy and QR codes:</p> <p>The Clerk reported she had not received any response from the officer concerned.</p> <p>ii) Transfer of land rear of 97 Curlew Crescent:</p> <p>A request for a key has been received and the Allotment Officer has arranged for a key to be made available.</p> <p>iii) Altering timing of fountain on Rooksmead:</p> <p>The Clerk to send the latest invoice to Cllr Testa.</p> <p>iv) Pinetrail:</p> <p>Still no response from BBC.</p>	Clerk

Item	Description	Action
	<p>v) Dug-Outs on Woodlands:</p> <p>The Clerk has sent the response received from the Borough officer to Borough Cllr Rider.</p> <p>vi) Removal of Crossing Patrol from Hawk Drive:</p> <p>No response from the portfolio holder or the Borough officer.</p>	
15.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>i) Standards Committee agenda: Noted.</p> <p>ii) The new NALC website: Noted.</p> <p>iii) Buckingham Palace Garden Party – Nomination of Chairmen/Mayors for Bedfordshire ballot: Noted.</p> <p>iv) Dates for Town and Parish Council meetings 2025-26:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Thursday 6 March 2025; 7 - 8:30pm - In Person, Council Chamber.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Thursday 10 July 2025; 6:30 - 8:30pm - In Person, Council Chamber.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Thursday 16 October 2025; 7 - 8:30pm - Online via MS Teams</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Thursday 8 January 2026; 7 - 8:30pm - Online via MS Teams. All Noted.</p> <p>v) Police Speed Data forwarded by David Sawyer: Noted.</p> <p>vi) E-mail re: fly tipping, food waste and a police contact: The Clerk has responded.</p> <p>vii) Borough Council contract for Mowsbury Walk 2025:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Following discussion, it was resolved to accept the</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

Item	Description	Action
	<p>quotations for 2025-26 and agree to a two year contract. There had been a slight increase in prices since last year (Mowsbury Walk: £1,332.72 for 2024/25 to £1,368.70 for 2025-26 and Waveney Green: 2024/25 £3,996.28 to 2025/26 £4,104.18). The Clerk to respond.</p> <p>vii) New Police Officer for Brickhill:</p> <p>Borough Cllr Sawyer to forward details to the Clerk</p>	<p>Borough Cllr Sawyer</p>
16.	<p>Date of the Next Meeting:</p> <p>Thursday 6th March 2025 at 7.30pm in St Marks Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise.</p>	

Approved by

Chairman

6th March 2025

Table 2 Payments for Approval

Payee	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Details
R Benjamin	BACS 169	£208.00	WG Salary Jan
The Tree People	BACS 171	£420.00	Tree Works WG
HMRC	BACS 170	£558.86	PAYE January
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	BACS 174	£944.29	Pensions January
S Bottoms	BACS 175	£1,451.12	Salaries January
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 176	£257.95	WG Dog Bins Empty
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£19.80	Telephone Jan
Kaur	BACS 177	£56.00	Deposit Refund Plot 197
Sanghera	BACS 178	£56.00	Deposit Refund Plot 10
N Grodde	BACS 179	£165.00	Fence repair Allotments
C Tyrrell	BACS 173	£872.79	Salaries January
S Bottoms	BACS 180	£59.32	Microsoft Licence Dec and Jan
Bedford Lions	BACS 181	£200.00	Attendance at Switch on
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 182	£3,484.65	New bins on Waveney Green
St Marks Church and Community Centre	BACS 183	£19.76	Room Hire
St Marks Church and Community Centre	BACS 184	£9.88	Room Hire
St Marks Church and Community Centre	BACS 185	£188.33	Office Hire
SLCC	BACS 186	<u>£180.00</u>	Clerk Membership
	Total Payments	£9,151.75	