

2024-25-10

Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held in St Marks Church and Community Centre on Thursday 3rd April 2025 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:

Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Green, Grant, Lamswood, Blakeman, Ward and the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms).

Absent: Cllrs Holloway, Testa, Rani, and Borough Cllrs Vann, Rider, Sawyer and Royden.

Summary of the meeting: -

Table 1 – The Minutes

Item	Description	Action
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Cllrs Holloway, Testa, Rani, and Borough Cllrs Vann, Rider, Sawyer and Royden.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:</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>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2025</p> <p>The Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>Public Open Session: None.</p>	

Item	Description	Action
5.	<p>To consider and agree action re: filling the vacancies on the Parish Council by co-option:</p> <p>No residents have come forward.</p>	
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 (see below).</p>	Clerk
7.	<p>To receive any update re: NDP:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the Borough Council has acknowledged receipt of the NDP. It is now with Borough Cllr Spice for her to give approval for the consultation to begin. It is hoped that the whole process will be completed by the Autumn. All involved were thanked for their hard work in moving this forward.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick
8.	<p>To consider and agree action re: a Parish Council work plan:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick circulated a draft version which set out some higher level perspectives on what the Parish Council is attempting to achieve in different areas of its remit. The draft version set out visions and goals. Discussion took place and Cllr Fitzpatrick will revise the version for reconsideration at the May meeting. Detailed discussion took place around protecting Waveney Green from future encampments. Cllr Fitzpatrick will contact the Borough Council.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick
9.	<p>To receive reports from the Borough Councillors:</p> <p>No reports had been yet received but once any arrive, the Clerk will circulate and put on the website.</p>	Clerk

Item	Description	Action
10.	<p>To consider and agree any action re: a plan to upgrade some play equipment on Waveney Green and Mowsbury Walk:</p> <p>i) To consider the recent annual inspection reports for Waveney Green, Mowsbury Walk and Ashmead Road and agree action:</p> <p>It was noted that the annual inspection reports had been circulated. Items listed were all low risk and some of the equipment mentioned may well be getting removed. Any outstanding works could be completed when larger works are underway. The rubber mulch under the green gym equipment on Ashmead Road was full of weeds and required spraying. The Clerk will ask the Borough Council if it can action as it will have the appropriate chemicals for use in a public area.</p> <p>Cllr Testa had circulated a detailed proposal including quotes for new equipment. This would make what was available more inclusive. The total cost would be £17,465 for Mowsbury Walk and £33,470 for Waveney Green.</p> <p>It was noted that monies were available in reserves for both areas to cover such a large spend.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved to approve the spend and accept the quotes but the exact siting needed final approval by Cllr Testa. It was also agreed to ask RPM to correct the low risk items and graffiti referred to above.</p>	Cllr Testa and the Clerk
11.	<p>To receive an update re: VAS on Waveney Avenue and agree any action:</p> <p>Following discussion, it was resolved, to purchase a M-SID Vario speed sign from Morelock Signs Ltd.</p> <p>The Clerk will ask Morelock to refresh the quote and will seek to establish if a maintenance contract is available.</p>	Clerk

Item	Description	Action
12.	<p>To receive any update re: North Bedford Pinetum:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick has been in further correspondence with the officer from Bedford Borough Council. The officer has asked for another site meeting to review the responses made by Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Grant to the original proposal. Following discussion, it was resolved to have one final meeting to agree which species should be located where.</p>	<p>Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Grant</p>
13.	<p>To receive an update on the Foster's Brow to Murdock Road connection:</p> <p>It was noted that this is the start of the new financial year and a new officer is in place. Cllr Fitzpatrick intends to contact the new officer to try to progress the dropped kerb and 'H' bar at the Murdock Road end as referred to in the previous meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Fitzpatrick</p>
14.	<p>To receive a report on the recent Borough Council Flood Forum:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick noted that the problem for Brickhill was surface flooding. He had circulated to parish councillors the flood pack provided by the Borough Council. What is not clear is what causes surface flooding in Brickhill. He has contacted the relevant officer and invited her to a future Parish Council meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Fitzpatrick</p>
15.	<p>To discuss and agree action re: Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) implemented by the Borough Council and consultation with the Parish Council:</p> <p>Discussion centred around the TRO for Kennet Rise which replaces a previous temporary one.</p> <p>The Parish Council was not consulted but Cllr Fitzpatrick had established that it should have been and will expect to be consulted should any further TPO's be planned for Brickhill.</p>	<p>Cllr Fitzpatrick</p>

Item	Description	Action
16.	<p>To discuss and agree any action re: restrictions imposed on street trading licenses and impact of restrictions on Brickhill:</p> <p>Cllr Fitzpatrick has previously commented on the restrictions (see previous meeting). He has been in contact with the Borough Council and is awaiting further clarification.</p>	Cllr Fitzpatrick
17.	<p>To note that the Annual Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday 8th May and discuss and agree any action:</p> <p>The Clerk has invited relevant groups and will advertise on the website and noticeboards.</p>	Clerk
18.	<p>To receive any update on outstanding matters from previous meetings:</p> <p>RTI accuracy and QR codes: No response back. The Clerk has chased the officer again.</p> <p>Transfer of land rear of 97 Curlew Crescent:</p> <p>The Borough will arrange removal of rubbish – a key access to the allotments is being organised. No progress. The key has still not been collected to access the allotments.</p> <p>Altering timing of fountain on Rooksmead – need to monitor charges. Chasing information from Npower. The Clerk will try to speak to the company.</p> <p>Dug- Outs on Woodlands – Borough response forwarded to Cllr Rider.</p>	
19.	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>Renewal application for Street Trading Consent outside the Town Centre for the following,</p> <p>Applicant: Khalid Hussain – Noted.</p> <p>Speed data – Circulated.</p>	

Item	Description	Action
	<p>PCC will be hosting his next 'Meet and Challenge' event in Putnoe 16th April – Noted.</p> <p>Brickhill Primary School – Fencing and intruders – Noted.</p> <p>Aelfric Court on Dearne Walk – fly tipping. The Clerk had responded to the resident.</p> <p>St John's Ambulance – grant request – Not specific enough to Brickhill.</p> <p>Disbandment of Good Neighbours – return of funds. Noted.</p>	
20.	<p>Employment matter. 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>	
21.	<p>Date of the Next Meeting:</p> <p>Thursday 1st May 2025 (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) at 7.30pm in St Marks Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise.</p>	

Approved by

Chairman
1st May 2025

Table 2 Payments for Approval

Payee	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Details
HMRC	BACS 202	£559.06	PAYE
C Tyrrell	BACS 203	£872.59	Salaries
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	BACS 204	£944.29	Pensions
S Bottoms	BACS 205	£1,451.12	Salaries
Benjamin	BACS 206	£208.00	WG Salaries
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£19.80	Telephone
Brickhill Community Centre	BACS 207	£49.20	Hall Hire
Play Inspection Company	BACS 208	£420.00	Play Inspections
The Wildlife Trust	BACS 209	£168.00	NDP Map
NPower	BACS 210	£117.97	Electricity for Fountain
NSYS	BACS 211	£1,088.72	Website
Rialtas Business Solutions	BACS 212	£216.00	Training Year End
UVE Planning	BACS 213	£1,734.00	Professional Support NDP
S Bottoms	BACS 214	£41.25	Expenses
Anglian Water	DD	£183.84	Water - Allotments
	Total Payments	£8,073.84	