BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

2025-26-3

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

Present:
Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Grant, Green, Holloway, Blakeman, Testa, Lamswood, the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms), 2 PCSO's, and Borough Cllr Sawyer.

Absent: Cllrs Ward, Rani, and Borough Cllrs Vann, Rider and Royden.

Summary of the meeting: -
Table 1 – The Minutes

Item	Description	Action
1.	**Apologies for Absence:** Borough Cllrs Vann, Rider and Royden.	
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 5th June 2025** The Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	**Public Open Session**: Police Attendance: The two Community Support Officers provided an update.	

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	The on-going work with traders regarding theft and anti-social behaviour at the Avon Drive shops was discussed with acceptable behaviour contracts being given out to offenders. Cllr Fitzpatrick would attempt to get CCTV supplied to the officers. Does the state of the area in front of the shops encourage this behaviour? The Parish Council could speak to the Borough Council about improvements. Discussion also took place around e-scooters and cycles. The two Community Support Officers were thanked for attending and left the meeting. It is hoped that a police presence will be possible at future parish council meetings.	**Cllr Fitzpatrick.**
5.	**Financial Matters:** i) To agree the bank reconciliations and any accounts for payment: **It was resolved** to accept these (see below).	**Clerk**
6.	**To consider and agree action re: a Parish Council work plan:** With regards possible bunding of Waveney Green, Cllr Fitzpatrick has been chasing the company which undertook work for the Borough Council elsewhere. It has promised to give a quotation but to date none has been received. Cllr Fitzpatrick asked for ideas from his fellow parish councillors for putting Brickhill on the map. Possibilities include village signs on poles, community libraries in a phone box, display boards covering Brickhill heritage, a map of Waveney Green showing distances around various loops. Cllr Fitzpatrick to circulate more information at a later stage.	**Cllr Fitzpatrick**

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7.	**To receive any updates re: Brickhill Community Centre:** Cllr Fitzpatrick has now got the half hourly electricity consumption figures. He has done some analysis and he is still chasing Bedford Borough Council for some more detailed gas figures. The Community Centre pays it bills based on a contract held by the Borough Council. The comprehensive survey by Robinson & Hall has now been circulated. The challenge is that the company would be willing to manage the maintenance work as it has done in the past but their fees may not be justifiable if the amount of maintenance work is quite small. The report mentions lack of cavity insulation in the walls and also the likelihood that the floor in the upper hall is also not insulated. A meeting to be organised with the Community Centre Management Association to agree which areas of work should be funded by the Parish Council and which by the Association. This is to be organised for August. Cllr Fitzpatrick has been trying to establish reconnection between the inverter and the router and may need help from Solaredge who provided the equipment. If it was then possible to work out the benefit of installing installation it may be possible to put a grant application into the Bedford Borough Council Mayor's Climate Change Fund. **It was resolved** that should adequate data be obtained in advance of the September meeting then Cllr Fitzpatrick could submit an application. The Parish Council would be likely to get 50% of the total cost.	
8.	**Flooding in Brickhill:** Following the presentation at the last meeting, Melanie Bright sent through to Cllr Fitzpatrick the information some of which has been circulated. Cllr Fitzpatrick spoke to the residents in Larksway who attended the June meeting. They had not received any further contact. **It was resolved** to create a Brickhill Community Flood Group. This might be a way to get commitment to providing further information to both those specific residents and also to the wider community. Support is needed from the Borough Council to keep gullies clear of	

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	leaves particularly in the Autumn and especially for the houses worse affected. An enhanced cleaning is needed for the worst affected gullies. It was resolved to keep flooding on the September agenda and if sufficient residents turn up it could be moved to the top of the agenda.	**Clerk**
9.	**To receive reports from the Borough Councillors:** A copy of the report from Borough Cllr Sawyer had been received ahead of the meeting. Borough Cllr Sawyer spoke to his report. The report from Cllr Royden arrived just ahead of the meeting and the Clerk agreed to circulate as soon as possible. The Clerk to arrange for copies to be put on the website.	**Clerk**
10.	**To receive any update re: NDP:** Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the Regulation 16 Consultation started on the 6th May and ended on the 20th June. One email has been received but to date no official feedback. Cllr Fitzpatrick will contact Planning Policy to get an update.	**Cllr Fitzpatrick**
11.	**To receive an update re: piece of land between Curlew Crescent and the allotments:** The Clerk is continuing to chase the Borough Council to identify the new officer involved in the casework.	**Clerk**
12.	**To receive any update on outstanding matters from previous meetings:** VAS: The Clerk will chase to get a delivery date.	**Clerk**
13.	**To receive any update re: planned play area works to Waveney Green and Mowsbury Walk:** There has been confirmation from Reids Playground Maintenance that work will begin on Mowsbury Walk on the 14th July.	

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	Cllr Grant would identify areas on Waveney Green where he believed additional rubber mulch was needed to avoid people having to stand on the grass. The Clerk will then get a quotation for the work.	**Clerk**
14.	**Correspondence**: Fully funded Climate Workshop on the 2nd July 6-9pm Bedford Borough Council: noted. Email re: CCTV cameras Bedford Borough Council: noted Speeding data: noted.	
15.	**To receive any update re: North Bedford Pinetum:** No further update available.	**Cllr Fitzpatrick**
16.	**Date of the Next Meeting:** Thursday 4th September 2025 at 7.30pm in St Marks Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise.	

Approved by

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Chairman

4th September 2025

Table 2 Payments for Approval

Payee	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Details
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	BACS 35	£ 384.14	Pensions
HMRC	BACS 36	£ 1,095.17	PAYE
S Bottoms	BACS 37	£ 1,153.67	Salaries
C Tyrrell	BACS 38	£ 887.79	Salaries
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£ 21.29	Telephone
Wave	DD	£ 232.44	Water Allotments
BATPC	BACS 39	£ 35.00	Training Stefan Testa
NPower	BACS 40	£ 106.69	Electricity for Fountain
BATPC	BACS 42	£ 2,029.00	Subs
Robinson and Hall	BACS 43	£ 4,290.00	Survey Fees
S Bottoms	BACS 44	£ 187.62	Anti Virus and Micro Licence
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 45	£ 9.88	Hall Hire June
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 46	£ 188.33	Office Rent June
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 47	£ 19.76	Hall Hire June
Reids Playground Maintenance	BACS 48	£ 300.00	Grafitti Removal
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 49	£ 257.95	Bin Empty WG Dec 24-Jan 25
S Bottoms	BACS 50	£ 118.39	Ink Cartridges
ACE Pest Control	BACS 51	£ 155.99	Wasp Nest
	Total Payments	**£ 11,582.27**	