

2026-27-03

Minutes of the Meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held at St Marks Church and Community Centre on Thursday 2nd July 2026 commencing at 7.30pm.

Present:

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

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

Summary of the meeting: -

Table 1 – The Minutes

Item	Description	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Green, Testa, Borough Cllrs Rider, Royden, Vann and Sawyer.	
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 4th June 2026 The Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	Public Open Session: (15 mins): None.	

Item	Description	Action
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 receive reports from the Borough Councillors: A report had been received and circulated from Borough Cllrs Sawyer and Vann. The Clerk will circulate the report from Borough Cllrs Royden and Rider once received and both will be placed on the website.	Clerk
7.	Waveney Green: i) To receive any update re: proposed bunding/protection for the Green: The Clerk has accepted the quotation for £46,360 ex. VAT. ii) To receive any update re: footpath repairs: The Clerk is still awaiting the quotation. She has chased this with the DJT.	Clerk
8.	To receive any updates re: Brickhill Community Centre: i) To note the state of the planned repairs: The Centre Manager is continuing to seek quotations for work. She will update the maintenance schedule for the next meeting. ii) An update on correspondence with the Borough Council about possible changes to drainage: Cllr Fitzpatrick has received a response from the Legal Department of the Borough Council. This clarified the fact that our lease is on the basis of full repair and therefore it is our duty to keep the Centre in a state of good repair. The Borough would need to be kept informed should any structural works be planned. Cllr Fitzpatrick has since had a meeting with a local roofing contractor who confirmed that the drain from the roof is adequate but requires regular cleaning. This has not	Clerk/Centre Manager Cllr Fitzpatrick

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	been on our planned maintenance schedule. We are now awaiting a quote for a twice yearly clean. iii) Potential options for the solar generation and use of batteries: Cllr Fitzpatrick has been modelling the data and has had further discussions with the company that has been helping us with the inverter etc. It is not clear if there would be any benefit from doing anything significant but Cllr Fitzpatrick will do further modelling. iv) Update on working with BPHA: Cllr Fitzpatrick has had a further meeting at the Community Centre with the Centre Manager and a couple of representatives from BPHA at the regular last Friday of the month coffee morning. On the 31st July there is to be a slightly bigger event which is basically a partner day when various representatives e.g. PAT testing, employment support etc will be in attendance. The parish council will support via advertising. On the 25th September, there will be a Macmillan coffee morning.	Cllr Fitzpatrick Clerk Cllr Fitzpatrick
9.	To receive an update on Vehicle Activation Signs for Brickhill: i) Speed control measures in Brickhill: Cllr Fitzpatrick has downloaded the latest data which has been circulated and forwarded for the website.	
10.	To receive an update following the attendance by the Mayor at the April meeting: i) Land off Ashmead Road: No further update. ii) Cracked path Woodlands Park: No further update. iii) Drains: No further update.	Clerk Cllr Fitzpatrick

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11.	To receive any update on outstanding matters from previous meetings: i) To consider action re: The fountain on Rooksmead Pond: The Clerk had circulated a note to all councillors asking their views on whether the parish council would be interested in taking over the provision and maintenance of the fountain but she had received no response. It was resolved that the Clerk will seek further information. ii) Prospective Brickhill Youth Club: The company had forwarded a proposal for 2026-27 at a total cost of £11,976. Cllrs Ward and Rani were meeting with representatives on Teams tomorrow. It was resolved that Cllrs Ward and Rani were given clearance to finalise plans up to the total cost referred to above. iii) S106 spending for Ravensden Park: Cllr Fitzpatrick has had an on-site meeting with officers from the Borough Council and a further meeting with representatives of Ravensden Parish Council to update them. He has since written to the two officers from Bedford Borough Council to get further information on who progresses this and he is awaiting further information from them. iv) Any update on the bench at Avon Drive shops: The bench has been installed and the Clerk will inspect it tomorrow. An invoice has been received for £220 from the Borough Council for installation. The Clerk has signed a Bench Licence. v) Acquisition of land at rear of Curlew Crescent: Still awaiting an update.	Clerk Cllrs Ward and Rani Cllr Fitzpatrick Clerk Clerk

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	vi) To note the arrival of the Speedwatch stickers and to decide distribution: The Clerk to contact the Speedwatch co-ordinator. vii) To note the EWR Consultation response: This had been submitted by the Clerk. The parish council thanked Cllr Fitzpatrick for drafting this. viii) Repair to the barrier to the Ashmead Road car park: Borough Cllr Rider has reported this. ix) Update on the recent litter pick: Thank you to those who helped on the 20th June. The plan will be to hold these on a regular basis in different parts of the parish and to advertise in the newsletter etc. x) Graffiti: Two of our bins on Waveney Green have had a large amount painted on them. The Clerk to ask Borough Cllr Royden for support from the Borough Council to remove it. Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that he had received contact from our local police officer to say they have images of the perpetrator of graffiti locally but have not yet identified them.	Clerk/Cllr Fitzpatrick Clerk
12.	Correspondence: i) Footway maintenance works on Brickhill Drive, Bedford are included within this year's annual BBC programme. Noted. ii) Secretary of State for Transport has revised the Safeguarding Directions for the East West Rail project. Noted. iii) Email from local police re: police priorities: Cllr Fitzpatrick had enquired about progress on these which focussed on e-bikes, off road bikes and e-scooters.	

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	A planned day of action in June in Brickhill had needed to be cancelled and a new date in September is being considered. The local police try to give as much time as possible to Brickhill but resources are stretched.	
13.	Date of the Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Date:- Thursday 3rd September 2026 at Time:- 7.30pm Venue:- St Marks Church and Community Centre, Calder Rise, Brickhill	

Approved by

Chairman
3rd September 2026

Table 2 Payments for Approval

Payee	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Details
Bedfordshire Pension Fund	BACS 50	£ 342.72	Pensions
C Tyrrell	BACS 51	£ 913.81	Salaries
S Bottoms	BACS 52	£ 1,117.23	Salaries
HMRC	BACS 53	£ 1,216.00	PAYE
Associated Telecom Solutions	DD	£ 23.08	Telephone
Otis Ltd	BACS 54	£ 873.11	Lift Service July-Sept 26
S Bottoms	BACS 55	£ 27.65	Microsoft licence
Prevention First	BACS 56	£ 478.02	Speedwatch Stickers
Bucks & MK Assoc Local Councils	BACS 57	£ 425.00	Training Cilca
BATPC	BACS 58	£ 2,070.00	Subs
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 59	£ 19.76	Hall Hire June 26
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 60	£ 188.33	Office Hire June 26
St Marks Church Community Centre	BACS 61	£ 9.88	Hall Hire June 26
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 62	£ 220.00	Installation Bench Avon Drive
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 63	£ 257.95	Litter WG Oct-Nov 25
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 64	£ 257.95	Litter WG Nov-Dec 25
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 65	£ 257.95	Litter WG Dec 25-Jan 26
Bedford Borough Council	BACS 66	£ 257.95	Litter WG Jan - Feb 26
	Total Payments	£ 8,956.39	