



BILLING PARISH COUNCIL

Established 1894

Serving Bellinge, Ecton Brook, Great Billing and Little Billing

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM AT 7.30pm ON MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2021

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors: Mrs T. Smith, Mrs C. Worthington, D. Brede,
J. Clements, M. Pearson, S. Ward

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
Paul Marks (Green Space Manager)
Cllr. A. Kilbride (NBC & NBC)
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)
Mrs Carrie Goodridge
2 Parishioners

		Action
13	<i>Apologies</i>	
13.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mrs Chagger (ill), R. Burbidge (other meeting) and A. Jones (family commitment). Belated apologies were also received from Cllr. Rockall.	
14	<i>Minutes</i>	
14.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11 th January 2021 (Folio Nos. 001/2021 – 004/2021) were approved and signed as a true record.	
15	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
15.1	None declared.	
16	<i>Public Forum</i>	
16.1	Fiona Borg introduced herself. She is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and it is hoped she will put forward her nomination for the elections due in May.	
17	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i>	
17.1	Cllr. Kilbride confirmed that the clothing depository currently sited in Bellinge would be moved to a more suitable location. He reported that he has allocated monies from his Empowerment Fund to Bellinge Community House for plants, and to the Parish Council for bee bombs.	
17.2	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has once again reported fly-tipped rubbish at the bottom end of Station Road, Great Billing and by Ecton Brook Primary School. This has been there some time and reported several times. AK to attempt to expedite. ➤ Non-functioning street lights have been reported. ➤ He has also reported the large pothole by the roundabout on Great Billing Way. 	AK

		Action																																																						
18	Planning																																																							
18.1	<p>N/2020/1491 – 4 Elwes Way, Great Billing – Erection of 6 foot wooden fence at back of retaining wall along length of front of property (Retrospective). The Parish Council's objection to this application has been forwarded to NBC Planning.</p> <p>N/2020/1633 – 56 Manorfield Close – Single storey rear extension. No comments or objections.</p>																																																							
18.2	<p>The following determinations had been received from NBC:</p> <p>N/2020/1561 – Sycamore House, 5 Convent Gardens, Great Billing. T1 Sycamore – Crown lift by removing first tier of branches followed by shortening remaining longer branches (width reduction). T2 Sycamore – Dismantle and fell to ground level. 2no Plum – Fell to ground level. Approved.</p> <p>N/2020/1219 – Land adjacent to 24 Church Lane, Lt Billing – New detached dwelling with off road parking to side. Withdrawn.</p> <p>N/2020/1225 – Development land at Ashmead, Lt Billing – Erection of 4no dwellings. Refused.</p> <p>N/2020/1229 – 2/4 Cattle Hill, Gt Billing – Demolition of boundary wall to provide access to garage and provide off road parking. Withdrawn.</p>																																																							
19	Finance																																																							
19.1	<p>The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Power of Expenditure</th><th>Incl. VAT</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Jan Salaries and monthly fee)</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>3,700.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>British Gas (Electricity Pavilion – Dec)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>405.55</td></tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Wood for fencing/stakes/plinths – New Trees)</td><td>OSA1906ss9&10</td><td>2,400.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Smith's Fire (Annual Fire Extinguisher Service plus spares)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>73.74</td></tr> <tr> <td>Smith's Fire (Install new Dry Power & Water Extinguishers)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>156.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unicom (Telephone & Broadband Pavilion – Jan)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>53.14</td></tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Clutch drive cable & sprocket)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>37.08</td></tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Stihl 12" Chainsaw)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>150.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>ESPO (2 Pitchmarker/5 bin liner holder/5 litterpickers)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>173.58</td></tr> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Shortfall on SO Jan salaries)</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>818.94</td></tr> <tr> <td>NEST (GSM Pension Contributions – Jan)</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>276.93</td></tr> <tr> <td>O2 (GSM Mobile – Jan)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>27.11</td></tr> <tr> <td>Minster Cleaning (Pavilion cleaning Jan)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>198.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>SSE (Unmetered electricity – street lighting Jan)</td><td>PCA1957s.3</td><td>252.49</td></tr> <tr> <td>BACA (400 blk sacks/Fleece lined gloves/12 prs Nitrile gloves)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>99.30</td></tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (1 x Plinth & Plaque/ 1 x Plaque)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>129.60</td></tr> <tr> <td>Barclaycard Commercial (January Credit Card statement)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>162.22</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Power of Expenditure	Incl. VAT	Small Business Payroll (Jan Salaries and monthly fee)	LGA1972s112	3,700.00	British Gas (Electricity Pavilion – Dec)	LGA1972s111	405.55	D F Phipps (Wood for fencing/stakes/plinths – New Trees)	OSA1906ss9&10	2,400.00	Smith's Fire (Annual Fire Extinguisher Service plus spares)	LGA1972s111	73.74	Smith's Fire (Install new Dry Power & Water Extinguishers)	LGA1972s111	156.00	Unicom (Telephone & Broadband Pavilion – Jan)	LGA1972s133	53.14	Garden Machines (Clutch drive cable & sprocket)	LGA1972s111	37.08	Garden Machines (Stihl 12" Chainsaw)	LGA1972s111	150.00	ESPO (2 Pitchmarker/5 bin liner holder/5 litterpickers)	LGA1972s111	173.58	Small Business Payroll (Shortfall on SO Jan salaries)	LGA1972s112	818.94	NEST (GSM Pension Contributions – Jan)	LGA1972s112	276.93	O2 (GSM Mobile – Jan)	LGA1972s133	27.11	Minster Cleaning (Pavilion cleaning Jan)	LGA1972s111	198.00	SSE (Unmetered electricity – street lighting Jan)	PCA1957s.3	252.49	BACA (400 blk sacks/Fleece lined gloves/12 prs Nitrile gloves)	LGA1972s111	99.30	D F Phipps (1 x Plinth & Plaque/ 1 x Plaque)	LGA1972s111	129.60	Barclaycard Commercial (January Credit Card statement)	LGA1972s111	162.22	
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19.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget for the period to 31.01.21 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																							
19.3	A copy of the Internal Control Procedure check as at the end of December 2020, carried out by Cllr. Rockall via Zoom, had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																							
19.4	<p>The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 31.01.21 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Current Account £24,093.72 ➤ Reserve Account £290,761.34 																																																							

		Action
20	<i>Other Matters</i>	
20.1	RESOLVED that the next Objectives Meeting would take place via Zoom at 4.00 pm on Monday 15 th February 2021. The Clerk to schedule the meeting and advise Members.	Clerk
20.2	RESOLVED that Carrie Goodridge be appointed as the new Clerk/RFO and for her to shadow and be trained by the present Clerk for a period of three months. It is hoped that a start date of 1 st April 2021 will be possible, but this will be dependent on social distancing regulations in place at that time. She will be attending an NCALC two-day New Clerks course via Zoom in March. The Chairman welcomed Carrie to the Council.	
20.3	There had been an on-going problem with youths congregating around the picnic bench at the top of Great Billing Pocket Park, particularly on Friday and Sunday evenings. Apart from the aggravation caused to local residents, underage drinking was taking place, vast amounts of litter left behind, and social distancing rules ignored. The police had attended on Friday 5 th February but unfortunately they only managed to apprehend one of the culprits. His (or her) parents have been served with a £300 fine for breaking Covid rules. It is hoped this will deter all other participants.	
20.4	NBC and their contractors have persistently refused to accept responsibility for the street light situated on the pathway at the rear of Oransay Close. RESOLVED that the Parish Council would adopt it; the Clerk will arrange for this to be added to the Parish Council inventory and for it to be repaired by our contractors.	
21	<i>Updates</i>	
21.1	No further communications had been received with regard to the transfer of ownership of Bellinge Community House from NBC.	Clerk
21.2	Proposed path in the Linear Park. A quotation had been received from Phoenix Paving for a total of £60,355.52 plus VAT. Cllr. Ward pointed out that this quotation was for a 1800mm wide path and he had been advised that a 1500mm wide path would be considerably cheaper. RESOLVED that this would be discussed in more detail at the Objectives meeting on 15 th February.	
22	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
22.1	The GSM reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has finished the new steps and handrail at the top of GB Pocket Park and this has been extremely well received by users. He has also created a small walk through in the fence as some walkers found the stile too high. Again this has been very well received. He has been asked if he could do a similar exercise at Little Billing pocket park, near the bridge, and he will be looking at this. ➤ He advised that a group called The Wombles had been litter picking in and near the parish with great results. ➤ He was concerned to note that someone had obviously been metal detecting in Bellinge Field and the Old Orchard and had dug and left various holes. 	Clerk
22.2	Due to COVID-19 19 restrictions there was no report from the volunteers at Little Billing Pocket Park.	

		Action
23	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
23.1	Cllr. Pearson said he was very disappointed at the state of the area around the ponds by Fishers Close and believed that work needed to be done by NBC contractors. AK will follow up.	AK
23.2	Cllr. Brede reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It would appear that a lot of parishioners experienced a loss of telephone lines over the weekend. ➤ There would appear to be a problem with the drains in Orchard Hill, Lt Billing. He has reported this and been advised that it will be done as part of normal maintenance but nothing appears to happen. Again AK will follow up. ➤ He asked the GSM if he had managed to speak to the gentleman who works at Anglian Water, but was advised that unfortunately he had not managed to do so as yet. 	AK
23.3	Cllr. Clements asked the GSM if he had the data from the speed camera from when it had been situated in Valley Road. He was advised that of the 9421 vehicles that passed the camera only 14 were travelling over 30 mph and none were doing over 35 mph.	
23.4	Cllr. Mrs Smith reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ She had attended the online 'Off to a Flying Start' course the previous week. ➤ She had received complaints from neighbours in Wildacre Drive living close to the A4500 regarding inconsiderate parking which occurs around 3.00 pm on weekday afternoons. It is believed these are people holding football matches in Lings, which is against COVID-19 rules. The GSM is to speak to the local SCT. 	GSM
23.5	Cllr. Ward reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is a lot of litter lying about in Ecton Brook, especially by the shops, which has been there since before Christmas. AK will follow up. ➤ He asked AK about the cutting back of bushes to the side and back of the former Care Home in Ecton Brook, which he requested at an earlier PC meeting. AK advised that this building is being taken back by NCC and he will follow up. ➤ He asked the GSM if he could site the wildlife camera on the lamp post by the pharmacy as one inconsiderate owner was not picking up after his (large) dog. 	AK AK GSM
23.6	Cllr. Mrs Worthington reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cllr. Burbidge had asked her to advise that online services were still taking place but church services will resume as soon as they are allowed. He was delighted that Tim Bedworth had received the Rose of Northampton award. ➤ She was pleased to note that the road sweeper had attended Great Billing last week. However, although some places looked good others did not appear to have been touched. 	
24	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
24.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.30 pm Objectives Meeting – 4.00 pm Monday 15 th February 2021 Next Parish Council Meeting – 7.30 pm Monday 8 th March 2021 Both meetings to be held via Zoom.	