



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 11TH JANUARY 2021

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors: Mrs. G. Kaur Chaggar, Mrs T. Smith, Mrs C. Worthington, D. Brede,
R. Burbidge, J. Clements, A. Jones, M. Pearson, S. Rockall,

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

		Action
001	Apologies	
1.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. S. Ward (ill with Covid).	
002	Minutes	
2.1	The Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 th December 2020 (Folio Nos. 050/2020 – 055/2020) were approved and signed as a true record.	
003	Declarations of Interest	
3.1	None declared.	
004	Public Forum	
4.1	No-one wished to speak.	
005	Reports from Outside Agencies	
5.1	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden, said he had still had no success with the repair of the broken street light at the back of Oransay Close, and that he was keeping a close eye on the many potholes in the parish. Cllr. Kilbride said he would attempt to expedite work on the lamp.	AK
5.2	Cllr. Kilbride said that Great Billing Way would be resurfaced as soon as the weather allowed, which would probably be in the Spring. The 20mph mandatory speed limit that has recently been introduced on this road is temporary and is for safety reasons. Speed checks will be carried out.	
006	Planning	
6.1	N/2020/1225 – Development land at Ashmead – Erection of 4no dwellings. This is an amended application reducing the number of proposed dwellings from 5 to 4. However the original reasons for the Parish Council to object to this application still stand and the Parish Council have already written to Planning to confirm this.	

		Action																																													
006	Planning (Continued)																																														
6.2	N/2020/1510 – Old School House, 2 Station Road, Great Billing – Removal of existing single storey side extension and construction of new single storey side extension, two storey rear extension, replacement front porch, new sliding metal front gates to driveway and 1no 1200 x 1200 window to match existing to north elevation of master bedroom. (Resubmission of N/2020/0057). No comments or objections.																																														
6.3	N/2020/1517 – Former Pearce Leather Works, Wellingborough Road – Listed building consent for conversion and extension of existing building to 28no flats, with the provision of bin store areas and car parking. This is an amendment to previously obtained planning permission and it had been ascertained only affects the internal layout increasing the number of flats from 20 to 29. No comments or objections.																																														
6.4	The following determinations had been received from NBC: N/2020/1333 – 9 Whiteheart Close, Gt Billing – Construction of timber storage unit in garden (retrospective). APPROVED. N/2020/1399 – 64 Damson Dell, Lt Billing – Single storey brick outbuilding (retrospective). APPROVED. N/2020/1411 – 18 Woburn Gate, Ecton Brook – Single storey front extension and two storey side extension. APPROVED. N/2020/1446 – 24 Penfold Drive, Gt Billing – T30 Monkey Puzzle – Remove. T1 Beech – Cut back one overhanging branch. APPROVED. N/2020/1483 – 6 Elwes Way, Gt Billing – Removal of T1 Sweet Chestnut. WITHDRAWN.																																														
007	Finance																																														
7.1	The list of Accounts for Approval for payment had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:																																														
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7.2	The schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget for the period to 31.12.20 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																														
7.3	The schedule showing the Accounts for the third quarter to the end of December 2020 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																														

		Action
007	Finance (Continued)	
7.4	<p>The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 31.12.20 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Current Account £31,197.83 ➤ Reserve Account £290,759.08 	
008	Other Matters	
8.1	<p>Website. RESOLVED that the Parish Council domain name be changed to billingparish.gov.uk. This will obviously necessitate all parish council email addresses to change too but this can be resolved by saving present emails and redirecting new ones. Steve Bishop said he will have to tighten security to prevent scam emails. He and the Clerk will discuss in further detail in the next few days. Also RESOLVED that where possible all Councillors will have parish council email addresses with Steve assisting those that need it.</p>	Clerk/ SB
8.2	<p>RESOLVED that Paul Marks, Green Space Manager be appointed as the Police Liaison Representative for the Parish. He will be the single point of contact with Northants Police.</p>	Clerk
8.3	<p>A copy of the proposed parking restriction changes for Pound Lane, Cattle Hill and High Street, Great Billing had been received from Northamptonshire Highways, a copy of which had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be accepted without further amendment. These proposals will now go out for public consultation.</p>	Clerk
8.4	<p>A new street sign for Elwes Way had been made by the GSM and affixed to the wall of the Rectory. However Cllr. Pearson said he believed another sign was required at the other end of this stretch of Elwes Way. Agreed that the Clerk would ascertain from Highways if they would be prepared to do this.</p>	Clerk
8.5	<p>Date for Objectives Meeting. Held over to February meeting.</p>	
009	Updates	
9.1	<p>No further updates had been received with regard to the transfer of ownership of Bellinge Community House. The Chairman reported that he had had a telephone conversation with Toby Birch, Chair of Community Spaces Northampton, who is very keen for the Parish Council to take over ownership of the Community Centre in addition to the Community House. He was advised that this had been discussed but decided against in the first instance. However, this is something that can be revisited should it be deemed necessary and desirable in the future.</p>	
9.2	<p>Cllr. Ward had advised that he had arranged for Phoenix Paving to undertake an initial site visit with regard to the proposed path through Ecton Brook Linear Park, and their quotation is awaited.</p>	
010	Leisure & Recreation	
10.1	<p>The GSM reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has made and installed two signs for Little Billing Pocket Park in addition to the new street sign for Elwes Way. ➤ He has replaced the steps at the side of Great Billing Pocket Park leading down to the underpass to Ecton Brook. His intention is to now replace the steps at the top end of the pocket park. 	

		Action
010	<i>Leisure & Recreation (Continued)</i>	
10.1	<p>GSM Report (Cont..)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The speed camera has now been moved to Valley Road, Little Billing. ➤ Although it is debatable whether the Summer Fayre will be able to take place this year, he suggested that he went ahead with preparations as normal as he felt everything could be cancelled without too many problems if this was necessary. The scheduled date is 26th June 2021. 	
011	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
11.1	Cllr. Clements asked if there were any updates with regard to the damaged lamp columns in Valley Road. He was advised that the Chairman had once again spoken to the MD at our contractors and the Clerk had followed this up with another email. It would appear that all or most of the staff have been furloughed but it is hoped that this and the two outstanding light repairs would be dealt with as soon as possible.	
11.2	Cllr. Mrs Smith asked to be advised of the dates arranged for 2021 litter picks and asked for them to be advertised on the website and social media. She reported that she was extremely concerned to see the vast amount of (unsuitable) food that appeared to have been left for the swans at Little Billing Pocket Park. This had attracted huge amounts of rats and she believed notices warning against this should be installed. She also reported that there had been a lot of crime on the Wildacre Drive estate over Christmas and New Year.	GSM
11.3	Cllr. Brede asked Cllr. Kilbride if he knew anything with regard to the possibility that elections could be postponed once again. Cllr. Kilbride advised that he understood a decision would be made shortly by the Government.	
11.4	Cllr. Mrs Kaur Chaggar said she was concerned to note that masks and gloves were being discarded at bus stops. She was advised that no-one should attempt to pick these up without using litter-pickers. There are spares available in the Community House or from the GSM.	
11.5	Cllr. Rockall asked if the GSM could please post some of the Parish walk maps through his letter box. He is unfortunately having to isolate at present.	GSM
11.6	Cllr. Burbidge advised that once again the churches are closed.	
11.7	Cllr. Jones said he was delighted to finally access the Zoom meetings and hoped he would not experience difficulties in the future.	
12	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
12.1	<p>There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35 pm.</p> <p>Date of next meeting: 7.30 pm on Monday 8th February 2021 via Zoom.</p>	