



# BILLING PARISH COUNCIL

Established 1894

Serving Bellinge, Ecton Brook, Great Billing and Little Billing

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT  
7.30pm ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2021  
AT BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

**PRESENT** J. A. Marlow (Chairman of Billing Parish Council)  
Cllrs. Mrs T. Smith, Mrs C. Worthington, Mr D. Brede, Mr J. Clements, Mr M. Pearson, Mr S. Rockall, Mr C. Shah.

**Also Present:** Mrs C. Goodridge (Clerk to Billing Parish Council)  
Mr. P. Marks (Green Space Manager)  
Mr. D. Lang (Parish Highway Warden)  
No Parishioners

		Action
<b>105</b>	<b><i>Apologies for Absence</i></b>	
105.1	Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Mrs G. K. Chaggar (isolating), Rev. R. Burbidge (ill) and Mr S. Ward (work commitments). Apologies were also received from WNC Councillors Mr K. Holland-Delamere and Mr. J. Hill (other meeting).	
<b>106</b>	<b><i>Minutes</i></b>	
106.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 (Folio Nos. 053/2021 – 059/2021) were approved and signed as a true record.	
<b>107</b>	<b><i>Declarations of Interest</i></b>	
107.1	Cllr. Brede declared a pecuniary interest in Planning Application WNN/2021/1119 (item 6 (e) on the agenda) due to it being his planning application.	
<b>108</b>	<b><i>Public Forum</i></b>	
108.1	No-one wished to speak.	
<b>109</b>	<b><i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i></b>	
109.1	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Potholes at the entrance to Valentines Way, Paddock Way and Cottage Gardens have now been repaired.</li> <li>➤ The damaged barrier between Lakeside Drive and Sheerwater Drive has now been repaired.</li> <li>➤ Reported pothole on right side of Church Walk opposite terrace houses, (Will monitor as advised no further action), on Ecton Brook Road just up from the school towards Pennycress Place and on the Wellingborough Road just before Cottage Gardens.</li> <li>➤ Reported dog bin by Valley Road bridge as it's falling apart (inspection should be within ten days).</li> </ul>	

		Action																																				
<b>109</b>	<b>Reports from Outside Agencies (Continued)</b>																																					
109.2	In his absence Councillor J. Hill (WNC) reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The West Northants Strategic Plan consultation has been extended until 24<sup>th</sup> December and suggested that Councillors look at the sites proposed next to Ecton Brook and Rectory Farm.</li> </ul>	<b>Cllrs</b>																																				
<b>110</b>	<b>Planning</b>																																					
110.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. WNN/2021/0996 - 18 Sheerwater Drive, Ecton Brook - New front porch - <b>No comments or objections.</b></li> <li>b. WNN/2021/1028 - 24 Penfold Lane, Great Billing - First floor side and front extension above garage - The Parish Council's comments to this application has been forwarded to WNC Planning.</li> <li>c. WNN/2021/1021 - 14 Kingscroft Court, Bellinge - Change of use from dwelling house (use class C3) to house in multiple occupation (use class C4) for 5 occupants - The Parish Council's objection to this application has been forwarded to WNC Planning.</li> <li>d. WNN/2021/1056 - 63 Damson Dell, Little Billing - Existing Conservatory to be removed and new conservatory / habitable room built - <b>No comments or objections.</b></li> <li>e. WNN/2021/1119 - Blossom Way, Little Billing – Single storey front and rear extension - <b>No comments or objections.</b></li> </ul>																																					
110.2	The following determinations had been received from WNC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>WNN/2021/0489</b> - 27 Vantage Meadow, Ecton Brook - Conversion of double garage to games room, new front parking space, changes to existing and additional fenestration to rear and side elevations, wrap around single storey extension and garage link – <b>Approved</b></li> <li>b. <b>WNN/2021/0806</b> - 4 Lady Winefrides, Gt Billing - Dormer enlargement, addition of Juliet Balcony and roof light (amendment to planning permission N/2020/0131) – <b>Approved</b></li> <li>c. <b>WNN/2021/0972</b> - 7 Lady Winefrides Walk, Gt Billing - T1 Yew - Reduce height and take off shoots at the bottom for safety - <b>Approved</b></li> </ul>																																					
<b>111</b>	<b>Finance</b>																																					
111.1	The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following: <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1603 1273 1944"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Nov) Salaries and monthly fee)</td> <td>LGA1972s133</td> <td>3700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting &amp; CCL (October)</td> <td>PCA1957s.3</td> <td>275.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unicom, Pavilion Telephone / Broadband (October)</td> <td>LGA1972s133</td> <td>49.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Footprint (FPWM Ltd, Pavilion General Waste Collection (Oct)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>92.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wilson Browne, Local Authority Searches for Purchase of Bellinge CH</td> <td>LGA1976s19</td> <td>556.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O2, GSM &amp; Clerk Mobile Phone (21/10/21 - 20/11/21)</td> <td>LGA1972s133</td> <td>31.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll, Shortfall of standing order November Salaries</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>249.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEST, Pension Contribution for October</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>361.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wave, Water Bill for Pavilion (10/08/21 – 09/11/21)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>73.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>British Gas, Pavilion Electricity Usage (19/10/21 – 15/11/21)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>172.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N J Barber Ltd, Cleaning of the Pavilion (November)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>202.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclaycard Commercial, Statement for November</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>487.38</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Small Business Payroll (Nov) Salaries and monthly fee)	LGA1972s133	3700.00	SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting & CCL (October)	PCA1957s.3	275.11	Unicom, Pavilion Telephone / Broadband (October)	LGA1972s133	49.60	Footprint (FPWM Ltd, Pavilion General Waste Collection (Oct)	LGA1972s111	92.46	Wilson Browne, Local Authority Searches for Purchase of Bellinge CH	LGA1976s19	556.00	O2, GSM & Clerk Mobile Phone (21/10/21 - 20/11/21)	LGA1972s133	31.92	Small Business Payroll, Shortfall of standing order November Salaries	LGA1972s112	249.99	NEST, Pension Contribution for October	LGA1972s112	361.67	Wave, Water Bill for Pavilion (10/08/21 – 09/11/21)	LGA1972s111	73.37	British Gas, Pavilion Electricity Usage (19/10/21 – 15/11/21)	LGA1972s111	172.25	N J Barber Ltd, Cleaning of the Pavilion (November)	LGA1972s111	202.96	Barclaycard Commercial, Statement for November	LGA1972s111	487.38	
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111.2	The schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget for the period to 30.11.21 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																					

		Action
<b>111</b>	<b>Finance (Continued)</b>	
111.3	The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 30.11.21 were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Current Account £11,284.22</li> <li>➤ Reserve Account £365,787.91</li> </ul>	
111.4	It was RESOLVED that funding of £44.99 be provided to Sport4Fitness to enable them to purchase a potted Christmas Tree.	Clerk
111.5	A copy of the detailed proposed budget for the financial year ending 31.03.23 had been forwarded to all members and this had been discussed in detail at the Finance meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2021. It was unanimously agreed and RESOLVED that the budget (appendix 1) and precept, i.e., a figure of £175,450, be adopted without amendment.	
111.6	After a discussion it was RESOLVED that the hire charge for Abington Cricket Club to use the Great Billing Pocket Park and Pavilion facilities will be £50.00 per game.	
<b>112</b>	<b>Other Matters</b>	
112.1	The Mowing of Little Billing Village Green It was agreed in the Parish Council meeting on 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 that the Parish would take over the mowing of Little Billing Village Green and that this would be reviewed after twelve months. It has been RESOLVED that this would continue until further notice.	
112.2	The Adoption of Greensward in Orchard Hill Cllr. Brede wanted to discuss to possibility of Billing Parish Council adopting the area of Greensward adjacent to Orchard Hill. However, after discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would not look to adopt this area at this stage due to the maintenance needs but would replace the missing Cherry Blossom trees.	DB
112.3	Amphitheatre on Bellinge Field Cllr. Brede enquired about the possibility of an amphitheatre being carved into Bellinge Field. It could be used to hold music or theatre productions. After much discussion it was agreed that Cllr. Brede would investigate the topic further.	DB
112.4	Climate Emergency Billing Parish Council would like to support the Climate Emergency declaration. It was RESOLVED that a small committee including Cllr. Smith, Brede, Marlow, Rockall and Shah would come together to discuss the climate issues and how the Parish can move forward.	TS DB JM SR CS
<b>113</b>	<b>Updates</b>	
113.1	Installation of Little Billing Notice Board. The Clerk has heard back from Highways who have confirmed that they need the exact location of the installation. Once received they will complete the necessary paper work. Cllr. Clements to send this to the Clerk.	JC
113.2	Installation of New Bin on Fishponds Road The Clerk has continued to chase this but no further update available. Clerk to write to WNC for an update.	

		<b>Action</b>
<b>113</b>	<b>Updates (continued)</b>	
113.3	<p>Anti-Social Behaviour Bellinge.</p> <p>The anti-social behaviour seems to have alleviated slightly since the introduction of the new PSCO's. They have been engaging with the youths and have managed to get them enrolled in the Frank Bruno Foundation.</p>	
113.4	<p>Ecton Brook Linear Park.</p> <p>In his absence Cllr. Ward, had forwarded the following report: Peter Hackett, Direct Service Manager, Assets and Environment for WNC visited Linear Park on 10<sup>th</sup> December and agreed that the area has been neglected and a considerable amount of work is required. Initially he is going to request contractors to unblock the stream adjacent with Millbank and ask Ben Lloyd to look at the work involved. Cllr. Marlow also informed that Victoria Smith from WNC has also been in contact regarding the possible acquisition of Linear Park with funding and will be in contact again in the New Year.</p>	
113.5	<p>Parking High Street Great Billing.</p> <p>No further update received from Highways.</p>	
113.6	<p>E-Scooters</p> <p>Voi Scooters have been seen passing through Great Billing Pocket Park and Bellinge Field. The Clerk had previously been advised by Voi that all Parish owned land had been placed on the exclusion zone so unsure why this is happening. The Clerk has been in contact with Voi and made them aware of this.</p>	
113.7	<p>Bellinge Community House</p> <p>The Local Authority, Groundsure, Drainage and Water searches are now complete. Wilson Browne Solicitors are chasing the outstanding information from the vendors solicitor.</p>	
113.8	<p>Queens Platinum Jubilee (Queens Green Canopy)</p> <p>The GSM confirmed that the remaining trees for the avenue on Bellinge Field have now been received and planted. The silver birch trees for the small copse are on order however unsure when they will be delivered. Cllr. Rockall informed that he has been approached by Rotary Club of Northampton Becket to see if there is a possibility of them being able to use an area of our Parish owned land to enable children from Sport4Fitness and the Parish to plant. They will be willing to pay for the supply of the trees and the costs towards the plaques. Cllr. Rockall shall arrange a meeting with Rotary Club of Northampton Becket to discuss further.</p>	<b>SR</b>
113.9	<p>Replacement Tree in Ecton Brook</p> <p>The tree has been delivered; however, the old tree and surround will need to be removed via machinery. GSM to explore hiring a breaker.</p>	<b>GSM</b>
113.10	<p>Trim Trail Great Billing Pocket Park</p> <p>The working group has met today and discussed in detail the installation of trim trail at Great Billing Pocket Park. It was proposed that a medium sized trim trail be installed within the playground area. After discussion with the rest of the Council it was RESOLVED that the Parish Council would proceed with the installation of the medium Trim Trail at a cost of £3595.00 + VAT for supply and fit following Wickstead Leisure's site visit. GSM to arrange.</p>	<b>GSM</b>

		Action
<b>114</b>	<b><i>Leisure &amp; Recreation</i></b>	
114.1	GSM Update The GSM reported that following the storm the trees that were dangerously hanging or leaning have now been made safe and work on removing the fallen trees has begun.	
114.2	Little Billing Pocket Park Update In his absence Michael Clasper, Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteers, had forwarded the following report: In the last volunteering session, seven volunteers trimmed the hedge rows and trees, edged and swept the main footpath and collected and disposed of the litter.	
114.3	Ecton Brook Residents Association In her absence Sally Jordan, Ecton Brook Residents Association, had forwarded the following report: Sadly, a fire broke out in a family home in Ecton Brook which has left the home unliveable. The community has rallied together and set up a go fund me page which has raised over £3500.00. December is a month of firsts for the resident's group, they are holding the following events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 29 Community Advent Windows, have been decorated for children to find by using daily clues. When they have completed this on 24<sup>th</sup> December, they will receive a selection box.</li> <li>➤ Carol Singing will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> December for the residents of Pennycress Place and Sotheby Rise.</li> <li>➤ A visit from Santa (Cllr. Paul Clark) and his elves (Sally Jordan and volunteers) will be made along Ecton Brook Road on 18<sup>th</sup> December. They will be handing out sweets to any children they see on the way.</li> </ul>	
<b>115</b>	<b><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i></b>	
115.1	Cllr. Pearson wanted to make the Parish Council aware of that he has seen robot delivery vehicles within Great Billing. The Clerk confirmed that they are a grocery delivery service that is working from Co-op on Bellinge.	
115.2	Cllr. Worthington wanted to remind everyone that the Outdoor Carol Service will be taking place outside St Andrews Church, Great Billing, this coming Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm and that it will last for around forty-five minutes.	
115.3	Cllr. Brede requested an update on Little Billing Riverside Walk. Cllr. Marlow advised that Michael Clasper is currently awaiting the response to a further funding request from the National Lottery.	
115.4	Cllr. Clements wanted to update that the footbridge that leads over Billing Brook from between Glade Close and Fishers Close to Valley Road has now been repaired, however the fencing and signage is still there. The Clerk will contact Highways and ask them to remove this. He also wanted to advise that the Little Billing Village Green No Parking Notices seem to be working for residents, however not for contractors. Cllr. Clements will get the details of the contractors so that a letter can be sent requesting that they find an alternative parking place due to the damage that is being caused.	JC

		<b>Action</b>
<b>115</b>	<b><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (continued)</i></b>	
115.5	Cllr. Rockall wanted to ask if The Elwes Arms Public House could be placed on the Parish Website. The Clerk confirmed that they are included in the directory section. It was found that a link is also provided which takes you to directly to their website. He also wanted to say thank you to Bipin Patel (owner of the Ecton Brook Post Office) for raising money for the family whose home was affected by the fire and also holding a free children's Christmas Party.	
115.6	Cllr. Marlow wanted to wish all the Councillors and Parishioners a safe and Merry Christmas.	
<b>116</b>	<b><i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i></b>	
116.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.57pm. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Bernard Weston Pavilion, Gt. Billing.	

## APPENDIX 1

## BILLING PARISH COUNCIL - BUDGET 2022/2023

	<u>2021/2022</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2022/2023</u> <u>Budget</u>
<u>Receipts</u>		
<i>Precept</i>	175,450	175,450
<i>Agency</i>	-	-
<i>Loans/Cap Receipts</i>	-	-
Billing Fayre	330	400
Grants		
Playing Field/Pavilion	15,000	14,900
Miscellaneous	2,500	2,000
<i>Other Receipts: Interest</i>	120	60
<i>Sale of Assets</i>		
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>193,400</b>	<b>192,810</b>
<u>Payments</u>		
<i>General Administration</i>	147,670	193,750
<i>S 137 Payments</i>	4,000	3,000
<i>Loans/Capital Repayments</i>	-	-
<i>Election Expenses</i>	500	750
Lighting – Energy Costs	3,000	3,000
Lighting – Repairs/Renewals, etc.	1,500	2,000
s19LG(MP)A 1976 - grants	3,000	3,000
Capital Expenditure	5,000	15,000
Professional & Legal fees, etc	6,750	7,000
Training & Conferences/Seminars	1,500	1,800
Repairs to PC owned property	3,000	23,000
Newsletter	2,400	2,700
Insurance	1,650	1,950
Subscriptions	3,000	3,000
<i>Other Payments (Contingency)</i>	16,000	16,000
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>198,970</b>	<b>275,950</b>
<u>Receipts and Payments Summary</u>		
From Reserves	5,570	83,140
Add Total Receipts	193,400	192,810
	198,970	275,950
Less Total Payments	198,970	275,950
Excess Income over Expenditure	0	0