



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 14th MARCH 2022 AT BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING

PRESENT

J. A. Marlow (Chairman of Billing Parish Council)
Cllrs. 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)
Two Parishioners

		Action
025	<i>Apologies for Absence</i>	
25.1	Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Mrs G. K. Chaggar (unwell), Mrs T. Smith (work commitments), Mrs C. Worthington (self-isolating) and Rev. R. Burbidge (work commitments), Mr. S. Ward (work commitments). Apologies were also received from Unitary Councillor Mr K. Holland-Delamere and Parish Highway Warden Mr. D. Lang.	
026	<i>Minutes</i>	
26.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 th February 2022 (Folio Nos. 007/2022 - 012/2022) were approved and signed as a true record.	
027	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
27.1	None declared	
028	<i>Public Forum</i>	
28.1	Mr Parsons wanted to find out the reason behind the Green Space Contractors use of weed killer around the trees, fences and edges on the Leys and Bellinge Field rather than the use of strimming which is more environmentally friendly. Cllr Marlow confirmed that this is the method used by our contractors which is more cost effective, however this will be discussed with them.	
	Mr Parsons also wanted to understand the need to flail trim the hedges and the clearance of Bellinge Field. The GSM confirmed that the cutting back of hedges in the autumn helps to promote healthy growth in the spring. Regarding Bellinge Field, this had grown out of control due to the lack of maintenance by NBC. After consulting with the Woodland Trust, the area was cleared so that the native trees would no longer be choked by the brambles and ivy. The hedge row has been replanted allowing more room for growth and to increase the biodiversity. Mr Parsons has requested the details of the Woodlands Trust contact which the Clerk will provide.	Clerk

		Action
028	<i>Public Forum (continued)</i>	
28.1	Lastly Mr Parsons wanted to clarify if the Parish Council had agreed to a land swap with the developer of the proposed care home site. Cllr. Marlow and Cllr. Rockall confirm that Billing Parish Council had not entered into any discussions at this stage but that anyone making a planning application does not need to own the land where the application is made. If the developer does approach the Parish regarding the land the matter will be discussed at a Parish Council Meeting.	
28.2	Another parishioner wanted to bring to our attention the Safer Community Grant which has been awarded to an Estate in Wellingborough for CCTV cameras. They wondered if this could be something the Parish could apply for. The Clerk will look into	Clerk
029	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i>	
29.1	In his absence Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Missing keep left signs from the centre of Great Billing Way and the Wellingborough Road. ➤ Missing kerb stone on the Wellingborough Road just past Cottage Gardens. ➤ Fallen road sign due to rusted post just before Great Billing. ➤ Fallen tree between Manorfield Road and Billing Aquadrome which has now been cleared. ➤ A number of fallen trees along Billing Brook in Little Billing. This area is not included within the Idverde contract therefore they are having to submit a quotation to WNC and await authorisation before they can clear this. 	
29.2	In his absence Cllr. Holland-Delamere (WNC) reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paths around St Andrews CEVA Primary - Veolia have advised that the site has been inspected and work will be taking place to clean the paths, however no date has been given to when this will commence. I will liaise with my contact to confirm exactly what work is needed (the clearing of mud from the edges and restoring the width of the path to its original width). The issues with the paving will have to go to Highways which will take longer however I will chase this, this week. ➤ Bus route 17 Fishponds Road – Jade has confirmed it's taking longer to organise a meeting. I was due to attend the Bus Strategy meeting a fortnight ago but it was delayed until to later this week. It's not an easy one as there have been service cuts and reductions in frequencies across WNC due to multiple issues (e.g., staffing, petrol, fall in passenger numbers and impending removal of some concessionary bus travel support). 	
030	<i>Planning</i>	
30.1	<p>a. N/2020/0357 - Development Site, Fishponds Road - Erection of 60 bed care home, 13 Assisted living units and 4 dwellings - A letter of objection has been forwarded to Planning. Due to the size of the development, it will automatically be included on Northampton Area Planning Committee agendas without it being called in.</p> <p>b. WNN/2022/0157 - 22 Whiteheart Close, Great Billing – Ground floor and first floor side extension - No comments or objections</p>	

		Action																																																						
030	Planning (continued)																																																							
30.1	<p>c. WNN/2022/0164 - 10 Windflower Place – Demolish and rebuild fire damaged dwelling - No comments or objections</p> <p>d. WNN/2022/0210 - 31 Valley Road, Little Billing – Erection of garage to side of house No comments or objections</p>																																																							
30.2	<p>The following determinations had been received from WNC:</p> <p>a. WNN/2021/0464 - 10 Parkside, Ecton Brook - Single storey side extension and single storey front infill extension – Approved</p> <p>b. WNN/2021/0908 - 5 Gibbsacre Court, Bellinge – First floor rear extension and porch – Approved</p>																																																							
031	Finance																																																							
31.1	<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"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll Salaries and monthly fee (December)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>3700.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps, Consultation, erecting compounds, planting trees</td><td>OSA1906s9 & 10</td><td>3454.97</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wave, Water Bill for Pavilion (10/11/21 – 09/02/22)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>34.48</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unicom, Pavilion Telephone / Broadband January</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>58.52</td></tr> <tr> <td>O2, GSM & Clerk Mobile Phones (21/01/22 – 20/02/22)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>42.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Footprint, Pavilion General Waste Removal (January)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>123.06</td></tr> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll, Shortfall of standing order February Salary</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>249.99</td></tr> <tr> <td>NEST, Pension Contribution for February</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>361.67</td></tr> <tr> <td>Paul Marks, Reimbursement Diesel GSM Truck Parish CC Declined</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>97.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>British Gas, Pavilion Electricity Usage (19/01/22 – 14/02/22)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>491.70</td></tr> <tr> <td>L R Pennell, Rpl hot water heater & isolation of water tank Pavilion</td><td>LG(MP)A1976s.19</td><td>1300.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>SLCC, Clerks Annual Membership from 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023</td><td>LGA1972s143</td><td>171.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Poclingtons Ltd, Hedged Cutting in the Leys</td><td>OSA1906s9 & 10</td><td>360.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>N J Barber, Cleaning of the Pavilion for January</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>202.96</td></tr> <tr> <td>Barclaycard Commercial, Statement for February</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>920.41</td></tr> <tr> <td>Paul Marks, Plants for Winter Walk at Gt Billing Pocket Park</td><td>OSA1906s9 & 10</td><td>139.99</td></tr> <tr> <td>Harlestone Group, Oak Post for Bellinge Field</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>105.60</td></tr> <tr> <td>Forde & McHugh, Repair to street lamp 56 on Pavilion Driveway</td><td>PCA1957s.3</td><td>69.24</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Small Business Payroll Salaries and monthly fee (December)	LGA1972s133	3700.00	D F Phipps, Consultation, erecting compounds, planting trees	OSA1906s9 & 10	3454.97	Wave, Water Bill for Pavilion (10/11/21 – 09/02/22)	LGA1972s111	34.48	Unicom, Pavilion Telephone / Broadband January	LGA1972s133	58.52	O2, GSM & Clerk Mobile Phones (21/01/22 – 20/02/22)	LGA1972s133	42.00	Footprint, Pavilion General Waste Removal (January)	LGA1972s111	123.06	Small Business Payroll, Shortfall of standing order February Salary	LGA1972s112	249.99	NEST, Pension Contribution for February	LGA1972s112	361.67	Paul Marks, Reimbursement Diesel GSM Truck Parish CC Declined	LGA1972s111	97.00	British Gas, Pavilion Electricity Usage (19/01/22 – 14/02/22)	LGA1972s111	491.70	L R Pennell, Rpl hot water heater & isolation of water tank Pavilion	LG(MP)A1976s.19	1300.00	SLCC, Clerks Annual Membership from 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023	LGA1972s143	171.00	Poclingtons Ltd, Hedged Cutting in the Leys	OSA1906s9 & 10	360.00	N J Barber, Cleaning of the Pavilion for January	LGA1972s111	202.96	Barclaycard Commercial, Statement for February	LGA1972s111	920.41	Paul Marks, Plants for Winter Walk at Gt Billing Pocket Park	OSA1906s9 & 10	139.99	Harlestone Group, Oak Post for Bellinge Field	LGA1972s111	105.60	Forde & McHugh, Repair to street lamp 56 on Pavilion Driveway	PCA1957s.3	69.24	
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31.2	The schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget for the period to 28.02.22 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																							
31.3	<p>The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 28.02.22 were:</p> <p>➤ Current Account £12,721.33</p> <p>➤ Reserve Account £340,796.68</p>																																																							
31.4	RESOLVED that a grant of £18,000 for salaries and an additional £2,000 to Bellinge Community House for the 2022-23 financial year be approved.	Clerk																																																						
31.5	RESOLVED that the 1.75% wage increase (backdated to 1 st April 2021) as per the National Agreement be awarded to the Parish Council's employees.	Clerk																																																						
31.6	RESOLVED that a grant of £1,000 to Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteer Group for the 2022-23 financial year be approved.	Clerk																																																						
032	Other Matters																																																							
32.1	<p>Update of the CCTV System</p> <p>Following a number of incidents at Gt Billing Pocket Park the GSM has been advised</p>																																																							

		Action
032	<i>Other Matters (continued)</i>	
32.1	Update of the CCTV System by the Police Service that our CCTV quality at night is not adequate to identify the culprits. A quote from our existing supplier Interlynx Security Ltd was obtained in June 2021 for the upgrade of the CCTV cameras at a cost of £3124.00 plus VAT (Clerk made Cllrs. aware that this may increase due to age of quotation). It was RESOLVED that the upgrade go ahead.	
32.2	RATIFIED that the services of Roy Hammond to provide advice on the revisited drawings for planning application N/2020/0357 be used.	
32.3	Bellinge Community Centre / Community Spaces Cllr. Marlow and the Clerk met up with Toby Birch and Alice Morgan from Community Spaces who currently lease Bellinge Community Centre for a post Covid catch up. They wanted to report that they had recently gone through a restructure, that the centre is back up and running and available for hire. They also wanted to know if the Parish Council stance had changed regarding taking on the ownership of the Community Centre. They were advised that at this stage the Parish Council had not reapproached this. It was again RESOLVED that the Parish Council does not currently want to apply for the transfer of Bellinge Community Centre.	
32.4	Ukraine Cllr. Brede wanted to know what if any thing we can do as a Parish to support the Ukrainians. The Clerk advised that we do not have the legal powers to provide financial support however the Parish Council can promote opportunities for members of the public to donate through official channels such as the British Red Cross. Regarding the refugees, WNC will take the lead as they did with the resettlement recently of the Afghan refugees.	
033	<i>Updates</i>	
33.1	Installation of Little Billing Notice Board. The letters of authorisation from the home owners adjacent with the notice board location has now been received. The Clerk will send this off to Highways and advise the GSM when installation has been agreed.	Clerk GSM
33.2	Installation of New Bin on Fishponds Road This has now been installed	
33.3	Anti-Social Behaviour Bellinge. PCSO Kayleigh Wallace and PC Connor Wright advised that following a community trigger meeting a large number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Community Protection Notice Warnings have been issued to the youths committing anti-social behaviour. Each one has specific terms which the receiver has to abide by which includes an exclusion zone of Fieldmill Square. If breached it can be used as evidence for legal action to be taken. A Parishioner advised that this seems to have just moved the problem to Inglewood Court. PCSO Wallace advised that if they commit anti-social behaviour in the new area this area will get added to the exclusion zone and provide evidence if legal action is to be taken.	
33.4	Ecton Brook Linear Park. The new report provided by All Aspects Tree Services has been sent to Peter	

		Action
033	Updates (continued)	
33.4	Ecton Brook Linear Park. Hackett who has forwarded it onto Idverde. Cllr. Ward is awaiting further updates.	GSM
33.5	Bellinge Community House Unfortunately, the seller's solicitor is currently off sick so the contract has not yet been completed. Anna from Wilson Browne Solicitors will be chasing this.	
33.6	Queens Platinum Jubilee (Queens Green Canopy) It was RESOLVED that the avenue of trees on Bellinge Field shall be known as "Platinum Avenue" and the wording on the plaque shall read " <i>To Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee 1952 – 2022 Of Our Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II</i> ".	
33.7	Replacement Tree in Ecton Brook GSM unable to access in due to ground conditions.	
33.8	Trim Trail Great Billing Pocket Park The GSM advised no confirmed date given as yet but installation will take place in April / May.	
33.9	Climate Emergency The first meeting was held at 6.30pm this evening. It was agreed that the Parish Council objective will be "As a Parish Council we will ensure to do all that is reasonably possible to assist in Climate Control". The Clerk is to contact Harlestone Parish Council regarding their recent Climate Exhibition to see if this is something that the Parish could organise for the residents to advertise what they can do to help the ongoing situation. Cllr. Rockall will investigate the possibility of having a climate change risk assessment completed.	Clerk SR
33.10	Asset Mapping Project The Clerk is continuing to map WNC assets onto the MP Map of the Parish and has requested assistance from the Cllrs. to provide their knowledge of what Assets, Services or ACV they have their Wards and where they are located.	Clerk All
33.11	Parish Magazine All articles have been sent to Beach Marketing and awaiting final template to agree before printing.	GSM SR
33.12	Billing Annual Fayre Cllr. Rockall and the GSM are continuing to organise.	
33.13	Future Plans of Bellinge Community House No further action required until transfer has been finalised.	
034	Leisure & Recreation	
34.1	GSM Update The GSM confirmed that the mowing and strimming has now started. The area previously know as the Winter Walk at Gt Billing Pocket Parks has been cleared, new pathway installed and new sensory plants planted. This will now be known as the Sensory Garden.	

		Action
034	<i>Leisure & Recreation (continued)</i>	
34.2	<p>Little Billing Pocket Park Update</p> <p>In his absence Michael Clasper, Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteers, had forwarded the following report:</p> <p>In the volunteering session on 12th March 2022 the five volunteers continued to remove self-sown saplings from the wooded area and trimmed established trees. An area north of the orchard was selected, rotavated and sown with wild flower seeds, and litter was collected and removed.</p>	
34.3	<p>Ecton Brook Residents Association</p> <p>In her absence Sally Jordan, Ecton Brook Residents Association, had forwarded the following report:</p> <p>February has been a quiet month for the group but I've been out collecting plant donations for the flower beds. I have been out litter picking and noticed that Ecton Brook seems to be suffering from an increased amount of fly tipping and litter, especially fast-food waste thrown from cars, split rubbish sacks and fly away rubbish placed into the old-style recycling boxes which should have been replaced by wheelie bins (this was agreed back in November 2019). We are also suffering from antisocial behaviour including graffiti, drug dealing and using. There is a staggering amount of nitrous oxide cannisters being dropped in the shop car park, and many parking bays. The annual AGM will be taking place on Thursday March 24th at 17.30 at Ecton One.</p>	
035	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
35.1	<p>Cllr. Clements wanted to discuss a number of topics:</p> <p>Can the villagers use the village green to hold a picnic for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee? The Clerk has confirmed that they can however if they require a road closure, they would need to apply to WNC.</p> <p>People are continuing to park on the pathways in Little Billing. He shall continue to use the Oh Dear letters.</p>	
35.2	<p>Cllr. Brede wanted to advise that he has recently become the Chairman of Trustees of Bellinge Community House.</p> <p>He also wanted to advise that the large tree that has fallen down at the back of Sunset Close. The Clerk advised that WNC are aware however this is not seen as being urgent as it is not an official pathway.</p>	
036	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
36.1	<p>There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.54pm.</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 11th April 2022 at Bernard Weston Pavilion, Gt. Billing.</p>	