



# **BILLING PARISH COUNCIL**

Established 1894

**Serving Bellinge, Ecton Brook, Great Billing and Little Billing**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT 7.00 pm ON MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022, AT BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

### **PRESENT**

J. A. Marlow (Chairman of Billing Parish Council)  
Cllrs. Mrs G. K. Chaggar, Mrs T. Smith, Mrs C. Worthington, Mr D. Brede, Rev. R. Burbidge, Mr J. Clements, Mr M. Pearson, Mr S. Rockall, Mr. S. Ward (all Members of Billing Parish Council)

### **Also Present:**

Mrs C. Goodridge (Clerk to Billing Parish Council)  
Mr. P. Marks (Green Space Manager)  
Cllrs. P. Clark (WNC)  
Cllrs. J. Hill (WNC)  
Two Parishioners

### **1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Unitary Councillors Mr K. Holland-Delamere (WNC) and Parish Highway Warden Mr. D. Lang.

### **2 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (Folio Nos. 01/2021/APM – 04/2021/APM) were approved and signed as a true record.

### **3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. J. A. Marlow gave his Annual Report, a copy of which can be found in Appendix I.

### **4 CHARITIES REPORT**

Rev. R. Burbidge had provided a copy of the Annual Report of the Great Billing Pension Charity (see Appendix II)

### **5 OTHER REPORTS**

No other reports received.

### **6 CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and participation and declared the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Chairman's Report – 2021/22**

Our overall parish objective for many years has been "To Make Billing Parish a great place to live work and play". As a council I would like to think that we go close to achieving this and that the majority of us enjoy the environment where we live. Unfortunately, this has not been the case for some of our residents in Belling Ward.

During the past 12 months some areas have been plagued with a spate of antisocial behaviour to such an extent that shops had to close early and residents dare not report incidents in fear of reprisal. As a Parish Council we identified these events early on and offered whatever support we could. Unfortunately, the seriousness of these events was not initially treated by the relevant authorities with any urgent response and it was not until recently that a multi-agency approach was adopted which thankfully has somewhat helped. I have no doubt that Laura and Julie the new team in Belling Community House will act as a life line and point of contact for their community. The lessons learned is quite simply if "you are affected by any crime or unlawful act, please find the time to record it as failing to do so will result in the scant resources available been deployed elsewhere". I must record the councils thanks to those in authority who are assisting us in this matter.

During the year we have seen the introduction of the new Unitary Authority and Unitary Councillors. My thanks go to them for their support with special thanks to Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere who has proved to be a great asset. I must extend this to all of the Parish Councillors particularly Steve Ward who continues to bash his head against a brick wall whilst attempting to solve the problem of Linear Park. Paul Marks the GSM, volunteers Fiona, John and Damian and contractors Dick, Anne and Ian also come in for a special mention.

Carrie our not so new now Parish Clerk has settled in very well and her enthusiasm commitment and local knowledge cannot be faulted, she is at present tasked with recording the Unitary Assets within the parish so if you see a lady walking a sausage dog counting lampposts in your street then that's Carrie. Thank you, Carrie.

I don't think anyone can fail to notice the impromptu piles of purple and red plastic bags that appear at regular intervals throughout the parish. They all contain litter which has been collected by members of the Northants Litter Wombles who in 2021 alone collected 30,337 bags. Many thanks to Steve Bishop our local co-ordinator and Parish Wombles who do appreciate a toot of the horn when you are passing them.

The Unitary Authority have approached the Parish Council to see if we would like to take ownership of any Unitary Assets within the Parish. Our experience with the transfer of Belling Community House (two years on and still not settled) together with the years of neglect of areas concerned and with no offer of financial assistance this has unfortunately not made this a viable proposition.

Climate control is at the moment in the for front of people's minds and the Parish Council has formed a working party to look at how we can as a Parish improve our Carbon footprint. If anyone has any ideas on how we can achieve this please feel free to contact the Parish Clerk.

In June we shall all be celebrating the Queen 's Platinum Jubilee, and to mark this auspicious occasion your Parish Council have planted a small copse made up of seven silver birch Jacquemontil trees surrounded by a boarder of laurels on Belling Field (one for each decade of her reign) and will in due course arrange for a celebration plaque to be installed.

In conclusion we must say goodbye to Councillor Thea Smith who is moving to pastures new and wish her and her husband David all the best. Her resignation now means that there are four Councillor vacancies available in the Parish so please if you feel you have something to offer the community, then we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please make contact with Carrie.

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your time

John Marlow / Chairman

03/2022/APM

## **APPENDIX II**

### **GREAT BILLING PENSION CHARITY**

#### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

Trustees of the Charity are the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Andrew's Church, Great Billing and two representatives appointed by Billing Parish Council. Those serving as Trustees in 2021 were:

The Revd Richard Burbidge (Rector)  
Mr Tim Bedward (Church Warden)  
Mr Mike Howells (Church Warden)  
Mrs Cheryl Worthington (Parish Council)  
Mr John Marlow (Parish Council)  
Mr Frank Brett continues to act as treasurer.

The Charity continues to have as its object 'the relief either generally or individually of persons resident in the Parish of Billing who are in conditions of need, hardship and distress by making grants of money or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship and distress of such persons. Preference to be given to poor widows over the age of 60'.

The Charity's funds are invested entirely in the COIF Charities Investment Fund, a Common Investment Fund, set up under the Charity Commission Scheme, and subsequently under section 24 of the Charities Act 2004. Dividends for the year are as reported in the Receipts and Payments account, and form the amount available to the Trustees for grant- making.

Given the modest levels of the Charity's income, its practice for many years now has been to make a small grant to a number of qualifying persons just before Christmas. In 2021 eight such persons received grants of £80 each.

Each year, it seems to be a struggle to find a good number of suitable recipients for the grants. Therefore, the trustees would be very pleased to receive nominations for grant recipients from Parish Councillors or parishioners.



Richard Burbidge  
Chairman of the Trustees  
24 March 2022

GREAT BILLING PENSION CHARITY**Receipts and Payments Account      1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021	£376.68
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## Receipts

Dividends from Charity Commissioners		
Year End 31.12.2021 (See Note 3)		£979.42
Donations returned as undeliverable		<u>£ 0.00</u>
		£979.42

## LESS

Payments in Year to 31.12.21 (Note 1)	£640.00	
Account Charges (Note 2)	<u>£ 0.00</u>	
		<u>£640.00</u>

Balance at Year End 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2020	£716.10
	<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px;"></div> <u>£716.10</u>

*Note 1      8 Payments of £80 were authorised during the year  
1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.*

*Note 2      Account Charges. No charges were made during 2021.*

Represented by - National Westminster Bank Account 08159866	£716.10
Cash	<u>0.00</u>
Balance @ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021	<u>£716.10</u>

The above statement has been prepared from the books and accounts of the Charity.  
This statement has been approved by the Trustees as an accurate reflection of the accounts.  
F.A.Brett

*Signed on behalf of the Trustees:*

T. Bedward

R. Burbidge

24<sup>th</sup> March 2022