



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 10th JULY 2023 AT BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING

PRESENT

Mr. J. A. Marlow Chairman (Chairman of Billing Parish Council)
Mrs. G. Chaggar, Mrs C. Worthington, Mr. F. Brett, Mr. M. Pearson and Mr. S. Rockall.

Also Present:

Mrs. C. Goodridge (Clerk to Billing Parish Council)
Mr. P. Marks (Green Space Manager)
Mr. D. Lang (Highways Warden)
No Parishioners

| Item no | | Action |
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| 089 | <p><i>Apologies for Absence</i> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mr D. Brede, Rev. R. Burbidge, Mr J. Clements, Mr. C. Shah and Mr S. Ward. Apologies were also received from Unitary Cllr. K. Holland-Delamere.</p> | |
| 090 | <p><i>Minutes</i> The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th June 2023 (Folio Nos. 033/2023 – 038/2023) were approved and signed as a true record.</p> | |
| 091 | <p><i>To Receive Declarations of Interest Under the Council's Code of Conduct</i> None Received</p> | |
| 092 | <p><i>To receive requests for dispensation</i> None received</p> | |
| 093 | <p><i>Public Forum</i> None</p> | |
| 094 | <p><i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i> a In his absence Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden (he arrived later in the meeting) reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A green traffic light out on Great Billing Way • Blocked drain at the bottom of Station Road. Overflowing on to driveway | |
| 095 | <p>a <i>Planning</i> To consider the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WNN/2023/0527 - 1 Station Road, Great Billing - Single storey side extension – No comments or objections | |

| Item no | | Action | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 095 | Planning (continued) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a | <ul style="list-style-type: none">WNN/2023/0551 - 38 Valentine Way, Great Billing - T1 Sycamore - Reduce by 1.5-2m and remove all major deadwood and crown clean, G1 Yew x 2 - Reduce by 2.5m and remove major deadwood, G1 Lime - Heavily reduce by 3m and crown clean & G1 Sycamore x 2 - Reduce by 2.5m and remove damaged limbs - No comments or objections | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| b | <p>The following determinations had been received from WNC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">WNN/2023/0396 - 3 Kensington Gate, Penfold Drive, Great Billing - T1 - Scotts Pine (standing dead tree) to be removed, leave 10 ft monolith for wildlife and bird boxes – ApprovedWNN/2023/0443 - 16 Geldock Road, Little Billing - First floor side extension and conversion of existing garage with pitched roof – Approved | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 096 | Finance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a | <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><tr><td>Footprint, Pavilion General Waste Removal (May)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>74.04</td></tr><tr><td>N J Barber (Minster Cleaning), Cleaning of the Pavilion (May)</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>241.54</td></tr><tr><td>D F Phipps, Spraying of Bellinge Field /The Leys</td><td>OSA1906SS9&10</td><td>270.00</td></tr><tr><td>D F Phipps, Agreed 24 hours to clear Bellinge Field of Debris</td><td>OSA1906SS9&10</td><td>1953.50</td></tr><tr><td>Unicom, Telephone & Broadband for the Pavilion (June)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>63.86</td></tr><tr><td>Blast From the Past, Band for Billing Fayre</td><td>LGA1972s145</td><td>260.00</td></tr><tr><td>SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting & CCL (May Gt Billing)</td><td>PCA1957s.3</td><td>269.97</td></tr><tr><td>SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting (May Lt Billing)</td><td>PCA1957s.3</td><td>13.88</td></tr><tr><td>NW Publishing Ltd, General Notice for advertising tender</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>224.64</td></tr><tr><td>BACA, Line Marker, Safety Glasses & Ear Plugs</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>25.65</td></tr><tr><td>Forde & McHugh, Repair of Street Lights 14 & 61</td><td>PCA1957s.3</td><td>300.00</td></tr><tr><td>Small Business Payroll, Salary & monthly fee (June)</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>4749.43</td></tr><tr><td>NEST, Pension Contribution for June</td><td>LGA1972s112</td><td>464.12</td></tr><tr><td>BACA, Black bin bags & clear bin bags</td><td>LGA1972s111</td><td>64.27</td></tr><tr><td>O2, Mobile Phones (June)</td><td>LGA1972s133</td><td>54.99</td></tr><tr><td>Bell Fencing Services, Replacement of Fences on the Leys & Gt Billing Pocket Park</td><td>OSA1906SS9&10</td><td>7100.00</td></tr></table> | Footprint, Pavilion General Waste Removal (May) | LGA1972s111 | 74.04 | N J Barber (Minster Cleaning), Cleaning of the Pavilion (May) | LGA1972s111 | 241.54 | D F Phipps, Spraying of Bellinge Field /The Leys | OSA1906SS9&10 | 270.00 | D F Phipps, Agreed 24 hours to clear Bellinge Field of Debris | OSA1906SS9&10 | 1953.50 | Unicom, Telephone & Broadband for the Pavilion (June) | LGA1972s133 | 63.86 | Blast From the Past, Band for Billing Fayre | LGA1972s145 | 260.00 | SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting & CCL (May Gt Billing) | PCA1957s.3 | 269.97 | SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting (May Lt Billing) | PCA1957s.3 | 13.88 | NW Publishing Ltd, General Notice for advertising tender | LGA1972s111 | 224.64 | BACA, Line Marker, Safety Glasses & Ear Plugs | LGA1972s111 | 25.65 | Forde & McHugh, Repair of Street Lights 14 & 61 | PCA1957s.3 | 300.00 | Small Business Payroll, Salary & monthly fee (June) | LGA1972s112 | 4749.43 | NEST, Pension Contribution for June | LGA1972s112 | 464.12 | BACA, Black bin bags & clear bin bags | LGA1972s111 | 64.27 | O2, Mobile Phones (June) | LGA1972s133 | 54.99 | Bell Fencing Services, Replacement of Fences on the Leys & Gt Billing Pocket Park | OSA1906SS9&10 | 7100.00 | |
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| D F Phipps, Spraying of Bellinge Field /The Leys | OSA1906SS9&10 | 270.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Blast From the Past, Band for Billing Fayre | LGA1972s145 | 260.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Small Business Payroll, Salary & monthly fee (June) | LGA1972s112 | 4749.43 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEST, Pension Contribution for June | LGA1972s112 | 464.12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Bell Fencing Services, Replacement of Fences on the Leys & Gt Billing Pocket Park | OSA1906SS9&10 | 7100.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| b | The schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget up to 30.06.23 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| c | RESOLVED that the Internal Control Report for Quarter 1 2023/2024 be approved. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| d | <p>The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 30.06.23 were:</p> <table><tr><td>Current Account</td><td>£19,647.69</td></tr><tr><td>Reserve Account</td><td>£407,193.51</td></tr></table> | Current Account | £19,647.69 | Reserve Account | £407,193.51 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| e | RESOLVED that the cost of £600.00 plus VAT to Hawkins Clock Company to supply and deliver a new Pavilion clock. GSM to place order. | GSM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| f | RATIFIED that the previously approved payment of £350.00 plus VAT to KAMS Tree Care to complete a tree nesting survey in Little Billing Pocket Park be APPROVED retrospectively. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| 096 | Finance (continued) | |
| g | RESOLVED that the cost of £9670.00 plus VAT to Raybell & Sons to install a gravel pathway at Little Billing Pocket Park following the riverbank renovation works be approved. GSM to arrange a start day. | GSM |
| h | RESOLVED that the cost of £1076.00 plus VAT to Loft and Ladders to modify the loft hatch and install new safety approved loft ladder be approved. GSM to arrange a start day. | GSM |
| i | RESOLVED that the cost of £1700.00 plus VAT to KAMS Tree Care to remove dangerous sycamore tree on Bellinge Field and clear trees and bushes along the pathway backing onto Camberley Close to prevent any future subsidence be approved. GSM to arrange a start day. | GSM |
| 097 | Other Matters | |
| a | St Andrews Churchyard Pathway Cllr. Worthington wanted to advise of the poor condition of the pathway and edging along the well-used route that runs through St Andrews Churchyard and on to Lady Winefrides Walk. It was RESOLVED that the GSM obtain quotations to have the edgings and pathway re-laid (excluding the flagstone pathway leading up to the church door) as proposed by Cllr. Rockall and seconded by Cllr. Worthington. | GSM |
| b | Ecton Brook Linear Park Pathway Ecton Brook Linear Park pathway which runs between Ecton Brook lake and Lower Ecton Lane has been in constant use since the building of the estate in 1980. Cllr. Rockall believed the pathway was already listed on the definitive map, however the clerk advised that George Messingham from the definitive map team at WNC has confirmed that it is not. Due to this it was RESOLVED that an application would be made to request that the pathway be added to the Definitive Map. | Clerk |
| c | Disposal of Parish Green Waste Following the latest arson incident on the top of Bellinge Field, Cllr. Pearson wanted to ask the GSM to no longer pile up green waste on Bellinge field as this is tempting the youths to set it alight. Paul Marks (GSM) explained that this was an unusually large pile due to Bellinge Field being cleared only a couple of days prior to the incident and that that it was never intended to be burnt, but removed by a contractor. Cllr. Pearson asked that in the future that alternative ways are used to dispose of the green waste at the time of clearing so that residents do not have to suffer with the smoke which can last for days or in this case weeks. It was RESOLVED that when green waste needs to be disposed of, that all methods are considered prior to the green waste's removal. | |
| d | Community Governance Review Following a discussion regarding the Community Governance Review it was RESOLVED that no comments needed to be made. | |
| | Updates Clerk update The Clerk reported that | |

| Item no | | Action |
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| 098 | <p>Updates (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt Billing Pocket Park - The riverbank reinstatement works started today. • Bench on Station Road Great Billing – Awaiting Highways and WNC to confirm who the piece of land belongs to. It was RESOLVED that the GSM/Clerk will gather estimates for a replacement bench which will be brought to the next meeting in the view that it shall be installed as proposed by Cllr. Rockall and seconded by Cllr. Pearson. • Lt Billing Notice Board – Highways are chasing a public highway extent before can give go ahead. • Drop Kerb Bellinge Field – Currently awaiting planning department to clarify if planning is required or not. • Grant application to Northamptonshire Police for the bleed kits was declined due to number of bleed kits already supplied by them. • Bizzy Bears – The business went back up for sale, however has now been sold. The tenancy agreement was amended to fit with new owners opening hours and has been signed. • External Audit – Still awaiting conclusion. • Land Registry – Still awaiting appointment date from Land & Property Registration (LPR). • Parish Magazine - All articles have now been sent to Artwork company to produce the magazine in view of it being printed and delivered by a new company in August. • Remembrance Sunday Road Closure – Applied for and permission received. • Billing Fayre – Contacted Mikes Donkeys, South Northants Responders, Blast from the Past, Joes Ice Cream, Northants Police and Mega Bounce thanking them for attending this year's fayre and asking them to book us in for 2024. • Billing Pocket Park Play Ground Fence - This has now been repaired by the home owner. | Clerk/ GSM |
| a | <p>Sporting Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Jaeger Yoga is no longer running on a Tuesday evening • Clerk has a meeting with Billing United FC on 16th August before the 2023/24 season starts. | Clerk |
| b | <p>Anti-Social behaviour in Bellinge</p> <p>The issues seem to have moved from Bellinge and now seems to be happening around Little Billing Pocket Park. The fire brigade has been called them a number of times over the last four weeks and residents are reporting of day time drug taking and noise. The police have been made aware and the Clerk & GSM are continuing to report any incidents. Clerk to look into employment of drone operator/pilot.</p> | Clerk |
| c | <p>Bellinge Community House</p> <p>The Clerk has a meeting with Alice from Community Spaces on 13th July for an update.</p> | Clerk |
| d | <p>Ecton Brook Linear Park</p> <p>In his absence Cllr. Steve Ward reported that a meeting has taken place between himself, Unitary Councillors and Simon Bowers from WNC. It was agreed that the GSM will arrange for an estimate to be completed for the emergency works that</p> | GSM |

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| 098 | <i>Updates (continued)</i> | |
| e | needs to be completed and a second for non – emergency works which will be submitted for WNC’s consideration. | |
| f | Working towards Climate Emergency Declaration Held Over | |
| g | Parish Health & Safety The Clerk has had a meeting with Grahame Thompson and been through the new risk assessments and documentation. | |
| h | Billing Fayre 2023 Cllr. Rockall advised that it was another successful year. Many thanks to all the volunteers, first aiders, pcso’s, stall holders, entertainers, catering outlets and attractions for helping making the day run so smoothly and to the Billing Parish resident that attended. Also special thanks to the people and businesses that left a donation. A total of £379.10 was received. Next year’s event will take place on Saturday 29 th June 2024. | |
| 099 | <i>Leisure & Recreation</i> | |
| a | GSM Update Paul Marks, Parish Green Space Manager reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fence has been repaired/replaced in the Leys and Great Billing Pocket Park | |
| b | Little Billing Pocket Park Update In his absence Michael Clasper, Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteer Group, had forwarded the following report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A volunteering session took place on 24th June and 8th July. Four volunteers cut and stirmed the grass in the picnic area, main path edges, overgrowth removed and litter and fly-tipped rubbish were collected and removed. | |
| c | Ecton Brook Residents Group None received | |
| 100 | <i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i> None | |
| 101 | Exclusion of the press and public – due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded. | |
| 102 | To agree the contractor to complete the Bellinge Path Works Tenders had been opened by the Clerk with Cllr. Marlow in attendance. Members discussed the tenders in line with the specification/evaluation criteria and RESOLVED the contract would be awarded to Raybell and Sons. GSM to arrange start date. | GSM |
| 103 | <i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i> There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.07pm. The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 11 th September 2023 at Bernard Weston Pavilion, Gt. Billing. | |