



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 11th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING

PRESENT

Mr. J. A. Marlow Chairman (Chairman of Billing Parish Council)
Mrs. G. Chaggar, Mrs C. Worthington, Rev. R. Burbidge, Mr J. Clements, Mr. M. Pearson, Mr. S. Rockall and Mr. C. Shah.

Also Present:

Mrs. C. Goodridge (Clerk to Billing Parish Council)
Mr. P. Marks (Green Space Manager)
PCSO Mike Harison
PCSO Laura Nowell
Three Parishioners

Item no		Action
104	<i>Apologies for Absence</i> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs F. Brett.	
105	<i>Minutes</i> The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 th July 2023 (Folio Nos. 039/2023 – 043/2023) were approved and signed as a true record.	
106	<i>To Receive Declarations of Interest Under the Council's Code of Conduct</i> None Received	
107	<i>To receive requests for dispensation</i> None received	
108	<i>Public Forum</i> See item number 112 (i)	
109	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i> a PCSO Mike Harrison have advised that the only issue they are aware of the increase of shoplifting at the co-op, they have been advised to report every incident.	
110	<i>Planning</i> a To consider the following planning applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/2020/0357 - Development Site, Fishponds Road, Northampton - Erection of 54 no bedroom Care Home (Use Class C2), with access from Fishponds Road – Objection made • WNN/2023/0683 - 17 Hanemill Court, Bellinge - Change of use from dwellinghouse (use class C3) to house in multiple occupation (use class C4) for 5 occupants - Comments made 	

Item no				Action
111	Finance (continued)			
a	GM Suppliers, Arbortec Gloves, Helmet, Chainsaw cover, screw & nut Lonsdale Direct, Summer magazine, Artwork & Printing (4000 copies) NCALC, Procurement Training Clerk KAMS Tree Care, Tree removal/clearing side of Camberley Close Local Leaflet Drop, distribute the Summer Magazine KAMS Tree Care, Clearing rear of Camberley Close by 5 meters from the fence line PFK Littlejohn, External Audit Services for 2022/2023 D F Phipps, Mow & strim Bellige Field x 2, Bellinge Football pitch x 2, Bellinge Field Jubilee Walk x 2, The Leys x 2, Church Way x 4, Celebration Avenue x 3, Lt Billing Village Green x 2, Gt Billing Sports Pitch x 3 and Gt Billing Pocket Park x 2. O2, Mobile Phones (July) SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting & CCL (June Gt Billing) SSE, Unmetered Supply Street Lighting (June Lt Billing) Roy Hammond, Planning response for Care Home on Fishponds Road Parish OnLine, Annual subscription Wellers Hedleys, Preparation of tenancy Agreement for Bizzy Bears Footprint, Pavilion General & Confidential Waste Removal (July) Unicom, Telephone & Broadband for the Pavilion (Aug) N J Barber (Minster Cleaning), Cleaning of the Pavilion (August) Wave, pavilion Water – 10/05/23 – 09/08/23 British Gas, Pavilion Electricity (16/07/23-16/08/2023) Small Business Payroll, Salary & monthly fee (August) NEST, Pension Contribution for August Raybell & Sons, Path resurfacing Bellinge Field	LGA1972S111 LGA1972s142 LGA1972S111 OSA1906SS9&10 LGA1972s142 OSA1906SS9&10 LGA1972s111 OSA1906SS9&10 LGA1972s133 PCA1957s.3 PCA1957s.3 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s133 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s111 LGA1972s112 LGA1972s112 HA1980,ss43&50	98.26 530.00 £39.60 2040.00 331.20 3060.00 756.00 3360.00 58.98 261.02 13.54 225.00 336.00 1080.00 257.81 63.85 241.54 94.08 38.06 4749.43 464.12 59274.00	
b	The schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to Budget up to 31.08.23 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.			
c	The Clerk reported that reconciled bank account balances as at 31.08.23 were: Current Account £22,530.48 Reserve Account £ 320,087.39			
d	RESOLVED that the transfer of £13500.00 from general reserves to Ear Marked Reserves for Lady Winefrides pathway be APPROVED.			Clerk
e	RATIFIED that the previously approved payment of £2550.00 plus VAT to KAMS Tree Care to urgently remove/clear trees and bushes 5 metres from fence along the back of the Camberley Close to prevent any future subsidence be APPROVED retrospectively.			
f	RESOLVED that the donation of £500.00 be made to the Royal British Legion and supply of wreaths for Remembrance Sunday be APPROVED.			Clerk
g	RESOLVED that the cost of £945.00 plus VAT to Book Restoration to bind Parish Council Minutes from 1983 – 2006 and 2016 to 2022. (Paid out of Admin Capital Equipment Ear Marked Reserves) be APPROVED.			Clerk
h	RESOLVED that the cost of £234.00 plus VAT to WNC to submit a planning application to install a drop kerb at the entrance to Bellinge Field be APPROVED.			Clerk
i	RESOLVED that the cost of £300.00 plus VAT to Acorn Analytical Services to complete an asbestos management survey for Bernard Weston Pavilion as requested by Grahame Thompson in his health and safety audit be APPROVED.			Clerk

Item no		Action
111	Finance (continued)	
j	RESOLVED that the cost of £300.00 plus VAT to Acorn Analytical Services to complete an Energy Performance Check due to the expiry of the current one for Bernard Weston Pavilion be APPROVED.	Clerk
k	RESOLVED that the cost of £270.00 plus VAT to Acorn Analytical Services to complete a Legionella Risk Assessment at the Bernard Weston Pavilion be APPROVED.	Clerk
j	After much discussion it was proposed that that Raybell and Sons complete the path works between St Andrews Church and Lady Winefrides Walk. The initial estimate for concrete edging was APPROVED at £18950.00 however this may reduce if the revised quote for wooden edging is substantially cheaper.	GSM
112	Other Matters	
a	Donation of Discussed Laptop RESOLVED that the old disused laptop be donated to Breast Friends Northampton Charity be APPROVED retrospectively.	
b	Loss of Light to property in Penfold Gardens RESOLVED that following pollarding of the Cherry Tree within the Bernard Weston Pavilion Car Park that no further work will be completed.	
c	Budget Preparations RESOLVED that all councilors must have any potential project details for 2024/2025 and costing ready to discuss at the pre-budget meeting on 9 th October at 6.30pm at the Bernard Weston Pavilion	All
d	Christmas Parish Magazine Ther clerk has asked all councillors to please send over any interesting news that is going on in their wards that can be included in the next issue of the Parish Magazine by 23 rd October. Cllr. Rockall suggested including an article on the Ecton Brook Clean Up Crew.	All
e	D-Day 80 Commemorations RESOLVED that the Parish Council will take part in the D-Day 80 Commemorations on 6 th June 2024. Councillors and Clerk will go away and think of ideas of what can be done. Clerk to get costs for possible beacon.	All
f	Bench on the Leys RESOLVED that no further benches will be installed on the Leys as this is to remain as meadow land.	
g	Making Parish Land more accessible After much discussion it was agreed that the council will explore the possibility of installing accessible entrances to Bellinge Field.	
h	Cleaning of Outside Toilets RESOLVED that the weekly cleaning of the outside toilets will be taken over by N J Barber at a cost of £47.72 excluding vat be APPROVED.	Clerk

Item no		Action
112 i	<p><i>Other Matters (continued)</i></p> <p>Anti-Social behaviour at the Bellinge MUGA</p> <p>A number of residents in attendance of the meeting wanted to bring to the attention of the Council the ongoing anti-social behaviour occurring at the MUGA. Youths are using the facility into the early hours of the morning, shouting obscenities, listening to loud music, urinating in the bushes and climbing the extremely tall conifers looking in to residents' homes and gardens. The clerk confirmed that WNC have agreed that they will start to lock the gate however due to workloads this may not be completed until midnight. The residents feel that this is not early enough and would like it to be locked as before at 8pm in the winter and 9pm in the summer. The clerk will forward their request to WNC to consider. The residents have previously asked WNC to pollard the conifers however the request was denied as by doing this will kill the trees. It was RESOLVED that the GSM will arrange for a tree survey to be completed to get a second opinion. Cllr. Marlow also advised the residents that it is vital that any anti-social behaviour incidents are report this to the police with names / descriptions. Without knowing who the individuals are it is impossible for the police or Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to do anything. They can report by phone on 101 or through the website Report antisocial behaviour Northamptonshire Police (northants.police.uk).</p>	Clerk GSM
113 a	<p><i>Updates</i></p> <p>Clerk update</p> <p>The Clerk reported that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt Billing Pocket Park - The riverbank reinstatement works started today. • Bench on Station Road Great Billing – Objections made by adjoining land owner. Awaiting further advice from Highways. • Lt Billing Notice Board – Authorisation received from WNC to go ahead with installation. Paul to add to his work schedule. • Drop Kerb Bellinge Field – Planning required • Bizzy Bears – This is now under new ownership and tenancy agreement has been signed • External Audit – Members received the report and noted no action necessary • Land Registry – Still awaiting appointment date from Land & Property Registration (LPR). • Parish Magazine – Was issued in August. • She will attend the NCALC AGM on behalf of Billing Parish Council as noone has come forward to go. • Lining Valley Road Car Park – WNC have advised that this will not be done • Speed / Keep Off the Verge Signs – WNC have declined the request of installation • Definitive Map – All paper work has been submitted for Linear Park to the definitive map team. May have to wait up to two years for a response. • Vacancy Posters - Placed in shop windows within the Parish. • Drone Hire – No responses from any of the local companies contacted 	

Item no		Action
113	<p>Updates (continued)</p> <p>b Sporting Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football season has restarted. Two cricket sessions remain. <p>c Bellinge Community House</p> <p>The Clerk & Cllr. Marlow met with Alice from Community Spaces on 13th July. The house will be open on Thursdays where hot meal is provided for small charge. Due to having no further response from WNC regarding taking on the new tenancy they have no plans to extend the hours as this cannot be staffed. The clerk has chased the Assets team at WNC and been advised "WNC is yet to determine the future of the property for the medium term and beyond".</p> <p>d Ecton Brook Linear Park</p> <p>In Cllr. Ward absence Cllr. Marlow advised that Cllr. Ward has been contacted by MP Andrew Lewer who confirms that he is still pursuing the assistance from WNC regarding Linear Park.</p> <p>e Working towards Climate Emergency Declaration Held Over</p>	
114	<p>Leisure & Recreation</p> <p>a GSM Update</p> <p>Paul Marks, Parish Green Space Manager reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vegetation along the boundary of Camberley Close has been removed The pathway and turning circles on Bellinge Field have been completed. The work to the entrances of the River Walk at Little Billing Pocket Park have been completed. Removal of two dangerous willow trees on the Leys Loft ladder and new clock have been installed in the Pavilion Five benches have been repaired/replaced in Great Billing Pocket Park <p>b Little Billing Pocket Park Update</p> <p>In his absence Michael Clasper, Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteer Group, had forwarded the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A volunteering session took place on 12th, 26th August and 9th September. Five volunteers stumped the recreation area, picnic area and removed the vegetation impeding the footpaths. The ride on mower is currently due a service so could not be used. All litter and fly-tipped rubbish were collected and removed. <p>c Ecton Brook Residents Group</p> <p>In her absence Sally Jordan, Ecton Brook Residents Association, had forwarded the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some very useful funds were made at Billing Parish Fayre. Thank you to all who worked hard to organise this. In August the local children enjoyed hunting for the hidden butterflies and receiving a prize once completed. 	

Item no		Action
114 c	<p><i>Leisure & Recreation (continued)</i></p> <p>Ecton Brook Residents Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ecton Brook Clean Up Crew have been out picking litter at least three times a week. Numerous fly tips are being reported however this doesn't seem to be being collected by WNC. • The illegal charity clothes bins are still in place near the Londis Shop and next to the resident's flower bed. This is causing issues as bags of clothing are being left littering the area. • Plans are ongoing to arrange a Halloween pumpkin competition for October half term. 	
115 a b c	<p><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i></p> <p>a Cllr. Chaggar wanted to report an increase of fly tipping on Foscitt Court and Fieldmills Road. The clerk advised her to ask the residents to report this to WNC via the following link https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/street-cleansing/report-fly-tipping</p> <p>b Cllr. Clements wanted to see if the noticeboard was ready to be installed. The GSM confirm that it will be refurbished then installed.</p> <p>c Cllr. Rockall wanted to send thanks to the police for their quick response, when a cricket match on Great Billing Pocket Parks Sports Field had to be abandoned due to the arrival of a number of caravans. Inspector Williams quick action allowed for the rest of the weekends bookings to go ahead as planned.</p>	
116	<p><i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i></p> <p>There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 9th October 2023 at Bernard Weston Pavilion, Gt. Billing.</p>	