

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 JUNE 2010, AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING

PRESENT Councillor S. Rockall (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs E. Palethorpe, Mrs D. Nicol, Mrs S. Shaw,
M. Clasper, P. Gable, D Hughes, J. Marlow, M. Pearson,
Rev. S. Palmer, G. Stevens, P. Stevenson

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
C. Campling (Green Space Manager)
PCSO Paul Watts (SCTE)
One parishioner

		Action
303	Apologies	
303.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. S. Ward (work commitment), Fr. Damien Walne (Diocese meeting) and from Cllr. D. Hughes for late arrival. Apologies were also received from Cllrs. D. Mackintosh (NCC) and D. Palethorpe (NBC).	
304	Minutes	
304.1	The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting (Folio Nos. 182/2010 – 188/2010) were approved and signed as a true record.	
305	Declarations of Interest	
305.1	Rev. Steven Palmer declared an interest in item 10 (e) on the agenda (future plans for the renovation of the ha-ha wall). The ha-ha forms part of the boundary of St. Andrews Church and as Rector, he is legally responsible for the churchyard.	
306	Public Forum	
306.1	Keith Bonham asked when work would start on the improvements for 'No Right Turn' at the junction of Fishponds Road with Great Billing Way. Clerk to chase.	Clerk
306.2	Mr. Bonham also reported that there had again been inconsiderate parking in Manorfield Road with people leaving their cars and walking to the Aquadrome.	
307	Exchange of Information with local SCT	
307.1	PCSO Paul Watts reported that there were still some problems with opportunists, one or two mini motos had been going around and there had been instances of garden furniture, hanging baskets and planters being stolen.	
307.2	Cllr. Stevenson asked if the police could keep a look out for a car that regularly speeds up and down Little Billing Way and which he believes has an illegal exhaust.	
307.3	The Chairman asked if the SCT had seen the CCTV footage of the person who had stolen a handbag from the Playing Fields car park. PCSO Watts was not aware of this incident and would look into it.	

		Action
307	<i>Exchange of Information with local SCT (Continued)</i>	
307.4	PCSO Watts was asked if visits to Little Billing Pocket Park could be stepped up as there had been problems with fires, particularly on Saturday evenings.	
307.5	PCSO Watts asked if there was any possibility that the Parish Council could provide him with a new bicycle. He was asked to send a written request to the Clerk so that this item could be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.	
308	<i>Ongoing Matters</i>	
308.1	Purchase of land adjacent to St. Andrews Church. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the solicitors and been advised that Taylor Wimpey had only just received corporate approval but the documents should be signed by Power of Attorney on Wednesday 16 th June.	
308.2	The Chairman reported that he had received an email from Mrs. Jennifer Jones of Standing Stones, whose garden backs onto part of this land, expressing her concern for the future of the area. Cllr. Marlow offered to visit her home to clarify the Parish Council's intentions.	JM
308.3	Helicopter Park, Ecton Brook. A meeting had been held with Cllr. David Mackintosh regarding future plans. At this meeting he reported he understood a petition was circulating regarding this area and it was agreed that nothing would be done until the petition had been received. Held over to next meeting.	
309	<i>Planning</i>	
309.1	N/2010/0214 – W. Pearce & Co. Ltd, Wellingborough Road. Consideration of revised plans. It would appear that the only revision to the plans is to leave some of the trees and shrubbery between the site and Ashmead and to move two of the planned houses from that area to the corner by the brook. Concern was expressed once again about parking allocation and the proposed pathway. Cllr. Stevenson has passed our concerns to Cllr. Christopher Malpas. RESOLVED to await the outcome of the meeting to be held later this week.	
309.2	N/2010/0402 – 20 Orchard Hill, Little Billing – Single Storey Side and Rear Extension. No comments or objections.	
309.3	10/0075/S73WNN – Land at Wild Acres, Wellingborough Road – Variation of Condition 6 of planning permission 98/0393 to keep open access from Wellingborough Road. Concerns were expressed with regard to this development and it was felt that this should be a re-application. It has been 11 years since the original planning consent, with no visible signs of work having started. Things have changed dramatically since 1999 particularly as far as traffic is concerned and this will be exacerbated with the adjacent development on the former Pearce Leatherworks site. RESOLVED that the Clerk should advise WNDP of the Council's objections and concerns.	Clerk
309.4	The following determinations had been received from NBC: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. N/2010/183. Proposed dwelling – land to the rear of 12 Station Road, Great Billing. APPROVED subject to conditions. 2. N/2010/339. 1 Lakeside Drive, Ecton Brook. Reduction in ground level to provide extension to driveway and front boundary retaining wall. APPROVED subject to conditions. 	

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310	Finance																																																													
310.1	The list of accounts for payment had been circulated and it was RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:																																																													
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310.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 31 st May 2010 together with the bank reconciliation had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that this be approved.																																																													
310.3	Cllr. Gary Stevens had been to view the equipment offered for sale by Billings Rhythmic Gymnastics Club and had prepared a report on its suitability. He believed the asking price of £1,000 was unrealistic as comparable new equipment may be purchased for around £500. RESOLVED the Clerk should write offering a sum of £300 should the Gymnastics Club be unable to sell the sound system elsewhere.	Clerk																																																												
310.4	Consideration of quotations received for maintenance of CCTV system. RESOLVED that the quotation from Nutec Security Systems Limited be accepted.	Clerk																																																												
310.5	<p>Consideration of request from SCTE for funding of equipment for off-road motorcyclist (Special Constable). After detailed discussion it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to Insp. Daemon Johnson to ascertain the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What hours the Special Constable would be working and would they be the same each week • Whether the officer would be working solely within Billing Parish or would we be sharing with other areas • What exactly he would be doing and what powers he would have • Whether the police would be prepared to start this initiative and if it was successful then, after say a period of six months the Parish Council would contribute • Whether Insp. Johnson would be prepared to attend a meeting to look at other alternatives. 	Clerk																																																												

		Action
311	<i>Other Matters</i>	
311.1	New Standing Orders. A draft copy of the new Standing Orders prepared by the Clerk had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that these be approved and adopted without amendment.	
311.2	Ecton Brook Public House. The Clerk had received a reply from Simon Baylis of County Estate Management (Pubs) Limited advising they were actively recruiting a replacement tenant. She had replied to him asking that in the meantime they did some maintenance work on and around the building as it is looking very neglected and dilapidated.	
311.3	Parish Enhancement Gangs. The Clerk advised that she had supplied the Highways Division with a list of work required within the parish based on suggestions received from members.	
311.4	Boundary Commission – Electoral Review. All members had been supplied with the web link to this report and it would appear that nothing has actually changed within Billing parish. Suggestions had been made that certain parts of Great Billing Ward should be in Little Billing Ward but as wards are based on numbers of electors it is possible this may not be changed.	
311.5	Future plans for Parish Play Areas and Equipment. Held over to next meeting.	
311.6	Billing Annual Fayre. The Chairman reported that everything was progressing well for the Fayre which will be held on Saturday 19 th June, with bookings about the same as last year. He said that as only display and emergency vehicles are allowed onto the field on the day he would be grateful for any volunteers who could spend some time on the gate to ensure that other vehicles did not gain access.	
312	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
312.1	GSM Report. The GSM had prepared his report in a different format this month (see Appendix 1). It was felt, however, that this was not really a diary and the format should be ‘tweaked’ slightly for next month.	
312.2	Great Billing Pocket Park. Rose Little had organised a group of people to visit various pocket parks on Saturday 12 th June and GB Pocket Park was one of those visited. Many positive comments were received and thanks are due to Jim Snedker who travelled back from Cornwall to attend.	
312.3	Little Billing Pocket Park. Cllr. Clasper reported that the last Volunteers Day was held on a Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately it wasn’t a very nice day and only he and Rev. Steven Palmer were there. The next Volunteers Day is on Sunday morning 27 th June when it is hoped more will attend.	
312.4	The new office is almost complete with the flooring laid last Friday and a little more redecoration required. The Chairman had acquired four office chairs free of charge and the thought is to install worktops instead of purchasing desks. A further quotation is awaited for the new kitchen.	
312.5	Renovation of ha-ha. It was reported that when NBC took on responsibility for the graveyard of St. Andrews Church they also took on responsibility for the maintenance of the boundaries and paths. It was agreed that a working party should be formed to meet to discuss the way forward with the ha-ha and to find out if funds are available to assist with the cost. The working party is to consist	

		Action
312	<i>Leisure & Recreation (Continued)</i>	
312.5	of the Chairman, the GSM, Cllrs. Peter Stevenson, Rev. Steven Palmer, Michael Pearson and John Marlow. The Clerk is to send out an email in order to ascertain a convenient time and date for all concerned.	Clerk
312.6	Green Flag/Pennant Award. The Chairman reported that the judges for the Green Flag had attended on 18 th May and although everything appeared to go well, no indication of the result was given.	
313	<i>Northants County Association of Local Councils</i>	
313.1	Cllr. Hughes reported that unfortunately he had been unable to attend the last meeting and suggested that everyone read the latest Update which had been forwarded to them. NCALC has now been incorporated.	
314	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
314.1	Cllr. Pearson commented on the dreadful state of the roads within the parish as far as potholes are concerned. Many of these are quite dangerous, particularly for cyclists. It would appear that odd ones have been filled whilst others have been left.	
314.2	Cllr. Mrs Nichol reported that Bellinge Pre-School had received an 'excellent' in all areas in their Ofsted Report.	
314.3	Cllr. Stevens reported that he had recently attended a course on 'Engaging with the Community' and passed a copy of the report he had prepared to all members. He said he was interested to discover from conversation with other councillors that it appeared to be a common problem for Section 106 agreements to be levied but for Parish Councils to receive none of it.	
314.4	Cllr. Marlow expressed concern regarding parking on the pavement in High Street, Great Billing. He was asked to pass details to the Clerk so she could write to the Highways Department. In this letter she is to also ask about the repairing of pot holes and the new signage for the Parish Park.	Clerk
314.5	The Chairman reported that he had asked the Clerk to find out details about temporary work placements as it was felt that this could be of assistance to the GSM during the summer months. A meeting with representatives from the local branch of TNG with the Clerk and the GSM had been arranged for Thursday 17 th June.	
315	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
315.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35 pm Date of next meeting – Monday 12 th July 2010 at 7.30 pm	

Diary of Work 2010

Chris Campling
Green Space Manager

Monday 10 th May	Litter pick the park, investigate standing water problem on the leys field. Spray green re-cycling area and park paths. Source fuel for truck. Source 'pooper-scooper' to pick up after thoughtless dog owners. Plant out box hedging by green re-cycling area. Prep for Parish Council meeting.
Tuesday 11 th May	Litter pick the Leys and pick up heavy dumped item of furniture. Contact AWA to investigate possible sewage problem on the Leys. Arrange to meet with dry stone wall builder (Jim Marks) with regards to restoring the ha-ha around St Andrews Church. Organise repairs to be carried on pavilion car park and paths. Clean outside toilets. Meet with AWA (job No 35109662). Work on GSM section of the Parish web-site. Contractor disc seeded playing fields today.
Wednesday 12 th May	Walked the Leys where there is a possible sewage problem, (standing water with distinct sewage smell). Cut over-hanging hedges along entrance drive and clear with industrial vacuum. Source paint for picnic bench & front gate and wood for new door for green store. Work on web-site information.
Thursday 13 th May	Meet with Ben Lloyd, NBC tree dept to discuss trees in St Andrews church-yard. Source cutting discs, cut up old goal posts. Cut play area grass.
Friday 14 th May	Walk the Leys (no odour today). Meet with pavilion new user for opening & closing procedure. Take goal posts for scrap. Cut car park grass.
Monday 17 th May	Litter pick the Park, grass cutting - playing field perimeter, paths around pocket park, paths through meadow, picnic area. Strim all areas in Park. Start to organise new maintenance area.
Tuesday 18 th May	Work on new compound and maintenance area. Source bin for kitchen. Green flag inspection.
Wednesday 19 th May	Flower identification course at Bernard Weston Pavilion laid on by Pocket Park Officer. Mark out cricket pitch and boundary.
Thursday 20 th May	Annual Leave
Friday 21 st May	Litter pick the park, pot on cuttings, work on tree nursery, catch up on lost lunch breaks due to green flag work.

Monday 24 th May	Litter pick the Park, Source compost, pot up big containers.
Tuesday 25 th May	Litter pick the Leys, work on new compound and maintenance area.
Wednesday 26 th May	Litter pick the Park, source business card software, meet with Moulton Stone re: the Leys Ha-Ha restoration. Sow various seeds. Grass cutting - play area.
Thursday 27 th May	Meet with Steve regards to cutting doorway into kitchen, custom build new door to 'green store'.
Friday 28 th May	Litter pick the park, hang green store door, grass cutting - car park lawn & picnic area, white line cricket pitch. Run off CCTV footage for police following theft of hand-bag from a car in the car park.
Monday 31 st May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 1 st June	Litter pick the park, clear and prep office for new doorway and painting.
Wednesday 2 nd June	Litter pick the Leys, plant out 'goatsbeard', 'white campion' & 'cranesbill' in Leys meadow, build decking path to workshop. Re-arrange shelving in 'green store' and wash down roof.
Thursday 3 rd June	Mark out three new football pitches for soccer academy on Sunday & mark out cricket pitch. Source paint for office and new sets of spare keys. Meet with steve and kitchen fitter to discuss new kitchen.
Friday 4 th June	Litter pick the Park, meet with Rose Little re pocket park sortie. Return new spare keys not working.
Monday 7 th June	Litter pick the Park, meet with Steve to view new play area at Sywell and view the play area at Brixworth. Clear office ready for painting.
Tuesday 8 th June	Paint office.
Wednesday 9 th June	Paint office.
Thursday 10 th June	Prep office for carpet laying, grass cutting in Park, put office back together.