

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 12TH APRIL 2010, AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING

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

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
C. Campling (Green Space Manager)
Mr. A. Leighton (Community Liaison Officer, NCC)
PC Richard Jewell (SCTE)
Three parishioners

		Action
273	Apologies	
273.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Fr. Damien Walne (on sabbatical) and from Cllrs. C. Malpas (NBC), D. Palethorpe (NBC) and D. Mackintosh (NCC) who were all attending NBC meeting.	
274	Minutes	
274.1	The Minutes from the Parish Council meetings held on 8 th and 22 nd March 2010 were approved and signed as a true record.	
275	Declarations of Interest	
275.1	There were none.	
276	Highways	
276.1	<p>We were pleased to welcome Mr. Andrew Leighton, Community Liaison Officer, Highways Department at NCC to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to our letter Mr. Leighton had visited the junction of Fishponds Road with Great Billing Way and had seen for himself the violation of the 'No right turn'. He suggested that a new island and bollards be installed, which would make it much more difficult to make an illegal right turn and also that a new sign be put in place. The council were pleased to accept this suggestion and the situation will be monitored. Mr Leighton was asked if anything could be done in the parish with regard to pot holes and damaged speed humps caused by the extreme weather in the winter months. He replied that work was being carried out on pot holes on main roads at the moment and once this was complete they would move onto the minor roads. As far as the speed humps were concerned he would investigate. The Chairman asked about the possibility of directional signs to Billing Parish Park and the two pocket parks, which are a pre-requisite of the Green Flag Award and which were the subject of a recent letter sent to the Highways Department. Mr. Leighton said he could see no problem with this and would get back to the Parish Council. 	

		Action
276	Highways (Continued)	
276.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chairman advised Mr Leighton that the Parish Council were concerned about the number of small infill developments within the parish, which individually are not a problem but overall cause a large increase in traffic and additional parking problems. RESOLVED that the council would copy planning issues of this type to Mr. Leighton. Rev. Steven Palmer expressed concern regarding the bend by the church in Little Billing. Mr. Leighton will look into this matter. 	
276.2	PC Richard Jewell said he was pleased to hear that something was to be done with regard to the junction of Fishponds Road and Great Billing Way. Several people had been caught illegally turning right and he regretted to report that all lived within the parish. The police will be focusing on speed enforcement within the parish over the next couple of months, particularly targeting Manorfield Road and Little Billing Way. A window had been smashed in Valentine Way, bottles broken and windows smashed in Station Road and an air rifle fired in Ashmead.	
276.3	Keith Bonham asked when the grass on Little Billing village green would be cut. GSM to arrange for this to be done.	GSM
276.4	Keith Bonham raised the problem of inconsiderate parking in Little Billing and asked if anything could be done. PC Jewell advised that the police could only do something if the parking caused an obstruction as powers regarding parking had been passed to local councils.	
276.5	PC Jewell was asked if anything could be done to stop cyclists using the pavements. It is illegal to cycle on paths that are adjacent to roads and Cllr. Clasper was asked to make this clear in a future edition of the newsletter.	MC
277	Ongoing Matters	
277.1	Land adjacent to St. Andrews Church, Great Billing. Signed copies of the Transfer, together with the fee, had been forwarded to the solicitors. Held over to next meeting.	
277.2	Proposed new playground at the former 'Helicopter Park' Ecton Brook. A reply had been received from Simon Dougall, Asset Manager at NBC but unfortunately this referred to an incorrect area. Clerk to reply to him, with a copy to Cllr. Mackintosh. Held over to next meeting.	Clerk
277.3	Request for new bus shelter, Fishponds Road. A reply had been received from NBC advising that they would not move the defunct bus shelter from Ecton Brook Road as they were keen to see the bus service reinstated for the northern section of this road. As the Parish Council do not have the funds to provide a new bus shelter themselves this project is to be shelved for the time being.	
277.4	Consideration of quotation for improved lighting on footpath from Valley Road to Codlin Close, Little Billing. The cost to install three new lamps together with the underground electricity supply is almost £7,000. RESOLVED that further research be done into this project to see if any grants would be available either through the Safer Routes to School or crime prevention angle. Advice to be sought from Andrew Leighton.	

		Action
<p>278 278.1</p>	<p>Planning N/2010/0214 – W. Pearce & Co. Ltd, Wellingborough Road, - Partial demolition of leather works and outbuildings. Conversion of powerhouse into 6 dwellings. Integration of screen walls into new residential development and erection of screen wall. A meeting with representatives from Lagan Homes and a presentation to the Parish Council had been held on 24th March. Although in general BPC were impressed with the proposed plans and felt the development would be a beneficial addition to the parish, concern was expressed with regard to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To counter vandalism and anti-social behaviour, BPC strongly urged that the proposed footpath along the edge of the site from Fishponds Road to Wellingborough Road should be fenced off with no access to or from the site and that anti-cycle/motorcycle barriers be placed at each end. It was also felt that students going to and from The Academy would not use this path as the route was longer than that used at present. The developers had not chosen to include this footpath, it was something they had been told had to be done. • Most homes, even 4/5 bedroomed, only had a single garage with one additional drive-through parking space. There appeared to be inadequate parking throughout the whole site and with narrow curved roads this could prove a parking hazard and cause difficulties for emergency vehicles. <p>The Lagan Homes representatives had promised to look at these matters and BPC look forward to seeing revised plans. Clerk to contact Lagan Homes to ask what, if any revisions have been made to their original plans and whether another meeting/presentation would be beneficial.</p> <p>Residents from Ashmead were present at the meeting and expressed their concern with regard to the green space at the end of Ashmead which causes many problems for them as it was used as a cut-through. The Chairman explained that Lagan Homes had been made aware of this and it had been suggested that they may be in a better position to sort this problem out as the land had still not been signed off. New fencing was required along the side that adjoined the Pearce's site and also to close off the end of Ashmead. BPC envisaged the area as a small pocket park/wildlife area which could hopefully be managed by local residents as is done at the development at the old Scouts ground in Overstone Lane.</p> <p>The Ashmead residents were also concerned about the number of established trees that were being removed at the edge of the site adjacent to the end of their back gardens.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>278.2</p>	<p>WNJPU Emergent Joint Core Strategy. In consultation at present. Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>279 279.1</p>	<p>Finance The Clerk reported that the Accounts to the end of the financial year, 31.03.10, had been completed and would be taken for internal audit the following day.</p>	
<p>279.2</p>	<p>A copy of the schedules showing Income and Expenditure for the year compared to budget, Bank Reconciliation to 31.03.10 and final Year End accounts had already been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that these be approved. See Appendices I and II.</p>	

		Action															
279	Finance (Continued)																
279.3	The schedule showing Accounts for Payment had already been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:																
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Power of Expenditure</u></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NCALC (Subs NCALC/LCR Magazine/Internal Audit fee)</td> <td>LGA1972s143/s111</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,646.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Nton) Fuel Spout for Combi Can</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P. J. Miller Ltd (New lock for cabin)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td style="text-align: right;">182.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NCC (GSM Pension – March)</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td style="text-align: right;">485.95</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Power of Expenditure</u>		NCALC (Subs NCALC/LCR Magazine/Internal Audit fee)	LGA1972s143/s111	1,646.50	Garden Machines (Nton) Fuel Spout for Combi Can	LGA1972s111	8.60	P. J. Miller Ltd (New lock for cabin)	LGA1972s111	182.13	NCC (GSM Pension – March)	LGA1972s112	485.95	
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280	Other Matters																
280.1	Website. Some of the user groups at the Pavilion have already contacted Cllr. Clasper. Yet another reminder was given to the councillors who have not yet supplied photographs and biographies for the website.	ALL															
280.2	Request for bench to be situated in All Saints churchyard, Little Billing. Rev. Steven Palmer confirmed that he had no objection to a bench being situated in the churchyard but suggested it be placed at the rear of the church out of sight of the two roads. Permission would need to be obtained from the Diocese and Rev. Palmer will apply for this. RESOLVED that a sum up to £350 be spent on this project.	SP															
280.3	New Standing Orders. Held over to next meeting.																
281	Leisure & Recreation																
281.1	There was no GSM Report this month due to his being on holiday for two weeks. The remainder of his time was spent working on the new compound.																
281.2	GB Pocket Park and Green Flag/Pennant Award. Waiting to hear when someone will be attending to judge the pocket park for the Green Pennant. The GSM had attended a day course regarding the Green Flag which he had found very interesting. Directional signs will be needed on the main roads (see 276.1) and welcoming signs are needed near the pavilion. The GSM had taken a photograph, which was passed to all members, of the one in Abington Park which is similar to that required and which would cost approximately £350. Purchase of a similar sign was agreed in principle. Should the Parish Council decide to go for Heritage status next year similar signs will be needed for all the green space areas within the parish. The GSM also mentioned that the outside toilet facilities will need to be open during the day, i.e. during his working hours.																
281.3	LB Pocket Park. Cllr. Clasper reported that they had had their first volunteers day when five people attended, all of whom worked very hard. They will be trying out different times for volunteers to see which gets the best response. The arboriculturist was currently carrying out essential tree work. It was a little late for this to be done but care was being taken with regard to nesting. Some of the dangerous trees have already been taken down. Cllr. Clasper also reported that they were looking into additional funding grants.																
281.4	Pavilion – Update on new workshop/store. Work progressing well; greenhouse is now complete. The next stage is the connection of electricity, work on which is due to start next week and will hopefully only take a couple of days. Once this has been done the GSM can move out of the pavilion to enable work to be carried out there prior to SCTE moving in.																

		Action
281	<i>Leisure & Recreation (Continued)</i>	
281.5	The Leys. Now that the ha-ha wall has been exposed there is a need to bring someone in who can advise what needs to be done. GSM to arrange. Rev. Steven Palmer expressed concern regarding possible erosion now that the bank has been exposed. GSM to arrange site meeting with arboriculturist from NBC.	GSM GSM
282	<i>Northants County Association of Local Councils</i>	
282.1	Cllr. David Hughes reported that a meeting had been held on 18 th March 2010 at Higham Ferrers regarding the Incorporation of NCALC. Regrettably there was not a quorum so the vote could not take place. It was decided that the Executive Committee in conjunction with Danny Moody would set up a voting system by email to Clerks. RESOLVED that the Clerk should reply in favour of the incorporation on behalf of the council when it is received.	
282.2	Local Councils Charter. There is a meeting regarding this at Towcester Race Course in June and Cllr. Hughes will be attending.	
283	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
283.1	The Chairman reported that planning permission had been received from NBC for a new noticeboard in Ecton Brook affixed to the front wall of the Post Office. This would be arranged as soon as possible.	GSM
283.2	Cllr Clasper thanked everyone who participated in the litter pick on Saturday 10 th April. Overall the same number of volunteers attended although Bellinge was very poorly represented. The Chairman suggested that photographs from the litter pick be placed on the website. It was also suggested that the local Scouts be invited to assist at the next one.	MC
283.3	Cllr Mrs Sue Shaw reported it had been suggested that the old Valley Road stores in Little Billing be used as a Community Centre. She was advised that this building belonged to NBC and they should be approached with regard to this as the Parish Council did not have sufficient funds to support it.	
283.4	Cllr. Gable reported that since the Valley Road shop had closed the Parish Council notice board had become redundant in that position. RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to NBC asking if it could be moved either to the corner of the old playground at the junction of the paths leading to Valley Road and Codlin Close where a pocket park notice board is planned, or behind the new bench overlooking Little Billing village green.	Clerk
283.5	Cllr. Marlow reported that he had spoken to Tim Croot at NBC (telephone no. 837653) regarding cars for sale in Great Billing Way. He had been advised that nothing could be done if someone was only selling one car, i.e. if someone was selling three cars but there were three different telephone numbers displayed NBC was powerless.	
284	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
284.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.20 pm. Dates of Next Meetings. Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 10 th May 2010 at 7.00 pm Annual Parish Council Meeting – Monday 10 th May 2010 at 7.30 pm.	

Balances and Bank Reconciliation**Billing Parish Council****Summary of Bank and Cash Balances
As at 31st March 2010**

Current Account	£ 6,950.29
Deposit Account	7.72
7 day Account	£70,000.00
Total Cashbook balance	£76,958.01
Total cash and at bank	£76,958.01
Balance as per Bank Statement	£ 8,875.08
Less unrepresented cheques:	
2550 TPR Trucking	1,410.00 -
2554 Barclaycard Commercial	514.79 -
	<hr/>
	£ 6,950.29

BILLING PARISH COUNCIL
Summary Receipts and Payment Account for the year ended 31st March 2010

2009		2010
£	<u>Receipts</u>	£
121,114	Precept	132,040
3000	Grants	5,000
3845	Playing Field/Pavilion	5,135
	Miscellaneous	
2286	Other Receipts: Bank Interest	2,196
50	Sale of Assets	
<u>6,587</u>	VAT	<u>5,891</u>
136,882	Total Receipts	150,262
	<u>Payments</u>	
71,228	General Administration	76,237
725	S137 Payments	1,055
10,340	Loans/Capital Spending	10,340
	Election Expenses	
1532	Lighting – Costs	1,521
784	Lighting – Repairs	2,945
8,752	Capital Expenditure	9,157
1,657	Professional & Legal fees, etc.	2,973
1,127	Training & Conferences/Seminars	292
861	Repairs to PC owned property	4,209
1,461	Newsletter	1,461
987	S19LG(MP)A 1976 – Grants	7,620
2,941	Insurance	3,918
1,473	Subscriptions	1,510
18,035	Other Payments (incl. payment to Bellinge Community House)	18,000
<u>5,328</u>	VAT	<u>7,349</u>
126,743	Total Payments	148,586
	<u>Receipts & Payments Summary</u>	
65,143	Balance brought forward at 1 st April	75,282
<u>136,882</u>	Add Total Receipts	<u>150,262</u>
202,025		225,544
<u>126,743</u>	Less Total Payments	<u>148,586</u>
75,282	Balance Carried Forward at 31 st March	76,958
	These Cumulative funds are represented by:	
10,404	Current Account at Nat West Bank, Northampton	8,875
8	Reserve Account at Nat West Bank, Northampton	8
65,000	30 & 90 day Loan Accounts at N'pton Borough Council	70,000
<u>(130)</u>	Unpresented Cheques	<u>(1,925)</u>
75,282		76,958