



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 8TH JANUARY 2018
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs. G. Chagger, Mrs C. Worthington, J. Clements,
P. Henesey, D. Nash, M. Pearson, S. Rockall

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
P. Marks (Green Space Manager)
Cllr. A. Kilbride (NCC & NBC)
Michelle Aveyard (Bellinge Community House)
Damian Lang (Highway Warden)
Three Parishioners

		Action
1	<i>Apologies</i>	
1.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. D. Brede (bereavement), S. Ward (work commitment) and Rev. R. Burbidge (prior engagement). The council expressed its deepest sympathy to Cllr. Brede on hearing the sad news of the death of his wife.	
2	<i>Minutes</i>	
2.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 th December 2017 (Folio Nos. 062/2017 – 066/2017) were approved and signed as a true record.	
3	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
3.1	There were none.	
4	<i>Public Forum</i>	
4.1	Mr Peter Stevenson queried how one accessed locally situated defibrillators. He was advised that the local Ambulance Service should have details of the locations and access codes where applicable. It was appreciated that the defibrillator situated in the pavilion was only accessible at times when the pavilion was being used. However the Parish Council is in the process of obtaining a vintage red telephone box and the thought was to use this to house an additional defibrillator. Cllr. Kilbride advised that a defibrillator would be installed on the outside of Bellinge Community House in the very near future.	
4.2	Mr Stevenson asked if there was any information available with regard to the removal of the fallen tree blocking the brook in Fishponds Road. The GSM reported that he had spoken to the landowner who had advised him he was awaiting a tree surgeon. It was agreed the Environment Agency should be informed as it is believed the tree is impeding the flow of water.	Clerk
5	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i>	
5.1	Damian Lang, Highway Warden, said he had re-reported the potholes in Church Walk and the flooding after heavy rain in Coneygree Court, but nothing had been done as yet.	

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5	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies (Continued)</i>																																																																						
5.2	Concern was expressed with regard to the large amounts of fallen leaves that, although reported by Damian, had not been removed and which had resulted in extremely messy and dangerously slippery areas on roads and pavements throughout the parish.																																																																						
5.3	The following report had been received from PCSO Steve Whiting: "There have been a couple of burglaries and letters have been dropped off to surrounding homes regarding home security. There have also been a few vehicle crimes. Concerns have been raised with regard to the Mushroom Field Road area in Ecton Brook that are being dealt with by regular patrols in the street and surrounding areas, which are hopefully making a difference".																																																																						
5.4	Michelle Aveyard said they would be entering Bellinge in Bloom again this year and she had spoken to both Cllr. Henesey and the GSM with regard to this. She wondered if this should be on a parish wide basis in 2018 and asked if everyone could give some thought to this so that it may be discussed in more detail at a future Parish Council meeting. She will be applying for funding through the carrier bag scheme.																																																																						
6	<i>Planning</i>																																																																						
6.1	The following determinations had been received from NBC: N/2017/1220 – Former Ecton Brook Public House – Partial change of use to include hot food takeaway and café/restaurant uses with erection of extraction fan (part retrospective). APPROVED. N/2017/1424 - 25 Sheerwater Drive, Ecton Brook – Two storey side extension and garage conversion – REFUSED.																																																																						
7	<i>Finance</i>																																																																						
7.1	The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:																																																																						
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7	<i>Finance (Continued)</i>	
7.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 31.12.17 had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.	
7.3	A copy of the Accounts and Bank Reconciliation for the period to 31.12.17 (i.e. to the end of the third quarter) had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.	
8	<i>Updates</i>	
8.1	Bellinge Field. Cllr. Kilbride advised that LGSS apparently require an additional clause inserting into the transfer document stating that should Billing Parish Council wish to sell Bellinge Field at any time in the future NBC must be given first refusal. This would appear to be the cause of the huge delay in completion of this transfer.	
9	<i>Other Matters</i>	
9.1	The next Objectives meeting will take place at 3.00 pm on Monday 22 nd January 2018 in the parish office at the pavilion.	ALL
9.2	Updating of Parish Owned Street Lighting. A copy of the recommendations for the completion of this project had been forwarded to all members. Unfortunately Willie Moore, the MD of Aylesbury Mains was unable to attend the PC meeting due to being on holiday but the Chairman and Clerk had visited their premises in Wolverton to meet with him. A detailed discussion had taken place and various types of lighting were demonstrated. RESOLVED that all parish-owned street lights would have replacement economical lamps using a conversion kit. No lanterns would be replaced unless there was a necessity due to damage or vandalism. The overall cost would be in the region of £15,000 and would result in a 60% saving in running costs. Work is to be carried out as soon as practicable.	
10	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
10.1	Complaints had been received regarding the increase in dog fouling on the playing fields and in GB Pocket Park, a problem which appears to be escalating throughout the whole of the parish. It is believed the worst offenders are those who take their dogs out after dark and the Chairman offered to patrol the playing fields one evening. It was agreed the GSM should source suitable notices to be displayed and it was suggested that fouling be sprayed with biodegradable dayglo paint to see if this had any effect. Not picking up is a disgusting trend and a health and safety issue, particularly where children play and the Parish Council will not hesitate to prosecute offenders.	GSM
10.2	Little Billing Pocket Park. The following report had been received from Michael Clasper: "There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 9 th December from 10.00 am to 12 noon. Seven volunteers collected litter, cleared overhanging vegetation from the footpaths, and continued to clear the area north of the orchard of self-sown saplings, briars and undergrowth".	
11	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
11.1	Cllr. Nash said Bellinge Community House had had a good Christmas and he thanked Michelle for all her hard work over the past year. He also passed on thanks from the Pre-School for the additional funding received from the Parish Council and to the new GSM for all his help.	

		Action
11	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i>	
11.2	Cllr. Henesey passed on thanks to the Council from Ecton Brook Community Group for the funding for plants. He also thanked the GSM for his extremely prompt removal of a tree from the brook in the Linear Park. Cllr. Henesey said he had asked Paul for his assistance but on arrival at the designated time, Paul had already completed the task.	
11.3	Cllr. Pearson said he would also like to extend his thanks to the GSM; this time for the renovation of the old pump in Great Billing.	
11.4	Cllr. Rockall thanked everyone for their support of the raffle raising money for the sponsorship of the marathon runners. He was pleased to report that they were now over half-way to their total. He said that it had been suggested that fundraising for charity should continue after this project was completed.	
11.5	Cllr. Rockall asked if there was any policy in place with regard to individuals sleeping rough as it would appear that the number of people living in tents at the end of Lakeside had increased. Peter Stevenson had a telephone number of a homeless charity who would investigate.	
12	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
12.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm. Dates of Next Meetings: Objectives Meeting – 3.00 pm on Monday 22 nd January 2028 at the Parish Office. PC Meeting – 7.30 pm on Monday 12 th February 2018 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion.	