

BILLING PARISH COUNCIL

Established 1894

Serving Bellinge, Ecton Brook, Great Billing and Little Billing

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30pm
ON MONDAY 8th MAY 2017,
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Ms L. Vakil, Mrs C. Worthington, J. Clements, P. Henesey,
D. Nash, S. Rockall

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
C. Campling (Green Space Manager)
Cllrs. Hallam (NBC) and Kilbride (NBC & NCC)
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)
4 Parishioners

		Action
46	<i>Election of Chairman</i>	
46.1	Mr. J. A. Marlow was unanimously elected to the office of Chairman and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.	
47	Environmental Issues within the Parish. Due to Cllr. Hallam having to attend another meeting at 8.15 pm this item was moved forward on the agenda.	
47.1	He had walked with Cllr. Henesey through Ecton Brook ward and had seen some of the problems experienced with fly tipping and littering. Cllr. Henesey had requested the installation of additional litter bins. Cllr. Hallam reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A new app was available for download to mobile phones. This would enable people to report problems to Street Doctor 'on the move' and photographs could be sent at the same time. ➤ An eight month trial using Littering and Fly tipping Enforcement Officers had taken place in the town centre area and over 1,000 people were fined. This had proved very successful and more importantly there was no cost to the council or residents as the company employed retained all fines. It was anticipated this scheme would be extended to the whole of the borough. ➤ The current Environment contract will end in 2018 and the first round of the new contract has been completed. They are aware of the shortcomings of the current contract and it is anticipated these will be completely remedied with the new contract. 	
47.2	A parishioner from Ecton Brook had spoken to Cllr. Hallam with regard to problems she was experiencing with NBC land adjacent to her home and he would be investigating this.	
47.3	Peter Stevenson advised Cllr. Hallam of the littering problems experienced from pupils of Northampton Academy, and asked if a litter bin could be placed adjacent to the school gates.	

		Action
47	Environmental Issues within the Parish (Continued)	
47.4	Cllr. Nash said he believed that the closure of Ecton Lane tip on two days per week was a big factor in the increase of fly tipping in the parish.	
47.5	Cllr. Hallam was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at this point.	
48	<i>Apologies</i>	
48.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs G. Chaggar (ill), Rev. R. Burbidge and D. Brede (business commitments), M. Pearson (holiday), and from NBC Councillor Christopher Malpas. Belated apologies were received from Sarah Oakes (Neighbourhood Warden).	
49	<i>Acceptance of Office by Councillors</i>	
49.1	All existing councillors accepted office for the forthcoming year.	
50	<i>Minutes</i>	
50.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10 th April 2017 (Folio Nos. 018/2017 – 022/2017) were approved and signed as a true record.	
51	<i>Election of Officers</i>	
51.1	Vice-Chairman – Cllr. S. Rockall. Responsible Financial Officer – The Clerk, Mrs. Sue Harris.	
52	<i>Appointment of Committees/Representatives</i>	
52.1	<u>Finance</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. J. Clements, S. Rockall and Ms. L. Vakil.	
52.2	<u>Planning & Conservation</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. Mrs C. Worthington, and Ms. L. Vakil.	
52.3	<u>Leisure and Recreation</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. Mrs. C. Worthington and S. Rockall.	
52.4	<u>Northants CALC</u> Cllr. D. Brede.	
52.5	<u>Charities Committee</u> The Chairman and Cllr. Mrs C. Worthington	
52.6	<u>Bellinge Community House</u> Cllrs. Mrs G. K. Chaggar, Ms L. Vakil and D. Nash.	
53	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
53.1	There were none	
54	<i>Public Forum</i>	
54.1	Mr Stevenson asked if a gate could be installed from The Leys through to the Catholic graveyard. He was advised that this land belonged to the Catholic church and that this would have to be discussed with them.	

		Action																																																			
54	Public Forum (Continued)																																																				
54.2	A resident from Worcester Close, who had attended a previous meeting, advised he appeared to be getting no nearer to a satisfactory outcome with regard to the resurfacing of the road following works by Virgin Media. Cllr. Kilbride will be following this up with Highways Department.	AK																																																			
54.3	Another resident of Worcester Close, Tony Charles advised that he had on several occasions confronted vandals on The Leys and he was disgusted at the police response. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the local SCT regarding this.	Clerk																																																			
54.4	Cllr. Kilbride thanked everyone who supported him in the recent County Council elections. In his new role he would be asking for a review of the tip opening hours, a review of the Pound Lane entrance, and also resurfacing of Penfold Lane.																																																				
55	Report from Highway Warden																																																				
55.1	Damian Lang said he had reported the pot holes in Pound Lane and had been advised these would be monitored as at present they did not meet the criteria for repair. He would continue pushing and reporting the various issues within the parish.																																																				
56	Planning																																																				
56.1	N/2017/0368 – 1 Oransay Close, Gt. Billing – Single storey rear extension and front porch. No comments or objections. N/2017/0486 – 61 Russet Drive, Lt. Billing – Two storey side extension. No comments or objections.																																																				
56.2	The following determinations had been received: N/2017/0248 – 4 Lady Winefrides Walk, Gt Billing – Trellis attached to existing 6ft boundary fence (retrospective application). APPROVED. 14/00096/WASFUL – Land at Lower Ecton Lane – Variation of Conditions 7, 8 and 9 of planning permission to extend operational hours and increase HGV movements. APPROVED.																																																				
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57.1	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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		Action
57	<i>Finance (Continued)</i>	
57.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 30.04.17, together with a statement of reconciled bank account balances, had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.	
57.3	It was RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement be approved and this was duly signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.	
57.4	It was RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts for the year to 31 st March 2017 (see Appendices I and II) as approved by the Internal Auditor be approved and this was duly signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer. The audit had once again been completed with no issues arising and the Clerk was thanked for her work in accomplishing this.	
57.5	RESOLVED the Parish Council would fund repair of the metal stands and replacement trees in Fieldmill Square. The GSM recommended pot-grown trees and he will arrange both purchase of the trees and the repair.	GSM
57.6	The GSM had obtained a quotation for the replacement mast guard (the insurance claim has already been settled) but this is being held over to the next meeting as Cllr. Ms Vakil is to obtain two further quotations.	LV
57.7	Insurance. The Clerk had been in discussion with Came & Co. and other insurance companies for some time with regard to the Council's insurance, as the long term agreement comes to an end on 31 st May 2017. Came & Co. had obtained three quotations and recommended the one from Hiscox. One company had declined to quote and unfortunately the quotation from Zurich Insurance had only been received by email half-an-hour before the start of the meeting. This quotation appeared to be the best but unfortunately the Clerk had not had time to check through it in detail. RESOLVED that once this had been done, if this was indeed the case, the quotation from Zurich, at a cost of £1,518.81 per annum for a 3-year LTA should be accepted.	Clerk
58	<i>Other Matters/Updates</i>	
58.1	A discussion took place regarding grass cutting on NBC owned land both in Little Billing and the remainder of the parish. Unfortunately there was no possibility of ascertaining when Enterprise would be cutting Lt Billing village green so occasionally they will come to do this soon after the Parish Council's contractors have done so. It was agreed that the situation would be monitored and it is to be hoped that quality and number of cuts will improve once the new Environment contract is awarded.	
58.2	Belling Field. There has still been no news regarding this. Cllr. Kilbride has been in conversation with Cllr. Hadland and they are both pushing for completion of this transaction.	
58.3	Cllr. Ms Vakil had attended the Gt Billing Odour Liaison Group Meeting on 27 th April. She was pleased to report that there have been no complaints so far this year, although there has been some low level odour. There will be two more spray points installed this year. It was a good meeting and she was pleased to find that a lot of money has been earmarked for the site.	

		Action
59	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
59.1	<p>The GSM reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All the wildflower meadows have been sown. He has planted some wild flowers that he has brought on in the compound on The Leys. These will flower this year but the remainder will not flower until next year. ➤ All spoil has been spread – some to the side of the Garden of Reflection and the remainder in GB Pocket Park. ➤ Work will start this week on the cutting back of the Yew trees on the approach to St. Andrews Church. Work will also be carried out on the wind damaged apple trees. ➤ He asked for the CCTV to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. 	Clerk
60	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
60.1	Cllr. Nash reported that it would appear many people in Bellinge did not receive their Easter newsletter. It was agreed that a concrete bin be placed in Fieldmill Square and the GSM will source this.	GSM
60.2	Cllr. Clements asked if a litter bin could be placed by the new seating in Lt. Billing Pocket Park. It was also suggested that the bin at the entrance from Valley Road be replaced and re-sited adjacent to the new bench. The Clerk is to discuss and liaise with Michael Clasper.	Clerk
60.3	Cllr. Rockall advised that there had been an attempted robbery at the Post Office at Ecton Brook. The support from local residents has been fantastic.	
61	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
61.1	<p>There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.12 pm</p> <p>Date of next meeting – 7.30 pm on Monday 12th June 2017 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion.</p>	

Appendix I

BILLING PARISH COUNCIL
Summary Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st March 2017

2015/16		2016/17
£	Receipts	£
144,632	Precept (including £18,000 paid direct to Bellinge Community House)	147,164
0	Billing Fayre	163
0	Grants	6,200
10,761	Playing Field/Pavilion	10,030
1,919	Miscellaneous	3,105
298	Other Receipts: Interest	393
0	Sale of Assets	160
9,905	VAT	13,384
167,516	Total Receipts	180,598
	Payments	
86,090	General Administration	87,413
2,400	S137 Payments	3,108
10,340	Loan Repayment	10,340
0	Billing Fayre	1,217
2,862	Election Expenses	0
1,961	Lighting – Costs	3,000
1,402	Lighting – Repairs/Maintenance	1,520
4,896	Capital Expenditure	21,436
690	Professional & Legal Fees, etc.	705
752	Training & Conference/Seminars	10
1,528	Repairs to PC owned Property	2,453
1,740	Newsletter	2,033
3,000	s19LG(MP)A 1976 – Grants	2,650
2,155	Insurance	2,136
2,238	Subscriptions	2,366
18,040	Other Payments	18,429
9,323	VAT	15,399
149,417	Total Payments	174,211
	Receipts and Payments Summary	
120,142	Balance brought forward at 1 st April 2016	138,241
167,516	Add Total Receipts	180,598
287,658		318,839
149,417	Less Total Payments	174,211
138,241	Balance Carried Forward at 31st March 2016	144,628
	These cumulative funds are represented by:	
18,233	Current Account 08696160 at Nat West Bank, Northampton	14,621
8	Reserve Account 40578445 at Nat West Bank, Northampton	8
120,000	NBC – 7 day Loan Account	130,000
138,241		144,628

Appendix II

ANNUAL RETURN

For the Year Ended 31st March 2017

Billing Parish Council

		Last Year £	This Year £	All figures rounded to nearest £
1	Balances Brought Forward	120,142	138,241	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year
2	Annual Precept	144,632	147,164	Total amount of Precept income received during the year ¹
3	Total Other Receipts	22,884	33,434	Total income or receipts received during the year excluding Precept
4	Staff Costs	51,105	52,837	Staff wages, etc. and expenses
5	Loan Interest/ Capital Repayments	10,340	10,340	Repayments made on borrowings during the year
6	Total Other Payments	87,972	111,034	Total expenditure or payments excluding lines 4 and 5
7	Balances Carried Forward	138,241	144,628	
8	Total Cash and Investments	138,241	144,628	Sum of all cash, bank accounts etc. held at 31 st March 2017
9	Total Fixed Assets	232,770	243,328	Current value of tangible fixed assets as at 31 st March 2017
10	Total Borrowings	9,570	NIL	Outstanding capital balance as at 31 st March 2017

¹ Includes amount of £18,000 special expenses for Bellinge Community House

Signed *J A Marlow* (Chairman) Date 8th May 2017

Signed *S F Harris* (Clerk & RFO) Date 8th May 2017