

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 10TH JULY 2017
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs C. Worthington, D. Brede, Rev. R. Burbidge, J. Clements,
P. Henesey, D. Nash, N. Nickason, M. Pearson, S. Rockall, S. Ward

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
C. Campling (Green Space Manager)
Damian Lang (Highway Warden)
One Parishioner

		Action
73	<i>Apologies</i>	
73.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mrs Chaggar and Ms. Vakil (both ill). Apologies were also received from Cllrs. Malpas and Kilbride due to full NBC Council meeting, Michelle Aveyard (BCH) and Sarah Oakes (Neighbourhood Warden).	
74	<i>Minutes</i>	
74.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 th June 2017 (Folio Nos. 023/2017 – 032/2017) were approved and signed as a true record.	
75	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
75.1	Cllr. Rockall declared an interest in Agenda item 7 (4) due to being employed by one of the companies supplying a quotation.	
76	<i>Public Forum</i>	
76.1	Mr Peter Stevenson said he was extremely concerned about the large advertising board that had appeared outside the former Pearce Leatherworks on the A4500. It had been ascertained that planning permission had not been received for this. The Parish Council were aware of this illegal sign and Cllr. Pearson had been in conversation with both Colin Clayson and the Planning Department. The Clerk had written to Planning expressing the Council's concerns and asking for their assistance in its removal.	
77	<i>Reports from Outside Agencies</i>	
77.1	Michelle Aveyard had forwarded a report on the activities at Bellinge Community House to the Clerk and this had been circulated to all members.	
77.2	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden reported that someone appeared to have had a barbecue in Ecton Brook leaving a large amount of rubbish, which he has arranged to have removed.	

		Action																																							
77	Reports from Outside Agencies (Continued)																																								
77.3	Damian had also reported a damaged Parish owned street light outside 22 Station Road, Great Billing that had obviously been hit by a car. The Clerk was already aware of this as the homeowner had witnessed and videoed the incident, capturing the registration plate. She had written to the local SCT asking for their assistance in finding the owner of the vehicle as it is hoped to claim on the perpetrators insurance.																																								
77.4	In his absence Cllr. Kilbride had forwarded a report which the Clerk read out. (See Appendix I).																																								
78	Planning																																								
78.1	N/2017/0095 – Park Thatch, Great Billing Park, Wellingborough Road, Gt. Billing – Proposed two storey detached garage/storeroom to side of property. N/2017/0824 – 50 Orchard Hill, Lt Billing – Demolish existing garage and construction of single storey side extension. No comments or objections to either of the above.																																								
78.2	The following determinations had been received from NBC: N/2017/0095 – Park Thatch, Great Billing Park, Wellingborough Road, Gt. Billing – Proposed two storey detached garage/storeroom to side of property. APPROVED. N/2017/0227 – Former Ecton Brook Public House – Changing the external materials of the existing walls. Erection of new open entrance porch and front boundary wall (part retrospective). APPROVED. N/2017/0421 – Former Ecton Brook Public House – Part Change of Use from Community Centre to mixed use. Provide cooking facilities for users and takeaway. INVALID. N/2017/0486 – 61 Russet Drive, Lt Billing – Two storey side extension. APPROVED N/2017/0544 – 7 Penfold Close, Gt Billing – Conversion/Extension to existing garage. First floor extension over existing porch. Single storey extension to rear. APPROVED. N/2017/0595 – Unit 1, Fieldmill Square, Bellinge. Installation of advertisements. APPROVED.																																								
79	Finance																																								
79.1	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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79.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 30.06.17 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																		
79.3	A copy of the Accounts and bank reconciliation for the first quarter to 30.06.17 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																		
79.4	After consideration of the quotations received for the works required at the Bernard Weston pavilion it was RESOLVED that the lowest quotation from Ellmark Design & Build at a cost of £13,350 plus VAT be accepted. Work will be carried out during school summer holidays. GSM and Cllr. Rockall to arrange and co-ordinate.	GSM/ SR																																	
79.5	Cllr. Clements asked if litter pickers and a leaf blower could be obtained for each ward to assist volunteers in their work in keeping areas clean. Bellinge and Gt. Billing already have equipment and spare litter pickers were given to Cllrs. Clements and Henesey for use in Lt. Billing and Ecton Brook. RESOLVED that Cllr. Clements would source and ascertain prices of leaf blowers for consideration at the September meeting. It was also stressed that should purchase of these take place a guaranteed safe storage facility must be available.	JC																																	
79.6	In answer to a question the Clerk confirmed that the recommendation was that Parish Council had sufficient funds in reserves to cover 12 month's running costs in the event of the precept not being received.																																		
80	Other Matters																																		
80.1	Billing Fayre. Although there were fewer stalls this year and consequently the area used for the fayre was smaller, people seemed to like it. Many stalls sold out completely and charities and local groups were delighted with funds made. Having the band in the centre worked well and once again they were excellent. Many favourable comments were received with residents from all wards saying they felt it brought the whole community together. Cllr. Rockall agreed to continue with his hard work again next year but requested that as it was now a Parish Council event that additional councillors joined the committee next year. It is hoped to hold the first committee meeting possibly in December. The 2018 Fayre will take place on Saturday 30 th June.																																		

		Action
80	<i>Other Matters (Continued)</i>	
80.2	Website. One quotation had been received for hosting and running of the website and the Clerk had had a meeting with another company that day. Held over to September meeting.	
80.3	The 3-year electricity contract for the pavilion with SSE is due to finish in early September. RESOLVED that authority be given to the Clerk to source and accept the best new contract possible.	
80.4	Northants Larger Councils Partnership Meeting. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had attended a meeting at the Saxon Hall, Raunds on 6 th July when the subject was Unitary Authorities and the main speaker was Heather Smith of NCC. It would appear that due to the political climate very little is happening with this at present. However Ms. Smith said if a Unitary Authority was formed she would like this to have a 'bottom-up' approach and she asked for lists of what councils would and definitely would not like to take on. Councillors were asked to give this some thought and to bring their suggested lists to the September meeting.	ALL
80.5	Gt Billing War Memorial. The GSM gave his suggestions for the improvements needed at the memorial, the most important of which is the repair/repointing of the paving slabs. The Chairman is to contact James Bellamy to ascertain if the Catholic Church would be prepared to allow removal of the hedge which has grown out of control. The Clerk will ascertain if there is any funding available for improvements and Cllr. Nash will approach the Royal British Legion. Held over to next meeting.	Chair Clerk DN
80.6	Replacement for GSM. It was agreed that details of the vacancy would be placed in the next newsletter and on all the parish notice boards. The Chairman will speak to Geoff Simons at Sywell Country Park to see if he knows anyone who may be interested in the post, and Peter Stevenson suggested that details be placed with the Job Centre.	Chair
80.7	The GSM asked if a letter could be sent from the PC Chairman to the Chairman of Billing Utd FC emphasising the terms and conditions of hire of the pavilion and playing fields before the start of the new season. It would appear that the outside toilets are not being opened for the duration of matches and also that the pavilion is not being locked during this time. The Clerk will draft a letter and will also update the present Terms and Conditions so that a copy may be given to each team manager.	Clerk
81	<i>Updates</i>	
81.1	Bellinge Field. Transfer of ownership to BPC is due to be agreed at the NBC Cabinet meeting on 19 th July 2017.	
81.2	Proposed new building at 5 Shepperton Close. The Parish Council had agreed to rescind their request for this planning application to be called in due to assurance from the Planning Department that approval would be refused.	
81.3	Updating of street lighting. A meeting is to be arranged with Aylesbury Mains in order to obtain full costs for updating of all lamps in three-phases. Held over.	

		Action
82	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
82.1	The GSM reported that it has been difficult to keep on top of everything recently but hopefully growth would soon slow. He is delighted with the new camera for the CCTV system that was installed recently.	
82.2	LB Pocket Park. The following two reports were received from Michael Clasper: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday, 24th June from 10am until 12 noon. On a warm, dry morning, four volunteers picked litter, mowed the grass in the orchard, cut-back the path edges, and cleaned the picnic tables and benches. ➤ Only three volunteers turned-up on Saturday 8th July for the volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park, and it was decided to concentrate on the Parish-wide Litter Pick. Several bags of litter and fly-tipped rubbish were collected, including a single bedstead. The next volunteering session in the Pocket Park will take place on Saturday, July 22nd. 	
83	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
83.1	Cllr. Nash reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There have been a lot of favourable comments regarding the improvements at Fieldmill Square. Judging will be taking place on 12th July and although they do not expect to win it is hoped that recognition will be made that the whole area is improving. ➤ Michelle is very worried with regard to the lack of success for funding for the youth groups. ➤ At the litter pick at the weekend an enormous amount of rubbish was collected – including 5 mattresses! ➤ The Community House AGM will take place on 16th October at 6.00 pm. 	
83.2	Cllr. Mrs Worthington commented on how nice St. Andrews churchyard looked after all the work volunteers did at the weekend. She said that a young man from Valley Road was visiting his mother's grave in the churchyard and said he would like to volunteer when the next clear-up was arranged.	
83.3	Cllr. Pearson reported that when speaking to Colin Clayson regarding the hoarding on the A4500 he was advised that Colin is still trying to satisfy the listed building and planning conditions to NBC before he can start work on restoring the offices. He has been working on this since planning permission was granted and he still expects it to take another 3 or 4 months minimum before they will allow him to begin work.	
83.4	Cllr. Henesey reported that the first meeting of the new Ecton Brook Residents Association had taken place, and he passed a copy of the minutes to the Clerk.	
83.5	Cllr. Brede said he had noticed that the picnic benches in LB Pocket Park were in need of cleaning – not helped by the ducks alighting on them!	
83.6	Cllr. Nickason said there was a tree at the corner of Valley Road and Washbrook Close that was overhanging the path. He was advised to report this to Street Doctor.	

		Action
<p>83 83.7</p>	<p><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i> Cllr. Rockall reported that Raj Patel and his wife were retiring after running the supermarket at Ecton Brook for 35 years. He understood his wife was not well. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to them thanking them for their support of the community over the years.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>84 84.1</p>	<p><i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i> There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.23 pm. Next Meeting – 7.30 pm on Monday 11th September 2017 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion. PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN AUGUST.</p>	

Appendix I**Report from NBC & NCC Councillor Andrew Kilbride**

1. I have seen the paper for Bellinge Field which goes to Cabinet on 19th July for approval.
2. Billing Fayre was great and I met lots of people from the area. A good time was had by all – well done to the volunteers and committee.
3. Catch 22 school is now up and running in Station Road. I have suggested the installation of a simple gate/barrier at the top of the road as we have had lots of fly tipping and anti-social behaviour at weekends and night time. Hopefully now it is being used this will stop but it will help.
4. Bellinge in Bloom is up and running and you can see Dennis and John's good work around the square which is now complimented by hanging baskets. We still have a lot to do so any volunteers will be much appreciated as judging takes place next week.
5. I have joined Overview and Scrutiny for Cemeteries, which I find very important and interesting – please do not hesitate to relay back to me anything on this subject.
6. The meeting at the community centre in Ecton Brook with fellow Parish Councillors to form a Residents Association went well. No doubt Patrick & Steve will update on this.
7. NPH. I've asked for a review of wardens as at present it is not working – too many are behind computers rather than seeing the issues we face on the estates - which is taking place now.
8. I went to Mereway Fire Brigade headquarters for a councillor fact-finding meeting and the challenges facing the brigade in the coming years. The PCC may well take over the running of this service as they can add a precept to the council tax where the council cannot. Watch this space.
9. I encourage everyone to look at the consultation document for the relief road from Harlestone Road to the Welford Road. Your views count.
10. Pot holes Elwes Way are deemed non-priority and can take up to 4 months in the schedules (although they are doing them in less time), but they will be done.
11. After much chasing the trees in Cumbrae Drive have been trimmed back.
12. I attended Armed Forces Day in June at the Guildhall supporting our heroes who put their lives on the line for us – so proud of them all.

Addendum - Contractors engaged in moving log out of the lake in Ecton Brook today.

10.07.17