



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 13TH MAY 2019
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs S. Jordan, Rev. R. Burbidge, J. Clements, A. Jones,
D. Nash, S. Rockall, S. Ward

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
P. Marks (Green Space Manager)
Cllr. Andy Kilbride (NCC & NBC)
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)
Liz Newbery (NBC Neighbourhood Warden)
Glenn Warner and PCSO Nat Shaw (Police)
Six 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	<i>Apologies</i>	
47.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs. C. K. Chagger (family illness), Mrs C. Worthington (holiday) and D. Brede and M. Pearson (other commitment).	
48	<i>Minutes</i>	
48.2	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 th April 2019 (Folio Nos. 016/2019 – 022/2019) were approved and signed as a true record.	
49	<i>Election of Officers</i>	
49.1	Vice-Chairman – Cllr. S. Rockall Responsible Financial Officer – The Clerk, Mrs. Sue Harris.	
50	<i>Appointment of Committees/Representatives</i>	
50.1	<u>Finance</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. J. Clements, S. Rockall and Mrs. C. Worthington.	
50.2	<u>Planning & Conservation</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. D. Brede and Mrs. C. Worthington	

		Action
50	<i>Appointment of Committees/Representatives (Continued)</i>	
50.3	<u>Leisure & Recreation</u> The Chairman, Cllrs. S. Rockall and Mrs. C. Worthington	
50.4	<u>Northants CALC</u> Cllr. D. Brede	
50.5	<u>Charities Committee</u> The Chairman and Mrs. C. Worthington	
50.6	<u>Bellinge Community House</u> Cllrs. J. Clements, Mrs G. K. Chagger and D. Nash.	
51	<i>Declarations of Interest</i>	
51.1	None were declared.	
52	<i>Public Forum</i>	
52.1	A parishioner complained about the ongoing problem with what appeared to be a car repair business being run from a house in Pearmain Court with associated inconsiderate and dangerous parking. The various authorities were aware of this and further investigations would take place.	NS/EN
52.2	Mr Peter Stevenson said he appeared to be making progress with regard to the repair of the fencing around the open space adjacent to Ashmead and would keep the Parish Council informed. He also advised that the problem with parking issues in Ashmead was ongoing and the police and Liz Newbery will investigate.	NS/EN
52.3	There is also a worrying trend for motor cycles and off-road vehicles being used on land in the parish, especially in Bellinge Field. All such incidents should be reported to Opneutrino via 101 and any photographs of perpetrators would be welcomed. Damian Lang has a direct email address for this.	
53	<i>To Receive Comments Regarding The Future of Bellinge Field</i>	
53.1	Two residents from Whiteheart Close attended the meeting to express their concerns with regard to what they perceived to be over-clearance of Bellinge Field. They felt there was a danger with regard to the disturbance of wildlife and also reduced security of their homes. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that they would arrange to walk the field with the GSM to discuss further. They were assured that the Parish Council would work with them.	
54	<i>Reports From Outside Agencies</i>	
54.1	PCSO Nat Shaw reported that crime statistics for the area were good although there had been a marked increase in shoplifting (18 incidences), particularly in Bellinge. There had been one theft of a motor vehicle and three burglaries.	
54.2	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden said he had been reporting various problems as usual but that there had been an increase in fly-tipping in Bellinge.	

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54.3	<p>Cllr. Andy Kilbride reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has attempted to sort out the problems in Pearmain Court but has had no success so far. ➤ He was not happy with the grass cutting and trimming back of bushes in Ecton Brook and felt this was not up to the standard it should be. ➤ There were problems with bins in the Mushroomfield Road flats. At present they only have black wheelie bins that are emptied fortnightly and this is completely insufficient. Weekly collections or Eurobins are required. ➤ He has reported about ten roads across the parish to Highways. ➤ Steel bollards are to be installed by the Surestart Centre in Ecton Brook. Dangerous parking by parents of schoolchildren continues. 																			
55	Planning																			
55.1	<p>N/2019/0394 – 112 Orchard Hill, Lt. Billing – Construction of steel gateway to support roller door to side of property.</p> <p>N/2019/0462 – 9 Cumbrae Drive, Gt. Billing – Single storey side extension with pitched, part flat roof.</p> <p>N/2019/0435 – Chester House, Gallfield Court – Construction of new brick built bin store and pathway for kerbside collection.</p> <p>N/2019/0471 - 35 Valentine Way, Great Billing - T1 Sycamore – Remove 2 no. low branches from secondary stem growing towards house. T2 Lime – Remove lowest branch overhanging neighbour’s property.</p> <p>N/2019/0490 - 6A Chantry Close, Great Billing - Lime tree – remove dead wood, 5M crown lift and remove growth from house by up to 2M; Oak Tree – remove dead wood, reduce lower back limb by up to 50% or remove completely; Sweet Chestnut – remove dead growth; 4 & 5 – Cherry Trees – dismantle to ground level.</p> <p>N/2019/0525 – The Old Rectory, Elwes Way. Great Billing – 4 x Conifers/Hedge – Removal of hedge and stumps.</p> <p>No comments or objections to any of the above.</p>																			
55.2	<p>The following determinations had been received from NBC:</p> <p>N/2019/0149 – 42 Valley Road, Little Billing – Single storey side/rear extension. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0269 – 16 Raisins Field Road, Ecton Brook – Extension to existing rear conservatory. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0275 – 17 Washbrook Close, Little Billing – First floor rear extension. REFUSED.</p>																			
56	Finance																			
56.1	<p>The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 1809 1278 2011"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>Power of Expenditure</u></th> <th><u>Inc. VAT</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Apr Salaries and monthly fee)</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>3,700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bellinge Community House (Additional annual grant)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>2,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ecton Brook Residents Group (Grant towards plants)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Resiting of mobility access gate – playing fields)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>758.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Park Landscapes (2 x Mow Playing fields/3 x Valley Road)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>420.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Power of Expenditure</u>	<u>Inc. VAT</u>	Small Business Payroll (Apr Salaries and monthly fee)	LGA1972s112	3,700.00	Bellinge Community House (Additional annual grant)	LGA1972s111	2,000.00	Ecton Brook Residents Group (Grant towards plants)	LGA1972s111	250.00	D F Phipps (Resiting of mobility access gate – playing fields)	LGA1972s111	758.56	Park Landscapes (2 x Mow Playing fields/3 x Valley Road)	LGA1972s111	420.00	
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56.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 30.04.19 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																														
56.3	The Clerk reported reconciled bank account balances as at 30.04.19 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NatWest Current Account - £19,656.40 ➤ NatWest Reserve Account - £235,254.06 																																														
56.4	Four tenders had been received for grass cutting in the parish (exclusive of The Leys and Bellinge Field which are already under contract). It was agreed that as two of the companies submitting tenders were unknown to the Council, further discussion and a decision would be held over until such time as reviews from existing customers were obtained.	GSM																																													
57	Policies																																														
57.1	The following policies were adopted by the Council. Copies may be found on the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Equal Opportunities Policy ➤ Dignity at Work/Bullying and Harassment Policy ➤ Grievance Procedure Policy 																																														
58	Updates																																														
58.1	Website. The new website is now live and thanks were extended to Steve Bishop for his generosity and hard work. There are still additions to be made; Steve is awaiting further information from Cllr. Rockall and the GSM, and there is possible 'tweaking' to be done. Hopefully parish council emails will also be updated in the next few days.																																														
58.2	Billing Fayre. Bookings for stalls are still being made. Major events have all been booked. Volunteer slots to be arranged at the June meeting.																																														

		Action
59	<i>Leisure & Recreation</i>	
59.1	<p>The GSM reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Still cutting back on Bellinge Field but have now reached the point of maintenance in some places. All is beginning to look good. ➤ A tree came down in Little Billing Pocket Park which had to be removed. There is another tree that urgently requires work and he is meeting with Michael Clasper later this week to discuss. ➤ He rescued a hedgehog last week which is now recovering with antibiotics, and which will be released back into the wild when fully fit. ➤ With the assistance of Mick Bull work is being carried out on the lake at Ecton Brook. 	
59.2	<p>Lt. Billing Pocket Park. The following reports were received from Michael Clasper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 27th April from 10.00 am until 12 noon. Four volunteers were present. The main path edges were strimmed and mown; a third of the area to the north of the orchard was strimmed; litter was removed and the picnic area was also mown. ➤ There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 11th May from 10.00 am to 12 noon as usual. Six volunteers collected litter, pruned trees and strimmed the orchard and the area to the north. The next volunteering session will be on 25th May. 	
60	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
60.1	<p>Cllr. Nash reported there would be a trip from BCH to Skegness on 15th August at a cost of £10 per person. He was disappointed to advise that the Tae Chi sessions had been halted due to too few attendees, and more participants are required for the Armchair Aerobics. Happily the rambling and jogging groups are extremely well subscribed. Cllr. Rockall suggested that the Armchair Aerobics group may like to do a display at Billing Fayre in the hope that they attract more participants.</p>	
60.2	<p>Cllr. Ward said he was disappointed to note that litter had been left on the grass before it was cut by NBC contractors and that broken glass was evident. He was pleased with how the work was progressing at Ecton Brook lake. Cllr. Rockall suggested that grass seed should be sown as soon as the work was completed, and that the GSM should mow it until it is established. It is hoped that at this point the NBC contractors would take over maintenance.</p>	
60.3	<p>Cllr. Burbidge reported that it is planned to start work on St. Andrews church in early June and that completion should be mid-July.</p>	
60.4	<p>Cllr. Mrs Jordan passed thanks to the Parish Council from Ecton Brook Residents Group for the £250 grant towards plants. They have received a new planter which they now have to fill.</p>	
60.5	<p>Cllr. Jones asked if Highways were still liable if a vehicle was damaged by a pothole that had been ringed with yellow paint. Unfortunately no-one knew the answer.</p>	

		Action
60	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i>	
60.6	The Chairman reported that he had had a meeting with Andrew Pearce with regard to his proposal to build a care home on the land he owns off Fishponds Road. No planning permission has yet been sought. He will be attending the June meeting to explain his proposals in full.	Clerk
61	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
61.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.10 pm Date of next Meeting – 7.30 pm Monday 10 th June 2019 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion, Great Billing.	