



# 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 JUNE 2019  
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

**PRESENT** Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs. G. Kaur Chagger, Mrs S. Jordan, Mrs C. Worthington,  
D. Brede, J. Clements, A. Jones, M. Pearson, D. Nash,

**Also Present:** Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)  
Cllr. Andy Kilbride (NCC & NBC)  
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)  
Mr. Andrew Pearce and Mr. Jonathan Reece  
Three Parishioners

		Action
<b>62</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
62.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. R. Burbidge (Diocese meeting) and S. Rockall (family commitment). Apologies were also received from Paul Marks (GSM), Glenn Warner (Police) and Liz Newbery (NBC Neighbourhood Warden).	
<b>63</b>	<b>Minutes</b>	
63.1	The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 (Folio Nos. 023/2019 – 028/2019) were approved and signed as a true record.	
<b>64</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
64.1	There were none.	
<b>65</b>	<b>Public Forum</b>	
65.1	Fiona Dymond asked if there were any future plans to restore the original ha-ha at the rear of St. Andrews Church. She was advised that as there was very little of the original stone remaining this would not be an economical project at present.	
65.2	Peter Stevenson said he was extremely disappointed with the repair effected on the damaged fence surrounding the green space adjacent to Ashmead. Apart from the fact that it had been very poorly done it would appear that there is now no access to enable mowing to take place. Cllr. Kilbride is to investigate.	AK
65.3	Mr. Stevenson also said that he was disappointed with the work in general that is being carried out by Idverde. Others at the meeting concurred with this and Cllr. Kilbride will try to arrange for a representative from the company to attend the next meeting.	AK

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<p><b>66</b></p> <p>66.1</p> <p>66.2</p>	<p><b>Reports from Outside Agencies</b></p> <p>Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden, advised that he had reported the many dog bins and litter bins that were overflowing. The person who empties the dog bins had been on holiday but someone should have been covering for him. Some of the pot holes that had been reported have now been repaired.</p> <p>In her absence Liz Newbery, NBC Neighbourhood Warden, had forwarded a report regarding people camping in open land within the parish. Before she can take any action there has to be evidence that reasonable support has been offered and is in place and that the relevant agencies are aware. The situations are often complex and the result is that it can take quite some time to resolve individual cases.</p>	
<p><b>67</b></p> <p>67.1</p>	<p><b>Proposed building of new Care Home/Houses</b></p> <p>Mr Andrew Pearce and his colleague Mr Jonathan Reece gave a presentation regarding Mr. Pearce's proposal to build a 60-bed care home with additional assisted living units on land owned by him adjacent to the former Pearce Leatherworks and The Leys. There is also a proposal to build six or seven homes at the rear of the site towards the A4500. No planning application has been made as yet. Access to the care home would be from Fishponds Road, and for the homes from Wildacre Drive. Mr Pearce also proposed an exchange of land with the Parish Council, i.e. the car park that the PC owns at the bottom of The Leys for an area of land approximately 45M x 20M adjacent to the lake. This proposal will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. Copies of plans, etc., were passed to all present. In answer to questions raised Mr. Pearce confirmed that an 18-month long wild-life survey had been carried out, and that he was confident there would be sufficient parking spaces to ensure that parking would not take place on Fishponds Road. Councillors should advise the Clerk of any queries or concerns they may have for clarification by Mr Pearce. The Chairman thanked both gentlemen for attending.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>68</b></p> <p>68.1</p> <p>68.2</p>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>N/2019/0582</b> – 22 Home Farm Close, Lt Billing – Two storey side extension.  <b>N/2019/0602</b> – 23 Campion Court, Bellinge – Single storey rear extension.  <b>N/2019/0624</b> – Treetop House, 2 Fishponds Road – New detached garage.  <b>N/2019/0652</b> – 11 Vantage Meadow, Ecton Brook – Two storey rear extension, single storey rear extension and roof over walkway between garage and house with front porch extension.</p> <p><b>No comments or objections to any of the above.</b></p> <p>The following determinations had been received from NBC:</p> <p><b>N/2019/0394</b> – 112 Orchard Hill, Little Billing – Construction of steel gateway to support automatic roller door to side of property. <b>APPROVED.</b>  <b>N/2019/0399</b> – 11 Chantry Close, Great Billing – First floor rear extension over existing flat roof with balcony. <b>APPROVED.</b>  <b>N/2019/0462</b> – 9 Cumbrae Drive, Great Billing – Single storey side extension with pitched, part flat roof. <b>APPROVED.</b>  <b>N/2019/0471</b> – 35 Valentine Way, Great Billing – Works to Sycamore and Lime tree. <b>APPROVED.</b>  <b>N/2019/0525</b> – The Old Rectory, Elwes Way, Great Billing – Removal of four Conifers/Hedge and stumps. <b>APPROVED.</b></p>	

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<b>69</b>	<b>Finance</b>																																																																						
69.1	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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69.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 31.05.19 had been forwarded to all Members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																																						
69.3	The Clerk reported reconciled bank account balances as at 31.05.19 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ NatWest Current Account - £10,468.29</li> <li>➤ NatWest Reserve Account - £235,294.02</li> </ul>																																																																						
69.4	The purchase of a new laptop for use by the Clerk was ratified. Total cost including software, set up and transfer of data is £759.27.																																																																						
69.5	RESOLVED that the Parish Council would fund the cost of a replacement Willow Tree for the one that has failed in Orchard Hill. GSM to arrange.	GSM																																																																					
69.6	New Grass Cutting Contract for the Playing Fields and Great Billing Pocket Park. The GSM had ascertained that of the two contractors from out of the area who had tendered, one planned to send operatives from Peterborough and the other would be travelling from Huntingdon. He felt that this would not be sustainable at the prices quoted. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the 5-year contract be awarded to D F Phipps at a total cost of £250 per cut including strimming.	GSM																																																																					
<b>70</b>	<b>Updates</b>																																																																						
70.1	The Clerk has a meeting at The Guildhall on Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June when it is hoped she will receive an update on the Community Governance Review, and Cllr. Brede is attending a meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> June with regard to the new Unitary Authority.																																																																						

		<b>Action</b>
<b>71</b>	<b><i>Other Matters</i></b>	
71.1	Complaints had been received regarding parking on the footpath between the junctions to Pound Lane and Cattle Hill. Although the Council were sympathetic to the problems of parking in this area it was agreed that space must be left for pedestrians, prams and mobility devices. After discussion it was RESOLVED that in the first instance a letter is sent to all residents in the area asking for their co-operation in this matter.	<b>Clerk</b>
71.2	Billing Fayre. All available stall spaces have now been booked. Erection of marquees, etc., will take place from 9.00 am on the day and any volunteers to assist would be much appreciated, as would volunteers to break down and clear up at the end of the day. Someone is also needed to man the gate at the end of the drive.	<b>CW</b>
<b>72</b>	<b><i>Leisure &amp; Recreation</i></b>	
72.1	<p>In his absence the GSM had forwarded the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Bellinge Field. Work continues with more fallen branches and dangerous trees being cleared. We had a bonfire on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June and cleared the two piles of wood at the site as well as all the smaller piles that had been placed around the woodland during the volunteer sessions. Checks for wildlife were made using long poles to lift the base, and one pile was turned over and moved prior to lighting. I had a meeting with John Paver and Kevin Potter to discuss their concerns regarding the cutting back of the brambles along the side of the field. After showing them what we planned to do they were a lot happier and admitted that they had misunderstood exactly how much was being removed.</li> <li>➤ As you may have noticed a new speed ramp has been fitted at the bottom of the driveway to the playing fields.</li> <li>➤ The hedgehog that had been stuck in a plant pot was released back into the Garden of Reflection. After a few nights it was eating less of the food I had left out for it and was therefore fending for itself. Unfortunately I found a hedgehog in the same area on Wednesday which was looking very unwell. It is believed to be suffering from anaemia due to ticks and is being cared for by Animals in Need and is slowly recovering.</li> </ul>	
72.2	<p>Little Billing Pocket Park. The following reports had been received from Michael Clasper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Six volunteers mowed and strimmed the orchard and the area to the north; collected and removed litter; scrubbed clean the picnic tables and benches, and blew clean the footpaths and bench bases.</li> <li>➤ A volunteering session had been scheduled for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June. However, due to the weather forecast and the persistent heavy rain the session was cancelled. The next session is scheduled for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.</li> </ul>	
<b>73</b>	<b><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i></b>	
73.1	Cllr. Nash thanked those volunteers from Great Billing who assisted with the litter pick in Bellinge.	

		Action
<b>73</b>	<b><i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i></b>	
73.2	Cllr. Clements reported that there had been yet another fire in Little Billing Pocket Park and he understood that many local residents would like the picnic benches removed. The notice board has also been vandalised again. He has had a problem reported to him with regard to a NPH tenant who has a tree that requires felling in his garden. He is to discuss this with Cllr. Kilbride.	
73.3	Cllr. Mrs Worthington advised that a fire engine had to gain access to St Andrews Church and the padlock to the gate was cut. A temporary combination padlock has been placed on the gate. Our contractors have been advised and both she and the Clerk have the combination number. A proper replacement will be made on the GSM's return from holiday.	<b>GSM</b>
73.4	Cllr. Pearson advised that street light No. 29, situated outside 6 Elwes Way, Great Billing is not working. He also suggested that an informal meeting should be arranged to discuss the proposed planning application by Andrew Pearce.	
73.5	Cllr. Mrs Jordan advised that she had received more complaints regarding motorists making illegal right turns from Fishponds Road into Great Billing Way. Ecton Brook Residents Group had litter picked the car park area by the shops at Ecton Brook, but it was very dispiriting to find it almost as bad again the following day.	
73.6	Cllr. Brede advised that he was still concerned about the erosion of the bank of the Washbrook and had ascertained that the Environment Agency would not deal with this. He believed a policy should be put in place to deal with the bank on the side that is parish owned land. He also advised that Light No 93 had still not been upgraded.	
73.7	Cllr. Jones said he was delighted that the pot holes in Lakeside Drive that he reported at the last meeting were repaired within 48 hours.	
73.8	An email from churchwarden Tim Bedward had been sent to three Councillors advising of heritage activities that were specific deliverables in support of the National Lottery Heritage Grant to St. Andrews Church. He is to contact the Clerk to discuss this further.	
<b>74</b>	<b><i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i></b>	
74.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.35 pm. Date of Next Meeting – 7.30 pm Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2019 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion.	