



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 9th SEPTEMBER 2019
AT THE BERNARD WESTON PAVILION, GREAT BILLING**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs G. K. Chaggar, Mrs S. Jordan, Mrs C. Worthington,
D. Brede, J. Clements, Rev. R. Burbidge, A. Jones, M. Pearson, D. Nash,
S. Rockall, S. Ward

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
Paul Marks (Green Space Manager)
Cllr. Andy Kilbride (NCC & NBC)
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)
Glenn Warner (Northants Police) - Part
16 Parishioners

		Action
88	Apologies	
88.1	Apologies were received from Liz Newbery, NBC Neighbourhood Warden.	
89	Minutes	
89.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 th July 2019 (Folio Nos. 034/2019 – 038/2019) were approved and signed as a true record.	
90	Declarations of Interest	
90.1	Cllr. Rockall declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 6 (g) due to the applicant being a friend and neighbour.	
91	Public Forum	
91.1	Mr Graeme Gardner advised the meeting that he and his wife had moved to Great Billing some eight months ago and unfortunately had already experienced two break-ins. He was asking for input from the Parish Council to help counteract this trend. There would appear to be a marked increase in crime throughout the whole parish and police response was felt to be inadequate. After discussion it was agreed that a separate meeting would be arranged to discuss this matter in depth. The Crime Prevention Officer has indicated his willingness to attend and in the meantime the Clerk will write to both the Chief Constable and the Police Commissioner asking for their input and advice. Glenn Warner advised that he had spoken to local PCSO Nat Shaw, who is confined to desk duties at present, and passed her contact details to all present.	Clerk

		Action
92	Reports from Outside Agencies	
92.1	<p>Cllr. Andy Kilbride reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The temporary bollards by the Surestart Centre in Ecton Brook have now been replaced with permanent ones, and double yellow lines painted. Checks on illegal parking will be made by the wardens. ➤ Work on the new playground at the rear of Pennycress Place will be starting later this month. It is also hoped that additional equipment will be installed at Helicopter Park. ➤ The old care home at Ecton Brook has now been sold and, subject to planning permission, it is believed this will be demolished and replaced with housing. ➤ He attended the meeting at the Deer's Leap with regard to the change in the route of the No 16 bus and he will be attending a meeting with Stagecoach on 19th Sept. ➤ There is an application for Bipin's Brook to become a polling station. 	
92.2	<p>Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden, advised that bushes have been cut back on Gt Billing Way and that there are more signs to be reported on Wellingborough Road.</p>	
93		
93.1	<p>Planning</p> <p>N/2019/0777 – Old School House, 2 Station Road, Gt. Billing – Removal of existing side single storey side extension and construction of new single storey side extension, two storey rear extension, replacement front porch and new sliding, metal front gates to driveway.</p> <p>N/2019/0851 & 0852 – Former Pearce Leather Works, Wellingborough Road – Alterations and extension to existing building and conversion to 20 no flats including 3 no offices as part of live-work units, provision of bin store areas and car parking.</p> <p>N/2019/0887 – 8 Riverwell, Ecton Brook – New detached garage.</p> <p>N/2019/0848 – Old Rectory, Elwes Way, Gt Billing – T1 Cedar – Remove damaged, broken branches.</p> <p>N/2019/0948 – 74 Orchard Hill, Lt Billing – TPO 162 – T2 Castanea Sativa – Removal of 4 no lateral limbs back to target.</p> <p>N/2019/0955 – 22 Cottage Gardens, Gt Billing – First floor side extension.</p> <p>N/2019/1010 – 37 Sheerwater Drive, Ecton Brook – Single storey rear extension.</p> <p>N/2019/1012 – 2 Russett Drive, Lt Billing – Change of use from dwelling house (Use Class C3) to semi-independent care for young persons in local authority care (Class C2).</p> <p>N/2019/1018 – Ecton Brook Medical Centre, Ecton Brook Road – Single storey extension to existing medical building to provide 2 no additional consulting rooms.</p> <p>N/2019/1038 – St Anthonys Cottage, 2 Elwes Way, Gt Billing. T1 Silver Birch – Remove. T2 Spruce – Remove.</p> <p>No comments or objections to any of the above.</p>	
93.2	<p>The following determinations had been received from NBC:</p> <p>N/2019/0624 – Treetop House, 2 Fishponds Road, Lt Billing – New detached garage. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0652 – 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. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0723 – 12 Pear Tree Close, Lt Billing – Conversion and extension of existing garage to create granny annexe. APPROVED.</p>	

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93.2	<p>Determinations received (Cont.)</p> <p>N/2019/0814 – 39 Ashmead, Gt Billing – T1 Field Maple – Removal. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0829 – The Institute, High Street, Gt Billing – Demolition of existing toilet block, gable and roof alterations to kitchen extension, new windows and doors, internal updating, removal of existing roof tiles to main hall and felt, batten and re-fix existing tiles. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0837 – 8 Riverwell, Ecton Brook – New detached garage. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/0948 – 74 Orchard Hill, Lt Billing – TPO 162 – T2 Castanea Sativa: Removal of 4 no lower lateral limbs back to target. APPROVED.</p> <p>N/2019/1038 – St. Anthonys Cottage, 2 Elwes Way, Gt Billing – T1 Silver Birch – Remove. T2 Spruce – Remove. APPROVED.</p>																																																																																																				
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94.1	The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment, covering a two month period, had been circulated to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:																																																																																																				
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94.2	A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 31.08.19 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.																																																																																																				

		Action
94	Finance (Continued)	
94.3	The Clerk reported reconciled bank account balances as at 31.08.19 of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NatWest Current Account £17,080.55 ➤ NatWest Reserve Account £200,399.53 	
95	Updates	
95.1	No further information had been received with regard to the Community Governance Review or the possible acquisition of current NBC assets within the parish.	
95.2	Disposal of litter and fly-tipped objects following Community Clean-Ups. Further correspondence had been received from Ruth Austin, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager at NBC. Unfortunately it would appear that nothing has changed and that any fly-tipped items will have to be reported and collected by Veolia employees from wherever they have been found. Alternatively these items may be collected and then disposed of by the GSM at a waste recycling centre. This will no doubt prove difficult as he is only allowed six visits in any twelve month period and it is quite possible he will be turned away as the items will not be classified as 'household waste'. The Chairman will be replying to the latest letter.	Chair
95.3	Water courses within the parish. A new resident in Great Billing, Dr Amarasinghe, who is a retired ecologist and fluvial geomorphologist, had contacted the Clerk. Cllr Rockall has visited him and he is keen to assist with suggestions for planting etc. that may assist in the prevention of bank erosion. The GSM is to arrange to take him around the parish so that he may see for himself where assistance is required.	GSM
96	Other Matters	
96.1	Once again complaints had been made regarding the difficulties experienced exiting from Pound Lane into High Street, Great Billing – difficulties which are exacerbated by inconsiderate parking. Confirmation had been received from Highways that a mirror would not be allowed. After discussion it was RESOLVED that a request would be made to Highways for a site visit in the hope that they would be able to provide or suggest a solution.	Clerk
96.2	Requests had been received asking for a bench/benches to be installed on The Leys. The Parish Council had in the past decided against this due to the wish for the land to remain as it is, i.e. a completely open space, and also the fear that seating would attract anti-social behaviour. After discussion it was agreed that further thought would be given to this matter and a decision made at a future meeting.	Clerk
97	Leisure & Recreation	
97.1	The GSM reported there had been a large increase in vandalism and graffiti over the past few weeks throughout the whole of the parish. One of the owls he had carved had been stolen from Bellinge Field.	
97.2	Lt Billing Pocket Park. The following reports had been received from Michael Clasper: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There was a volunteering session on Saturday 13th July. Four volunteers cut the grass in the picnic area, strimmed the area north of the orchard; picked litter and cleaned the bench bases and main footpath. Anti-climb paint was applied to the upper parts of the container following complaints from a neighbour that it had been climbed by children who then broke her window. 	

		Action
97	<i>Leisure & Recreation (Continued)</i>	
97.2	Lt Billing Pocket Park (Cont.)	
	<p>2. There was a volunteering session at Lt Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 27th July. Six volunteers attended. The broken branch of a tree adjacent to the container was blocking the footpath and this was cut to above head level and the branches removed. A thorough litter pick was then undertaken and the litter removed from the site. Plants impeding the footpaths were trimmed back.</p> <p>3. There was a volunteering session at Lt Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 10th August. Five volunteers undertook the following work. The path verges and picnic area were mowed, the area north of the orchard was strimmed, three trees were planted and litter collected and removed.</p>	
98	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere</i>	
98.1	Cllr. Nash reported:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Community event on 6th August went very well but unfortunately it could have been better attended. ➤ £183 was raised for Cynthia Spencer Hospice at the Open Gardens Day, plus a donation of £20 towards plants. ➤ Bellinge Community House AGM will be held on 28th October 2019. ➤ The street nativity this year will be held on 16th December. ➤ He asked if, when available, the speed camera could once again be sited in Fieldmill Road. 	
98.2	Cllr. Clements reported that IdVerde still do not appear to be cutting the grass on Little Billing village green.	
98.3	Cllr. Ward reported:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He has received a lot of complaints with regard to the smoking of cannabis in the streets in Ecton Brook. ➤ There was a lot of damage in Ecton Brook following the recent storms, particularly in the Linear Park by Millbank. This has been reported to Liz Newbery. 	
98.4	Cllr. Mrs Jordan reported:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecton Brook Residents Group now has a new logo. ➤ They were delighted to come 1st in the CPRE Litter Awards. ➤ The judges seemed impressed when judging for Northampton in Bloom. ➤ Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held at Bipin Brook on 27th September. ➤ The Christmas Party will be held at Bipin Brook on 20th December. ➤ She has reported the poor state of the pond and brook at the Linear Park to the Environment Agency. 	
98.5	Cllr. Burbidge reported:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He would like to extend his thanks to all those that assisted when part of a tree came down in the churchyard. He understands that the remainder of the tree will be dealt with. ➤ A reminder that the Heritage Open Weekend will be taking place over the weekend of 13th – 15th September. 	

		Action
98	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i>	
98.6	Cllr. Jones reported that a successful 24-hour Darts Marathon took place at the Elwes Arms and fundraising continues. There is now sufficient funds to obtain one of the defibrillators and this will be purchased and situated outside the Post Office at Ecton Brook.	
98.7	Cllr. Rockall asked that the speed camera be placed in Ecton Brook Road when it is available as now the children are back at school excessive speeds are evident.	
99	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
99.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55 pm. Date of next meeting – 7.30 pm on Monday 14 th October 2019 at the Bernard Weston Pavilion, Great Billing.	