



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 13TH JULY 2020
HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT Councillor J. Marlow (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs S. Jordan, Mrs C. Worthington, D. Brede, R, Burbidge,
J. Clements, M. Pearson, S. Rockall, S. Ward

Also Present: Mrs. S. Harris (Clerk to the Council)
Paul Marks (Green Space Manager)
Damian Lang (Parish Highway Warden)
Liz Newbery (NBC Neighbourhood Warden)
2 Parishioners

		Action
64	Apologies	
64.1	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. D. Nash (ill), Mrs. G. Kaur Chagger and A. Jones (problems with accessing Zoom). Apologies were also received from Cllr. C. Malpas (NBC). The very best wishes of the Council were extended to Dennis Nash who is very poorly in hospital.	
65	Minutes	
65.1	The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 th June 2020 (Folio Nos. 025/2020 – 028/2020) were approved and signed as a true record.	
66	Declarations of Interest	
66.1	Cllr. Clements declared a non-pecuniary interest in Planning Application N/2020/0506 (item 6 (a) on the agenda) due to being a neighbour.	
67	Public Forum	
67.1	Mr Peter Stevenson had forwarded copies of the correspondence between NBC and himself regarding the presence of rats in the neglected shrubbery along Little Billing Way from the A4500 to Fishponds Road. He believed that this 'no man's land' should be cleared completely. He also asked if the willow tree in Little Billing Way that had died could be replaced.	
68	Reports from Outside Agencies	
68.1	Damian Lang, Parish Highway Warden reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ He had reported the badly damaged bench behind Fishers Close and NBC will be removing this. ➤ Some of the trees and shrubbery obscuring street lights had been cut back but he is pushing for others to be done. 	

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69	Planning																																																																
69.1	<p>N/2020/0506 – 24 Valley Road, Lt Billing. Demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of new single storey rear extension with monopitch roof and internal alterations.</p> <p>N/2020/0561 – 11 Wildacre Drive. Ground floor rear extension over garage with monopitch roof and roof lights.</p> <p>N/2020/0598 – 17 Codlin Close, Lt Billing. Removal of existing single storey rear extension and construction of new two storey rear extension.</p> <p>N/2020/0602 – 24 Riverwell, Ecton Brook. Replacement brick garden wall, following boundary line and to incorporate underused land into larger garden.</p> <p>No comments or objections to any of the above.</p>																																																																
69.2	<p>The following determination had been received from NBC:</p> <p>N/2020/0318 – 80 Valley Road, Little Billing. Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of new single storey side garage and rear extension. APPROVED.</p>																																																																
70	Finance																																																																
70.1	<p>The list of Accounts for Approval for Payment had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED that payment be made as per the following:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="272 936 1273 1597"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Power of Expenditure</th> <th>Incl. VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Jun Salaries and monthly fee)</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>3700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Spool Cover)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>12.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Fuel Spout – Combi Can)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>9.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garden Machines (Repairs to Mountfield Mower)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>304.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Footprint Recycling (Waste collections Pavilion – May)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>88.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bugfree IT (Assistance with Excel accounts software)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unicom (Telephone & Broadband Pavilion (Jun)</td> <td>LGA1972s133</td> <td>49.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small Business Payroll (Jun account deficit)</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>693.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NEST (GSM Pension Contributions – Jun)</td> <td>LGA1972s112</td> <td>267.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclaycard (June credit card statement)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>196.77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O2 (GSM Mobile – Jun statement)</td> <td>LGA1972s133</td> <td>27.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Mowing/Strimming Leys/Celebration Ave – Jun)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>1.404.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Mowing Bellinge Field – Jun)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>672.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Mowing/Strimming Playing Fields/Pocket Park)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>600.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Mow/Strim LB Village Green - bad NBC cut)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>66.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Work on Bellinge Field/clear prunings for bonfire)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>360.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D F Phipps (Replace fence The Leys/Repair fence Orchard)</td> <td>OSA1906s9&10</td> <td>625.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SSE (Unmetered electricity – street lighting Jun)</td> <td>PCA1957s.3</td> <td>267.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk (3 months Room Hire/Telephone/Broadband)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>122.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Footprint Recycling (Waste Collections Pavilion – Jun)</td> <td>LGA1972s111</td> <td>55.68</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Power of Expenditure	Incl. VAT	Small Business Payroll (Jun Salaries and monthly fee)	LGA1972s112	3700.00	Garden Machines (Spool Cover)	LGA1972s111	12.11	Garden Machines (Fuel Spout – Combi Can)	LGA1972s111	9.35	Garden Machines (Repairs to Mountfield Mower)	LGA1972s111	304.24	Footprint Recycling (Waste collections Pavilion – May)	LGA1972s111	88.98	Bugfree IT (Assistance with Excel accounts software)	LGA1972s111	40.00	Unicom (Telephone & Broadband Pavilion (Jun)	LGA1972s133	49.85	Small Business Payroll (Jun account deficit)	LGA1972s112	693.98	NEST (GSM Pension Contributions – Jun)	LGA1972s112	267.57	Barclaycard (June credit card statement)	LGA1972s111	196.77	O2 (GSM Mobile – Jun statement)	LGA1972s133	27.11	D F Phipps (Mowing/Strimming Leys/Celebration Ave – Jun)	OSA1906s9&10	1.404.00	D F Phipps (Mowing Bellinge Field – Jun)	OSA1906s9&10	672.00	D F Phipps (Mowing/Strimming Playing Fields/Pocket Park)	OSA1906s9&10	600.00	D F Phipps (Mow/Strim LB Village Green - bad NBC cut)	OSA1906s9&10	66.00	D F Phipps (Work on Bellinge Field/clear prunings for bonfire)	OSA1906s9&10	360.00	D F Phipps (Replace fence The Leys/Repair fence Orchard)	OSA1906s9&10	625.26	SSE (Unmetered electricity – street lighting Jun)	PCA1957s.3	267.04	Clerk (3 months Room Hire/Telephone/Broadband)	LGA1972s111	122.03	Footprint Recycling (Waste Collections Pavilion – Jun)	LGA1972s111	55.68	
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70.2	<p>A copy of the schedule showing Income and Expenditure compared to budget for the period to 30.06.20 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.</p>																																																																
70.3	<p>A copy of the Accounts for the first quarter to 30.06.20 had been forwarded to all members. RESOLVED this be approved.</p>																																																																
70.4	<p>The Clerk reported reconciled bank account balances as at 30/06/20 of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NatWest Current Account £20,096.58 ➤ NatWest Reserve Account £260,746.00 																																																																

		Action
70	Finance (Continued)	
70.5	Details of available funding of up to £1,000 for community-led environmental initiatives had been received from NBC/Veolia and a copy forwarded to all members. It was suggested that Ecton Brook and Bellinge could apply for funding for flowers and plants for Northampton in Bloom. All members were asked to contact the Clerk if they had specific projects that could fall into the funding criteria.	ALL
71	Other Matters	
71.1	The Clerk had prepared a Risk Assessment for the re-opening of the parish owned playground, which had been approved electronically. RESOLVED this approval be ratified. The GSM had prepared appropriate signage and the playground will be opened as from Tuesday 14 th July.	
71.2	Cllr. Brede had spoken to Michael Clasper with regard to the possible replacement of the vandalised notice boards in Little Billing Pocket Park, for which Cllr. Malpas had offered a contribution from his Empowerment Fund. It had been ascertained that Michael would prefer three 'rustic-type' finger posts directing people to the park. RESOLVED that the GSM would look into the possibility of making these.	GSM
71.3	The Clerk advised that she had a waiting list of around ten people who would like to purchase a commemorative tree. RESOLVED that a new avenue of trees would be planted either side of the pathway in Bellinge Field. It is envisaged that these new trees will not be planted until the Autumn, at which time the Clerk will advise those on the waiting list.	GSM/ Clerk
71.2	The installation of a motor-cycle barrier at the end of the public footpath running alongside Old School Close had been approved some time ago. RESOLVED that a wooden swing gate should be installed and it is envisaged that work will commence on this week commencing 20 th July 2020.	
71.3	Problem with green waste being disposed of in Ecton Brook Linear Park, Bellinge Field and other parts of the Parish. Liz Newbery had forwarded a copy of a letter that she proposed should be hand delivered to households that may possibly be guilty of this practice. RESOLVED that this letter be approved and subsequently delivered. Cllr. Ward offered to assist in the delivery. It was noted that the tree that had been cut down in a garden at Parkside and dumped in the Linear Park had now been removed. Liz was thanked for her assistance in these matters.	LN/ SW
71.4	Complete dissatisfaction with the standard of grass cutting within the whole parish was expressed by all present. Three weeks ago a meeting was held at Little Billing Village Green between a representative from IdVerde, the Chairman, Cllr. Clements and the GSM but unfortunately there had been no improvement so far. RESOLVED that the Chairman would contact IdVerde again and arrange another meeting.	Chair
71.5	Cllr. Clements mentioned that the Triio container had been moved from Lt Billing Village Green but it had left a mess and the grass needed reseeding. He would be contacting Triio to arrange a site meeting.	

		Action
72	Updates – Acquisition of Bellinge Community House	
72.1	Confirmation had been received from Liam Foster at Northampton Borough Council that Cabinet approval had been given for the transfer of Bellinge Community House to Parish Council ownership. RESOLVED that this transfer should go ahead. The Clerk is to instruct the Parish Council’s solicitors and to advise Mr. Foster.	Clerk
73	Leisure & Recreation	
73.1	The GSM reported that all work is proceeding as normal and he has spent a lot of time cutting back a lot of bushes. Volunteer sessions at Great Billing and at Little Billing Pocket Park have recommenced.	
73.2	Little Billing Pocket Park. The following report had been received from Michael Clasper: “There was a volunteering session at Little Billing Pocket Park on Saturday 11 th July from 10.00 am until 12 noon. This was the first volunteering session since March and social distancing was employed as much as possible. Five volunteers took part. The picnic area was mowed; part of the area north of the orchard was strimmed; overgrowth on the footpaths was cut back, footpaths were blown clean and litter was collected and removed. The Committee was grateful for the work that the GSM had undertaken in the Pocket Park during the lockdown”. The Clerk advised that she would arrange for the annual grant of £1,000 to be paid to Little Billing Pocket Park Volunteer Group in the next day or so.	
74	Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere	
74.1	Cllr. Mrs Jordan reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three weeks ago travellers moved into the car park at the rear of her house. It would appear they are friends of the residents at No.57 and are being supplied with electricity from their home. Local residents, including Mrs. Jordan are completely intimidated and the disruption is dreadful. Although all relevant agencies are involved it would appear that nothing can be done at present. ➤ She has been advised by Veolia that they will no longer supply bags or collect filled bags from litter picks. These will have to be disposed of with the individual’s household rubbish. She had spoken to Cllr. Hallam but he would appear to know nothing about this. 	
74.2	Cllr. Pearson said he would like to extend his thanks to Fiona who spends so many hours working in the parish. This was endorsed by all members. He also commented that he had noticed the hedge around the war memorial required trimming again	
74.3	Cllr. Ward reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Following his report regarding the dangerous state of some of the trees in the Linear Park Cllr. Hallam is to visit the site to assess. ➤ He has measured the distance for the proposed all-weather path in the Linear Park and it is just about a half-mile long. He is meeting with Mick Bull later this week after which time he hopes to have a quotation for the work involved. 	

		Action
74	<i>Councillors Reports Not Covered Elsewhere (Continued)</i>	
74.4	Cllr. Burbidge advised that All Saints Church, Little Billing was open for the first time on Sunday 12 th July. St. Andrews Church, Great Billing will be open on Sunday 19 th July for an afternoon service at 4.00 pm. The Sunday morning on-line service which has operated during the lockdown will continue.	
74.5	The Chairman reported that he had received further complaints with regard to the parking problems in High Street and this will be put onto the agenda for the next meeting.	Clerk
75	<i>Date of Next Meeting and Closure</i>	
75.1	There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35 pm Date of next meeting – Monday 14 th September 2020 at 7.30 pm. Unless there is any change in advice this meeting will again be held remotely. Please note there is NO meeting in August.	