

# BRICKHILL

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## PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 6 October 2011 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Blakeman, Chambers, Ovenell, Corinne Royden, Charles Royden, Waterhouse, Wilkins & Rider , 3 members of the public and the Clerk were in attendance.

**Absent:** Cllr Josephs, Cllr Hall and Cllr Darbon

		<u>Action</u>
1	<p><b><u>Apologies for absence</u></b></p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Darbon (work commitments) &amp; Cllr Hall.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> to accept the apologies for absence.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Declarations of acceptance of interest in items on the agenda</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Chambers declared a personal interest in matters pertaining to Item 16 because of his association with family members who own Chambers newsagents on Brickhill Drive shopping parade. Cllr Waterhouse declared a personal interest in matters pertaining to item 13 as he is an allotment tenant. Cllr Fitzpatrick declared a personal interest in matters pertaining to item 9 due to his governor position at Beauchamp Middle School.</p>	
3	<p><b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> minutes were amended with regards to item 10 "In addition it was noted that Stagecoach were meeting with the Developers at the Woodlands Estate over the following week to discuss the extension of Service No 6 into the estate now that the roads involved have had their top surfaces completed". Otherwise approved the minutes for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September as a true record of the meeting.</p>	Clerk
4	<p><b><u>Public Open Session</u></b></p> <p>3 members of the public attended, one of whom wished to discuss the plans for the new supermarket on Brickhill Drive. Cllr Fitzpatrick commented that the council will be discussing updates as per item 16 on the agenda.</p> <p>The following questions were asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the council have any more information about the restrictive covenant on</li> </ul>	

	<p>the property and has a decision been made by Bedford Borough Council to enforce this?- Cllr Charles Royden responded by saying that Bedford Borough is seeking further legal advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What will happen with the petition? Cllr Fitzpatrick responded by clarifying that the petition was directed towards Tesco not Bedford Borough Council. Cllr Charles Royden advised the resident to seek progress from the organiser of the petition</li> <li>• What was the outcome of the meeting between the Borough Councillors and Tesco? Cllr Charles Royden confirmed that when they met with Tesco the petition was used as evidence. Tesco met with the Brickhill Drive shop owners but this was not felt to have been a productive meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Another member of the public asked about the allocations &amp; designations plan (including the proposed footpath as discussed during 2<sup>nd</sup> June Parish Council meeting) and the proposal with regards to St. Thomas More - Cllr Fitzpatrick confirmed that the St. Thomas More proposal will be discussed under Item 9 on the agenda. The allocations &amp; Designations plans will be discussed at the next planning committee.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>Co-option of new councillor</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk received 4 expressions of interest in the vacancy and personal statements were circulated to the council prior to the meeting. One of the candidates attended the meeting. A vote took place by all councillors present: 5 votes for Mr D Crofts, 4 Votes for Mrs A Reeve, 0 votes for Mr Sauboorah and 0 votes for Mr Curtis. It was noted that the council has received resignation of office from Cllr Jacky Hall, therefore the parish council currently has 1 casual vacancy to fill and this will be advertised shortly.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> by majority vote to co-opt Dean Crofts to the council. Cllr Crofts completed his acceptance of office form which was witnessed by the Proper Officer. The Clerk was asked to write to the unsuccessful candidates to inform them of the result and thank them for their interest.</p>	Clerk
6	<p><b><u>To receive an update re Brickhill in Bloom</u></b></p> <p>Brickhill entered the Urban Community Category for Anglia in Bloom and achieved a 'High Bronze' award overall. The community orchard was shortlisted in best conservation project. Judges from in bloom saw a great deal of potential in the area and were keen for more members of the community to be involved.</p> <p>They recommended that a <b>working party</b> be set up should we wish to enter next year to help provide more information including future plans for each category as too much for one individual to undertake.</p> <p>The parish council thanked the Clerk for all the work that went in to the entry and agreed to look at setting up a working group should they decide to make an entry next year.</p>	Clerk

7	<p><b><u>Agree dates for Brickhill Community Centre and Allotment &amp; Waveney Green working groups to meet</u></b></p> <p>Dates need to be agreed for the groups to meet prior to the next full parish council meeting.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> the Clerk would contact all members to agree dates to meet.</p>	Clerk
8	<p><b><u>To consider making an application to the RHS Free trees initiative</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk forwarded information about this initiative in a report circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. 1,000 free packs of trees (in two sizes, 105 or 420 packs) have been made available for community groups to receive in 2012. The Parish council would need to decide where the trees should be planted and detail on the application form. A brief discussion took place as to possible locations to place the trees including Waveney Green and allotment site but these were discounted.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> to note the report but take no further action at this time.</p>	
9	<p><b><u>To consider a response Re: St Thomas More RC Upper Alteration Proposal</u></b></p> <p>The proposal was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. A discussion took place and concerns were raised about the increase of traffic if the plans were approved to enlarge the physical capacity of the school from 818 to 1300 pupils from September 2014. Comments need to be submitted within 6 weeks of issue date (11<sup>th</sup> September).</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> The Clerk will write to Bedford Borough Council. The Parish Council ask them, as part of the planning requirement, that arrangements are made to minimize the impact of traffic movement to ensure free flow within the site to avoid causing blockages externally.</p>	Clerk
10	<p><b><u>Agree dates for community grant applications to be received</u></b></p> <p>The clerk circulated recommended dates to councillors prior to the meeting. Suggested dates to have received and review applications are January, April, July and October.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> all present agreed to approve these dates.</p>	
11	<p><b><u>To note the 2013 review of parliamentary constituencies and consultation</u></b></p> <p>The boundary commission for England is currently conducting a review of all Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. The Eastern region has been allocated 56 constituencies which will mean a reduction of two from the current arrangement.</p>	Clerk

	<p>The commission is currently consulting on the proposals until 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Cllr Fitzpatrick commented that the Woodlands Park development (which currently houses more than 700 residents) is currently not listed as part of the parish. He suggested that we make a recommendation to the boundary commission to include them.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> To contact the boundary commission to recommend including the Woodlands Park development as part of the amended Bedford constituency.</p>	
12	<p><b><u>To consider holding an event for the Queens Jubilee in 2012</u></b></p> <p>A special 4 day diamond jubilee bank holiday will take place Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>-Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> next June. The Clerk circulated information about a variety of options for the Parish Council to consider marking this occasion. A brief discussion took place with a request from Cllr Waterhouse that if an event took place more help from the local community would need to be sourced.</p> <p>Cllr Rider proposed that we hold the annual 'Gathering on the Green' event earlier to coincide with this weekend, the suggested date was Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June- all present agreed.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> To look in to activities and start making bookings for the Gathering on the Green event to take place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012.</p>	Clerk & Assistant Clerk
13	<p><b><u>To approve recommendations from the allotments working group</u></b></p> <p>A report by the allotments officer was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Copy of report in minute file. The report outlined a number of amendments to the tenancy agreement, handbook, rents and deposits.</p> <p>A Tenants meeting has been organised to take place at the Scout Hut on 25<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> All present agreed to the amendments (with the exception of Cllr Waterhouse who abstained).</p>	Assistant Clerk
14	<p><b><u>To confirm date and time of parish council surgeries</u></b></p> <p>Members of the public have the opportunity to communicate with the council through these surgeries. Councillors were asked to put themselves forward to cover the surgeries from now until Feb 2012.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 - Cllr Crofts, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012 - Cllr Rider 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 - Cllr Blakeman</p>	Cllrs Crofts, Rider & Blakeman

15	<b><u>To set the date for Gathering on the Green Event 2012.-</u></b> See agenda point 12.	
16	<p><b><u>To note the position of the parish poll with regards to the Tesco proposal</u></b></p> <p>The results of the parish poll will be known after the count takes place this evening. Prior to the poll taking place Brickhill Parish Councillors agreed to create and distribute an information leaflet to all residents to guide them through the process. The poll was organised and undertaken by Bedford Borough Council.</p> <p>Cllr Waterhouse proposed that we write to Tesco, Chief Executive of Bedford Borough, the Mayor and the local MP for Bedford (Richard Fuller) to inform them of the result of the poll. He would like the parish council, should the poll show the majority of residents oppose the store, to express to them these views and encourage them to take this forward.</p> <p>All present agreed to this course of action.</p> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> The Clerk will write to the above contacts once the results are known.</p>	Clerk
17	<p><b><u>Report from Borough Councillors Charles Royden &amp; Wendy Rider</u></b></p> <p>A report had been circulated prior to the meeting from Borough Councillors Charles Royden and Wendy Rider (copy in minute file).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Policing issues-</b> The police have launched a new number providing people with a new way to get in touch about non-emergency issues. 101 is now the main number to call Bedfordshire Police when it is less urgent than 999.</li> <li>• <b>Buses-</b> There has been some concern about the quality of the vehicles used by Grant Palmer on the 28 route. These are only temporary vehicles until it can be established what size of vehicle each route requires. We have complained to Stagecoach about the failure to operate the Number 6 around the Woodlands Estate. We are now promised this will happen in two further weeks.</li> <li>• We are aware that Westrope Way is now being used as a through route by vehicles. The bus bollard will be operative soon. We are minded to allocate ward funding to providing a gate in addition to the bollard. This is because we believe that bollards often fall into disrepair and they do not deter motor cycles. We are also requesting the Borough Council to change the street sign at the entrance to Westrope Way to show that the road is a cul-de-sac.</li> </ul>	

18	<p><b><u>Finance Matters</u></b></p> <p>i) To receive a financial report for the period ended 30 September 2011 and approve the accounts for payment.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="188 432 1236 654"> <thead> <tr> <th>Chq No</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>332</td> <td>St. Mark's Church</td> <td>Office &amp; room hire</td> <td>298.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>333</td> <td>Mr Levene</td> <td>Allotment deposit refund</td> <td>56.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>334</td> <td>Bedford Security Service</td> <td>Keys for allotment</td> <td>59.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>335</td> <td>St. Mark's Church</td> <td>Photocopying costs</td> <td>7.95</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>It was resolved:</b> to approve accounts for payment. Cllr Waterhouse queried reserve amount held for Brickhill Community Centre and payments against Brickhill House initiative. Clerk to investigate.</p>	Chq No	Payee	Details	£	332	St. Mark's Church	Office & room hire	298.50	333	Mr Levene	Allotment deposit refund	56.00	334	Bedford Security Service	Keys for allotment	59.40	335	St. Mark's Church	Photocopying costs	7.95	Clerk
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19	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY</p>																					

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 Approved by Chairman  
 3 November 2011