

BRICKHILL

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 14 June 2012 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Waterhouse, Blakeman, Ovenell, Crofts, Wilkins, Rider, Corinne Royden, Charles Royden, and the Assistant Clerk were in attendance.

Absent: Cllr Fitzpatrick, Josephs, Darbon and Chambers

1	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u> Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Fitzpatrick (work commitments), Darbon (work commitments), Chambers (illness) It was resolved: to accept the apologies for absence.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of acceptance of interest in items on the agenda</u> Cllr Waterhouse declared a personal interest in matters pertaining to item 7.2</p>	
3	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u> It was resolved: to approve the minutes of 3rd May 2012 as a true record of the meeting. Two items arising from the minutes were mentioned briefly: Westrope Way and the car park at Brickhill Drive shopping parade. Cllr Royden reported that work is in progress relating to both items and that several meetings had now taken place in relation to the car park. These would be included on the agenda in July.</p>	Clerk
4	<p><u>Public Open Session</u> Mr Newberry (plot 112) had written to the allotments officer to ask the council to consider installing a push down tap on the site. This would allow tenants access to fresh running water for washing hands and access to drinking water which is not currently possible since the taps were removed when the hosepipe ban took effect. However, Anglian Water announced that the hosepipe ban has now been lifted and hopefully the taps will be re-instated and this being the case then there is no need for a separate push down tap. In addition please could the council inform the tenants of their decision as soon as possible by posting a notice on both sets of gates.</p>	
5	<p><u>Co-option of new councillor</u> 3 residents had submitted personal statements to the council and it was agreed that a vote would be taken with the candidate with the most votes being elected. If there was no clear winner then the candidate with the least votes would be struck off and the votes re-cast. Voting slips were provided and these were completed and then counted by the Assistant Clerk. Mrs Reeve received the most votes and was duly elected. The clerk would contact Mrs Reeve to inform her of the council's decision and she would be invited to join the Parish Council at the July meeting.</p>	Clerk
6	<p><u>To agree adoption of new Code of Conduct for Brickhill Parish Council with effect from 1 July 2012</u> It was resolved to continue with the existing code of conduct until the Borough had adopted its new code. This would then be circulated to all members of the council and considered again at the July meeting.</p>	Clerk

7	<p><u>To note the following items of correspondence and respond if necessary:</u></p> <p><u>Letter from Bedfordshire Police re PCSO post</u> The council noted the correspondence from the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire Police which stated that there were no plans for a replacement PcSO in Brickhill. However, the Clerk had recently received an email from Emma Kindred who was the new PcSO for Brickhill with immediate effect. This news was well received by all members of the council and it was resolved to invite PcSO Kindred to the July meeting.</p> <p><u>Correspondence from Mr Newberry regarding the provision of a push down tap at the allotments</u> There followed a brief discussion and it was noted that the hosepipe ban had today been lifted by Anglian Water. It was noted that members of the council would have supported Mr Newberry and installed a push down tap on the site but this was no longer necessary as all the taps would be replaced on the site now that the hosepipe ban had been lifted. Hopefully this work would be completed by early next week and notices would be displayed to inform the tenants of this decision.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk had also received a separate letter from Mr Celia plus a petition regarding several issues relating to the management of the site. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for taps to wash hands and have access to fresh drinking water on site • Provision for blue badge holders to allow them to use hosepipes • Request that Mr Aceto be allowed to keep his plots <p>Members of the council were reminded that the current tenancy agreement states that if a tenant is unable to work his plot then it must be handed back to the PC. The Allotments Strategy outlines this but the council recognises that this must be properly communicated to its tenants. All tenants had been informed about the publication of the Allotments Strategy by newsletter when the strategy was first adopted. The Chairman proposed that the Allotment Working Group meet on Monday 18 June to look at the letter in more detail and draft a response. It was resolved to meet at the Community Centre and Cllrs Waterhouse, Ovenell, Crofts and the Assistant Clerk would attend. Following this meeting an allotments newsletter would be published and circulated to all tenants which would explain the council’s decisions relating to this complaint.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Assistant Clerk</p> <p>Assistant Clerk, Waterhouse, Ovenell and Crofts</p>
8	<p><u>To receive a report on the recent Jubilee event</u> The Assistant Clerk gave a brief verbal report on the event. The event was a great success with several members of the public thanking her at the end of the event and numerous emails had also been sent to the council offices. She thanked all the volunteers for assisting on the day who had contributed to making the event so successful. It was estimated that 1000 people attended the event throughout the day which is the greatest number of attendees so far. The community centre were also thanked for sponsoring the tea cups ride. The Chairman thanked all the volunteers and in particular the Assistant Clerk who had organised the event and had remained on site all day particularly as the event was held on a national Bank Holiday. The council would consider when it would hold its next event and whether consideration should be given to holding it at the weekend as this would allow more parents to attend who otherwise might be at work.</p>	

9	<p><u>To consider holding a Gardening Competition</u> Since the council were not entering Brickhill in Bloom perhaps the council might wish to consider holding a gardening competition? There followed a brief discussion but it was felt that the time involved in producing publicity material, dealing with enquiries and judging was not proportionate to the number of entries received. It was resolved not to hold a gardening competition this Summer.</p>																																	
10	<p><u>To approve works required on Waveney Green</u> Another section of the footpath was now in a very poor state of repair and had sunk in several places. The area measured 144m² and a cost had been obtained directly from Volker Highways at £5212 + VAT. Members of the council were advised that there was approximately £1000 left in Reserves for the Green and £4500 left out of the allocated yearly budget for Waveney Green. It was resolved to approve the works to repair the footpath.</p> <p>The Clerk had also requested the council replace the bench and purchase an additional bin. Borough Councillors Rider and Royden offered to match fund the purchase of these items and the council were advised they had a £1000 contingency budget which could be used. However it was resolved not to purchase these items at the moment but that consideration would be given later in the year when it was clearer what funds would be left from the budget. It was also discussed that the type of bench should be carefully considered as wooden benches required regular maintenance and consideration should be given to alternatives such as those made from recycled plastic that last indefinitely and require no maintenance.</p> <p>During the summer months the Green was being used far more and in particular litter was being left on a Friday evening. It was resolved to employ our litter picker for an additional 1hr per week during the summer months to be carried out on Saturday morning.</p>	<p>Assistant Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>																																
11	<p><u>To receive an update following the Day of Action on 12th June</u> Borough Cllrs Rider and Royden reported that the day appeared to have been a success. Several householders had smoke alarms fitted by the Fire Service and water saving devices by Anglian Water. All the agencies involved were pleased with the response from residents and said it was a very positive event. It was great to see so many agencies working together providing local residents the opportunity to access their services.</p>																																	
12	<p><u>Financial Matters</u></p> <p>1. To approve the accounts for payment as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="188 1682 1254 2049"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ch No</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>459</td> <td>St Marks Church</td> <td>Hall hire</td> <td>29.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>460</td> <td>Playsafety Ltd</td> <td>Annual Play inspection</td> <td>100.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>461</td> <td>White Hart Press</td> <td>Parish newsletter and Jubilee event leaflet costs</td> <td>700.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>462</td> <td>S Gumble</td> <td>Balance for fairground rides</td> <td>50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>463</td> <td>K Doherty</td> <td>Krazy Kritters attraction for Diamond Jubilee event</td> <td>250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>464</td> <td>Sport Support Services</td> <td>Balance for football target activity</td> <td>18.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>465</td> <td>Sundorne Bouncy</td> <td>Balance for bouncy castles</td> <td>20.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ch No	Payee	Details	£	459	St Marks Church	Hall hire	29.25	460	Playsafety Ltd	Annual Play inspection	100.80	461	White Hart Press	Parish newsletter and Jubilee event leaflet costs	700.00	462	S Gumble	Balance for fairground rides	50.00	463	K Doherty	Krazy Kritters attraction for Diamond Jubilee event	250.00	464	Sport Support Services	Balance for football target activity	18.00	465	Sundorne Bouncy	Balance for bouncy castles	20.00	
Ch No	Payee	Details	£																															
459	St Marks Church	Hall hire	29.25																															
460	Playsafety Ltd	Annual Play inspection	100.80																															
461	White Hart Press	Parish newsletter and Jubilee event leaflet costs	700.00																															
462	S Gumble	Balance for fairground rides	50.00																															
463	K Doherty	Krazy Kritters attraction for Diamond Jubilee event	250.00																															
464	Sport Support Services	Balance for football target activity	18.00																															
465	Sundorne Bouncy	Balance for bouncy castles	20.00																															

Ch No	Payee	Details	£
466	Anglian Water	Water bill for allotments	195.02
467	M Felstead	Key deposit refund	6.00
468	Steve Dear Tree Services	Tree works on Waveney Green	1080.00
469	Red N Security	Brickhill Community Centre Yearly inspections for Burglar Inspections, Emergency Lighting and Fire Alarm. Plus Intercom for office	771.00
470	A Southern	Purchase of Gazebo for Diamond Jubilee event	102.99
471	Site Welfare Company	Hire of toilets for Jubilee event	240.00
472	S Reilly	Allotment Maintenance	833.00
473	C Royden	Refreshments for Jubilee event	52.37
		Total	4105.44

It was resolved to approve the accounts with the addition of a payment to Mr S Reilly for £833 for allotment maintenance and C Royden for £52.37 for refreshments for the Diamond Jubilee event.

To consider opening a longer term investment account

It was resolved to open an account with the Stafford Railway Building Society for the council's reserves. The Clerk would confirm the exact amount that would be transferred and it was noted that the council would have instant access to the funds should this be necessary.

To consider a request for a community grant from:

- BpHa (Youth Service) - £500
- Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust re the Bobby Scheme - £250

Cllr Royden proposed that the grant to BpHA be given as he had met with Karen Nicholson and seen the working taking place with this group. It was very clear how beneficial this service was to the young people living in Brickhill and on the Woodlands Estate.

There followed a brief discussion regarding how much funding was left from the Community Grant scheme. There was £550 left from the budget and **it was resolved** to grant £500 to BpHA. The remaining £50 would be given as a donation towards the running costs of the Bobby Van scheme.

This meant that the whole budget for community grants had now been used and future applicants should be advised that there was no funding available until the start of the next financial year when they should re-apply.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 5 July 2012, 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Approved by Chairman
5 July 2012