



Minutes of the meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 3rd October 2013 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Waterhouse, Blakeman, Wilkins, Crofts, Reeve, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden, Rider, one member of the public (Alex Chrusciak) and the Clerk, Sue Bottoms, were in attendance.

Absent: Cllrs Josephs.

1.	Apologies for Absence: Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Josephs. It was resolved: to accept the apologies for absence.	
2.	Cllr Gurmel Chambers: It was with regret that Cllr Fitzpatrick reported receiving a letter of resignation from Cllr Gurmel Chambers. He was thanked for his hard work on behalf of the community of Brickhill.	
3.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda i) To receive written requests for a dispensation. None received. ii) To consider any requests for a dispensation. None received.	
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting It was resolved: to approve the minutes of 5 th September 2013 as a true record of the meeting.	
5.	Public Open Session (10 mins): No questions.	
6.	To Discuss and Agree Action Regarding the Vacancy on the Parish Council: It was resolved to allow this item to be discussed earlier than placed on the agenda. The Clerk reported that the vacancy had been advertised following Borough procedures and no demand for an election had been received. Following discussion and a vote, it was resolved to co-opt Mr Alex Chrusciak onto the Parish Council. Mr Chrusciak, who was present at the meeting agreed to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting. The Clerk would contact the Borough Council about the vacancy in the East Ward resulting from the resignation of Cllr Chambers.	The Clerk
7.	To receive an update re. Wildflower Meadow on Waveney Green: Simon Fisher reported that there is a range of work over the Brickhill sites designed to get all of the meadow plots in good condition for next year. Waveney Green has established well and has been cut. The cuttings have been left for a while to let some self seeding happen but this will be cleared up soon, this is standard practice for the meadow plants used in this scheme. Volunteers might be needed for "dethistling". As this plot has established so well, there should be a great show of meadow flowers next year. Other plots will be subject to cutting and removal; overseeding and reseeding as needed. The reseeding is mostly needed for the grass only plots as they haven't done well. I would expect the much higher seeding rates being used this time round to work well. All of the plots with	

	flowering plants on them have either done well or established a reasonable framework that will stand them in good stead for 2014 especially when the overseeding is taken into account. It was resolved to thank Simon Fisher for his report.	
8.	<u>To receive an update from Cllr Fitzpatrick on the Community Governance Review:</u> Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that the consultation period was over and was due to go to the General Purposes Committee early in October. In addition to submissions on cards, some Woodlands Park residents had signed a petition requesting their own parish. It was not clear how the Borough would receive this. Letters will eventually go out to residents informing them of the outcome. It was resolved to thank Cllr Fitzpatrick for his report.	
9.	<u>To receive an update on the Community Plan:</u> Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that following the recent meeting, it was the intention to meet at monthly intervals over the forthcoming months with a formal report to residents next year. Thanks were given to Cllr Crofts for creating a mini web site for the plan. It was resolved to thank Cllr Fitzpatrick for his report.	
10.	<u>To receive the report from Scott, White and Hookins and agree action:</u> It was resolved: to accept the original quote of £4,790.00 from JBSR. The Clerk would liaise with the Centre Manager, Sue Stewart regarding the timing of any work.	The Clerk
11.	<u>To receive an update re. Robinson and Hall:</u> The Clerk reported that the revised schedule had been returned along with the client letter to Robinson and Hall. The schedule of works proposed would total £16,300 and the project management fee would be approximately £2,006. The Clerk would liaise with Sue Stewart, Manager of Brickhill Community Centre as required.	The Clerk
12.	<u>To consider the proposal to continue with the Easter and Summer Youth Activity Session:</u> The session providers had informed the Assistant Clerk that they would be willing to increase the numbers of children per session from 20 to 25 at no additional cost. Following discussion, it was resolved to continue with the sessions for 2014 with an increase in numbers per session to 25.	Assistant Clerk
13.	<u>To receive an update re. the Youth Innovation Zone and agree any further actions:</u> Cllr Reeve reported that so far in this financial year a total of £1200 has been spent out of a budget of £3,600. Additional funding has also been applied for. Following discussion, Cllrs Reeve and Crofts were going to attempt to recruit a different youth worker in order to expand the group. It was resolved: to accept the report and Cllrs Reeve and Crofts were thanked for their work.	Cllrs Reeve Crofts
14.	<u>To receive a report from Borough Councillors:</u> Cllr Charles Royden reported that Little Farm Park had been put up for sale. He had received a number of concerns about planning application with residents concerned about overdevelopment of sites. Following complaints about speed humps, attempts were underway to deal with traffic calming through the use of lines on the roads. As a result of requests to increase the areas covered by no-verge parking, Merlin Gardens and adjoining roads had been leafleted. Are there any areas requiring tree planting? Congratulations to Scott Lower on their recent Ofsted report. Following a spate of vandalism, the wireless camera at the moment was outside Scott Lower. Finally, if the Parish Council would like speed cameras to be introduced, then they need to submit a request as soon as possible. It was resolved that this decision should follow the meeting of the Community Safety Forum. It was resolved: to accept the report and Cllrs Royden and Rider were thanked for their work.	
15.	<u>To receive an update on the Pensioners Christmas Meal:</u> The Clerk had booked Doreen Lambert to provide a hot traditional dinner in Brickhill Community Centre on Thurs 12 th December. It was resolved to approach Brickhill or Scott Lower to see if their choir could perform. It was resolved not to ask other organisations to get involved beyond approaching the Good Neighbours Scheme and Door-to-Door to see if	Cllr Royden and the Clerk

	they could help with transport. Cllr Charles Royden to provide a few names of people to invite and the Clerk would ask at Brickhill Baptist.	
16.	<u>To agree action re. trees behind Francis Groves Close:</u> The Clerk had received an e-mail from a resident about overhanging trees. It was established that property backed onto land leased by the Parish Council. Cllr Charles Royden agreed to e-mail around the Council a simple map showing the areas concerned. It was resolved that the Clerk/Assistant Clerk visit the site and assess the situation and to establish whether to encourage the homeowner to remove the boughs or get a quote from the tree surgeons who currently carry out work for the Parish Council. A final decision to be made at the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee on the 19 th November.	The Clerk/Assistant Clerk
17.	<u>To Consider a Request from Residents in Curlew Crescent for the Imposition of a 20mph Speed Limit and Agree Action:</u> Cllr Waterhouse reported that he had leafleted 108 houses and had received back 56 in favour and 5 against. It was resolved that the Clerk write to Stewart Briggs at Bedford Borough Council requesting the imposition of a 20 mph speed limit in Curlew Crescent and also requesting that this should then be rolled out to adjacent roads to make it part of a wider zone. Cllr Blakeman to write an article for the newsletter explaining the benefits. The wider zone could then also be consulted. Cllr Waterhouse was thanked for his efforts.	The Clerk
18.	<u>To Agree a Response to the Gypsy and Traveller Operational Policy:</u> A meeting amongst some Parish Councillors took place on the 30 th September and Cllr Fitzpatrick summarised the agreed response. It was resolved that the Clerk would, prior to sending it off, add into the response a request for clarification from the Borough Council with regard to the obtaining of injunctions to prevent unauthorised encampments. The Clerk would also inquire with BATPC as to whether there is any advice available to Parish Councils regarding how to deal with such a situation and whether any had actually had experience of it.	The Clerk
19.	<u>To Consider having a Public Meeting re. the Future of Paediatric Services in Bedford:</u> It was resolved that something should go in the next newsletter about this and the Parish Council should hold a public meeting in early December to enlist local opinion. The Parish Council should also submit its views before the end of the consultation period.	The Clerk
20.	<u>To Agree to Register with the Volunteer Centre Bedford:</u> It was resolved: to register with the Centre and look for volunteer help with delivering the newsletters, taking part in litterpicks, joining the Good Neighbours Scheme, joining the Brickhill Community Safety Forum, helping with the Bizy cafe and getting involved with Community Speed Watch.	The Clerk
21.	<u>To Agree Attendance at the BATPC AGM 2013:</u> Three delegates can attend.	

Financial matters:

i) To approve any accounts for payment:

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
A Reeve	746	27.58	YIZ Pizzas and Drinks
A Reeve	747	320.00	Table Tennis Table
Victim Support	748	50.00	Donation
iThink Telecom	DD	£16	Telephone Charges
Bedford Borough Council	DD	£2,578	Salaries
S Bottoms	749	£62	Gardening Competition/PC
Steve Dear Tree Services Ltd	750	£96	Tree Works - Waveney Green
Viking	751	£131	Stationery and Stamps
The National Allotment Society	752	£66	Membership Renewal
St Mark's Church Community Centre	753	£14	Open Spaces Committee
YMCA	754	£50	Minibus - Summer Activities
Otis Ltd	755	£474	Lift Servicing at BCC
Solutions 4 Playgrounds	756	£108	Playground Repairs
Liz Spavins	757	£36	Newsletter Delivery July
Brickhill Community Centre	758	£88	Hall Hire
Mrs E O'Donoghue	759	£50	Plot Refund
BATPC	760	£2	Good Councillor Guide
SLCC-CiLCA Management	761	£150	Portfolio Sub A Southern
BATPC	763	£2	Good Councillors Guide
Stafford Pullmans A/C	762	£40,000	Transfer of Funds
	Total	44,320.58	

Please note: cheques 746-748 were approved at the September meeting but were not listed under the items to be approved on the minutes.

It was resolved: to accept the accounts.

- ii) To agree to fund the CiLCA portfolio submission by Alison Southern, Assistant Clerk: **It was resolved** to agree to this.
- iii) To agree movement of funds from the current account to Stafford Building Society:- **It was resolved:** to agree to the movement of £20,000.

	<p>iv) <u>To receive a report from the Personnel Working Group regarding the return to work following maternity leave of the Clerk: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), press and public are excluded from this item of the agenda</u></p> <p>v) <u>To agree a date for the Finance Advisory Group to meet re. budget for 2014-15: this was agreed for Monday 2nd December.</u></p>	
19.	Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7 th November 2013, 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY	

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 Approved by Chairman
 7th November 2013