



**Minutes of the meeting of Brickhill Parish Council held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at St Mark's Church & Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Fitzpatrick, Waterhouse, Blakeman, Crofts, Reeve, Chrusciak, Mulvenney, Charles Royden, Corinne Royden, Rider and the Clerk, Sue Bottoms, were in attendance.

**Absent:** Cllrs Josephs and Wilkins.

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| 1. | <b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Josephs and Wilkins.<br><b>It was resolved:</b> to accept the apologies for absence.  |                  |
| 2. | <b>To welcome Sheila Mulvenney and for her to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office:</b> Sheila was formally welcomed onto the Parish Council and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  |                  |
| 3. | <b>To welcome Alex Chrusciak and for him to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office:</b> Alex was formally welcomed onto the Parish Council and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.  |                  |
| 4. | <b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b><br>i) To receive written requests for a dispensation. None received.<br>ii) To consider any requests for a dispensation. None received.   |                  |
| 5. | <b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b><br><b>It was resolved:</b> to approve the minutes of 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2013 as a true record of the meeting.  |                  |
| 6. | <b>Public Open Session (10 mins):</b> No questions.  |                  |
| 7. | <b>To receive an update re. the Community Governance Review:</b> Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that Bedford Borough Council was now asking for final comments on the proposal that Woodlands Park leaves Ravensden Parish and joins Brickhill. He had agreed to produce two leaflets for the Borough Council for circulation to residents, one for Brickhill and one for Woodlands Park.<br><b>It was resolved</b> to accept the report. Cllrs Fitzpatrick and Charles Royden were both thanked for their work.  | Cllr Fitzpatrick |
| 8. | <b>To receive an update on the Community Plan:</b> Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that meetings were planned over the coming months to progress matters. <b>It was resolved</b> to thank Cllr Fitzpatrick for his report.   | Cllr Fitzpatrick |
| 9. | <b>To receive an update re. Youth Innovation Zone and agree any further actions:</b> Cllr Reeve reported that they had failed to receive any further funding, but there were still funds remaining from the present grant which needed to be spent by the end of March 2014 or it would need to be returned to the Borough Council. There had recently been a Halloween night which had attracted 15 youths. The intention is to continue to have the monthly club and keep trying to increase attendance. Cllrs Reeve and Crofts were thanked for their work. |                  |

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| 10. | <b><u>Appointment of a Parish Councillor onto the Allotments and Open Spaces Committee:</u></b><br>It was resolved to appoint Sheila Mulvenney.   |                               |
| 11. | <b><u>Appointment of two Parish Councillors to the Planning Committee:</u></b><br>It was resolved to appoint Sheila Mulvenney and Alex Chrusciak. It was further resolved to change the time of the meeting from 10am on the morning of the Parish Council meeting to 6pm. The Clerk to liaise with St Mark's regarding room availability.  | The Clerk                     |
| 12. | <b><u>To receive a report from Borough Councillors:</u></b> Cllr Rider reported that the concerns had now ended regarding the proposed gypsy site at Hawk Drive. The no-verge parking scheme was spreading from Merlin onwards with most in favour. At the end of the month the Borough Council was introducing a 2 hour free car parking on Saturdays in any Bedford Borough Council car park. Car parking facilities were continuing to expand. Two more businesses had joined the scheme of allowing public access to toilet facilities bringing the number of businesses involved to nine. There was cross party support for the living wage initiative for all Bedford Borough Council employees. The 1 Stop Shop had opened in Avon Drive. Following concern about road humps in Tyne Crescent damaging tyres and cars, the Borough Council was looking at alternatives.<br>It was resolved to accept the report. Cllr Rider was thanked by the Parish Council. |                               |
| 13. | <b><u>To receive an update on the Pensioners Christmas Meal 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013:</u></b><br>The Clerk reported that the event will start at 12 noon with the food served between 12.30-1.30. Scott Lower School Choir will be singing carols from 1.30 until about 2.00. Thanks were given to Anita Barker, Headteacher, for agreeing to this. The Clerk had approached Brickhill Baptist, St Mark's, Anjulita Court, Good Neighbours Scheme and Ann Reeve had been asked if she could get 6-8 names from each of Highfield, William Harpur and Maydenbury House.   | The Clerk<br>Cllr Reeve       |
| 14. | <b><u>To agree to apply for 50/50 funding and to obtain a quote for an Energy Survey of Brickhill Community Centre:</u></b> Following discussion, it was resolved to apply for the funding and obtain a quote.  | Cllr Fitzpatrick<br>The Clerk |
| 15. | <b><u>To discuss and agree action regarding the vacancy on the Parish Council:</u></b><br>It was resolved that the Clerk forward any applications to the Parish Councillors for consideration at the January meeting.   | The Clerk                     |



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| 17. | <b>Francesca Johnstone's Revised Contract:</b> Since the circulation of the agenda, Mrs Francesca Johnstone had tendered her resignation on the 4 <sup>th</sup> November with a leaving date of the 4 <sup>th</sup> December. <b>It was resolved</b> that Mrs Sue Bottoms, current Acting Clerk should be appointed as her replacement on a permanent basis. Her new contract would start in early December. Cllr Fitzpatrick expressed regret at Mrs Johnstone's decision to leave and wished her well in her future career. |  |
| 18. | <b>Dates for 2014-15:</b> These would be for the first Thursday in each month for the Parish Council and Planning Committee meetings. The Parish Council would not meet in August or December. An additional date in April or May would be selected for the Annual Parish Meeting.  |  |
| 19. | <b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2014, 7:30pm at St Mark's Church Community, Calder Rise, MK41 7UY   |  |

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 Approved by Chairman  
 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013