

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of **Great Brickhill Parish Council** held on  
**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016** at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Great Brickhill

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Mr C Leech (Chairman), Mr D Bratt, Mr R Kettle, Mr A Middleton, Mrs W New, Ms B Wight

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 7 members of the public were present

983 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Mr K Jackson

984 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were approved. The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr New the approval of the minutes as a true record, all agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

985 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

986 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

987 **Reports (County and District Cllrs, other organisations)**

**County Cllr Blake**

County Cllr Blake was not present.

**District Cllr Blake**

District Cllr Blake was not present.

988 **Finance:**

988.1 Bank balances:

<b>Barclays/Santander</b>	<b>£</b>
Community (Barclays)	24,708.57
Business Reserve (Barclays)	4,281.96
Business Premium (Barclays)	1,023.40
Investment Business Premium (Barclays)	0.04
Business Reserve (Santander)	54,575.87
Business Bond (Santander)	85,834.17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>170,424.01</b>

988.2 The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Kettle the approval of the following payments, all agreed:

<b>Cheque Number</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>£</b>
700493	K Barker – Salary	305.04
700493	K Barker – Expenses	45.75
700494	HMRC – Clerks Tax	76.40
700495	Turney Landscapes – grass cutting	750.00
700496	Marco Loxley – Youth Café	317.74
700497	Denne Engineering – 2 invoices/1 credit	371.66
700498	Denne Engineering - 3 invoices/1 credit	1,093.62
700499	Lee Roff – materials and labour play area	3,146.73
700500	M S Turner – play area works	624.00
700501	Travis Perkins – play area materials	30.48
700502	B Osborne – payroll	60.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,821.42</b>

988.3 Other financial matters:

988.3.1 Budget Report

The Clerk gave a budget report to all Cllrs showing expenditure to date.

988.3.2 Bank Accounts

988.3.2.1 Bond – matured 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016

The decision is pending.

988.3.3 Internal Audit Report

988.3.3.1 Financial Regulations – updated version

The Clerk to tailor the new version to Great Brickhill Parish Council and forward it to all Cllrs.  
**(Action Clerk)**

#### 988.3.4 External Audit completion

The Clerk reported that the annual return has been returned from the external auditors and there are no issues to report.

#### 988.3.5 Precept – second half received £13,155.00

Noted by the Parish Council.

#### 988.3.6 Local Government Finance Settlement

The Chairman said that the Governments Local Government Finance Settlement has been received. He read out an extract from the papers 'the Government is minded to extend referendum principles – the 2% core principle or £5, whichever is the greater – to the larger, higher spending local councils for the first time. The consultation states that the Government is aware that increases in precepts continue to concern local tax payers and is therefore prepared to consider extending referendum principles to all Parish Councils.' The National Association of Local Councils comments to the consultation were read out and Cllrs agreed to support their views:

- A referendum at parish level would be expensive and disproportionate to the council tax increase. Even if residents vote no in a referendum, the council will still need to meet the cost of it.
- Local councils often put their precept down as well as up.
- The impact of withdrawal/reductions in council tax support funding. The Parish Council has had to increase its precept to cope with a reduction in the level of council tax support grant passed on by the principal authority.
- There are huge variations in size, complexity, levels of deprivation, social makeup and the services provided by local councils and no simple formula can take these very different circumstances into consideration.
- The devolving of services has had an effect on the precept for example, Great Brickhill Parish Council has taken on the grass cutting formerly undertaken by Bucks County Council.
- Extending referendum principles to all local councils would be detrimental to those less active councils that currently have very low Band D council tax.
- The Parish Council is primarily financed through the parish precept and unlike principal councils does not receive grant funding from central government.
- Local councils should continue to have the freedom and flexibility to raise the resources they need to invest in local services, especially at a time when they are taking on services and assets from principal councils, often much valued services which would otherwise cease completely and which communities want to see continue.

The Clerk was asked to respond by the consultation deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> October.

**(Action Clerk)**

### 989 **Review of Projects**

#### 989.1 Footpath/Traffic Calming Lower Way

The Chairman supplied a sheet showing traffic calming options. He said that there are two separate issues and these are slowing traffic which could include road width restrictions, rumble strips, dragons teeth road markings, interactive signs and village gateways and secondly separating pedestrians and traffic which could include built footways, pedestrian refuge's and chicanes. He said that anything that is built on the road must be illuminated and have good visibility. Cllrs discussed the use of solar powered or battery operated lights and whether they would comply with regulations. Cllr Middleton said that it cannot be guaranteed that this type of lighting would work on dark days and also the battery could run down. Cllrs were asked to consider traffic calming ideas to discuss at the next meeting. Cllr Kettle suggested that a separate meeting be held to discuss traffic calming.

#### 989.2 Toddler Play Area – progress report

Cllr Bratt said that the new play area equipment has now been installed but it took longer than expected. The final phase will be to put down the new surface. He said that the representative from the wetpour company has now changed his advice for laying the wetpour. Because of the sandy nature of the ground they are strongly recommending the wetpour is laid on top of an MOT type 1 crushed stone base instead of bare earth covered by a weed membrane. Artificial grass requires this same base so it now makes sense to go down this route. Due to this change an additional £13,480.00 is required in order to complete the project. The Chairman proposed,

seconded by Cllr Wight to transfer the amount required from the footpath budget with a view to transferring the amount back at the year end from other budgets which have amounts remaining.

The Clerk advised the Parish Council not to undertake any further major projects and their focus should now be on the footpath/traffic calming measures. Cllr Wight said that the area around the Parish Hall has been upgraded recently with various projects and that now other parts of the village need attention.  
**(Action Clerk)**

990 **Village Improvements Committee**

990.1 Poors Acre

990.1.2 Disputed position of fence

The Chairman said that he, Cllr Wight and the owner of Blue Gates Farm met to discuss the fence. It was agreed that the fence is in a straight line and the land registry plans show the fence as being in the correct place so no further action will be taken. The item to be removed from the agenda.

990.2 Quotation for flailing

Cllr Wight proposed, seconded by Cllr Kettle to accept the cost of circa £160.00, all agreed.

990.3 Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

The Chairman said that he has contacted SWARCO regarding the faulty sign and is waiting for a response.

991 **Village Matters:**

991.1 Land at Green End - Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust

Nothing further to report.

991.2 Brown Tourist Signs

Cllr Wight said that the Parish Council would have to pay for signs to be removed. The Parish Council agreed to remove the item from the agenda.

991.3 Public footpaths – progress (Access from Cricket Club to John Horncapps Lane/Pochards Lake to Cuff Lane

The Chairman confirmed that a landowner is allowing a permissive footpath to be created which will be a benefit to the village and allow a much better access from the Parish Hall to Foxhole pocket park. Cllr Wight agreed to look in to the legal aspects.  
**(Action Cllr Wight)**

The Chairman said that an old map he has looked at shows part of the footpath between Pochards Lake and Cuff Lane and that Cllr Jackson will speak to the owner of Pochards Fishery.

**(Action Cllr Jackson)**

991.4 Parish Plan – for review

Resident Mark Stasiuk agreed to coordinate a meeting to review the parish plan. The Chairman and Cllrs Middleton and Wight agreed to be involved.

991.5 Village Logo

The Chairman said he has been in contact with the school and they are very keen to be involved in producing designs.

991.6 New dog bin

The Clerk said that she has ordered the new bin and is waiting for a response.

991.7 School Parking – update

Cllr New confirmed that the zig zag lines have been repainted. Attempts are being made to improve the parking situation and the school are doing what they can to help.

991.8 Old Red Lion – asset of community value

Cllr Middleton agreed to look in to it.

**(Action Cllr Middleton)**

991.9 Bucks CC – streamlining local government

The Parish Council agreed to meet with Bucks CC regarding streamlining. The Clerk to arrange a meeting.  
**(Action Clerk)**

992 **Youth Café**

992.1 Attendance and member locations information

Cllr Bratt agreed to contact Marco Loxley.

**(Action Cllr Bratt)**

993 **Play Areas (also see projects)**

Nothing to report.

994 **Public Participation** (see end of minutes)

995 **Planning:**

995.1 **Planning Applications:**

- 995.1.1 16/03255/APP – Cloverhill House, Ivy Lane – demolition of existing dwelling, erection of replacement dwelling with detached garage and relocation of vehicular access. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.
- 995.1.2 16/03153/APP – Claremont, Ivy Lane – single storey rear extension and addition of dormer window. Creation of bedroom in roofspace. Addition of rooflight. Great Brickhill Parish Council has no objection providing that the Conservation Officer has been consulted and approves the application. The Parish Council are however concerned that the extension is not sympathetic to the rest of the building and can be seen from the street and it is not in keeping with a property in the conservation area.
- 995.1.3 16/03357/APP – Land at Green End Cottage, Green End – the construction of one self heating, carbon neutral subterranean dwelling house, a double car port and a driveway. Great Brickhill Parish Council support the application and request that it be approved under delegated powers. A representative from the Parish Council will attend should the application be refused and the decision delegated to the Planning Committee.
- 995.1.4 16/01527/APP – Bryerley Springs Farm, Galley Lane – erection of steel framed barn to house riding school ponies. Great Brickhill Parish Council object to the application as the applicant has failed to address drainage issues and the visual impact on the countryside.

995.2 **Decisions:**  
No decisions

995.3 **Other Planning Matters:**

995.3.1 Development Control Meetings  
No meetings were held.

995.3.2 15/02201/AOP – Eaton Leys - Land west of A4146, South of Watling Street  
The application is not due for determination until December 2016.

995.3.3 Orchard Mill – development query  
Nothing to report.

995.3.4 Great Firs – quad biking – 15/02585/APP  
The Chairman said that he will contact Little Brickhill Parish Council as they should be involved in the issue. **(Action Chairman)**

995.3.5 Galley Cottage, Galley Lane  
Enforcement is aware of the car trading business being operated.

996 **Correspondence**

The Chairman summarised the correspondence, to be included in the Circulation Folder.

997 **Matters for the newsletter**

Overgrowing hedges, dog fouling, broadband meeting

998 **Date of next meeting – Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm**

999 **The meeting closed at 9.30pm**

#### **Minute of Public debate**

A resident suggested that the school opens its gates at the earlier time of 8.30am as this could alleviate some of the parking/traffic issues.

Resident, Mr Mark Stasiuk said that 22 people attended the defibrillator training. It was an excellent event. He has been advised that the defibrillator adult pads can be used on children and they just need positioning differently. He suggested that the training event be held again at a later date. Mr Stasiuk said that he is shortly looking to create a historical society and compile a history of Great Brickhill.