

MINUTES of the Meeting of **Great Brickhill Parish Council** held on
Tuesday 2nd January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Great Brickhill

PRESENT: Cllrs Mr C Leech (Chairman), Mr D Bratt, Mr R Kettle, Mr A Middleton, Ms B Wight,
District Cllr Mr N Blake

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs K Barker (Clerk), no members of the public were present

The Parish Council were saddened to hear of the death of Clare Amies. Clare was remembered for her significant contribution to the village of Great Brickhill and the support she gave to the Parish over the many years she served as a Parish Cllr.

1225 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Mrs W New, County Cllr Mrs J Blake

1225.1 Parish Cllr vacancy

The Clerk said that she is awaiting confirmation that the Parish Council can co-opt a new Cllr on to the Parish Council. There have not been any applications so far.

1226 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2017 were amended at Point 1213.3.1 and then approved. Cllr Bratt proposed, seconded by Cllr Middleton the approval of the minutes as a true record, all agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

1227 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

1228 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

1229 **Reports (County and District Cllrs, other organisations)**

1229.1 County Cllr Blake was not present.

1229.2 District Cllr Blake said that Aylesbury Vale Broadband assets have been sold to Gigaclear and they will carry out the work AVB were not able to undertake. AVDC have a balanced budget for the next four years. £3m has been spent on restructuring but savings of £2m+ a year have been made. AVDC are now using an AI system for automated emails.

1229.3 Parish Hall Committee

Cllr Bratt reported that the PHC AGM will be held on 4th January at 7pm.

1230 **Finance:**

1230.1 Bank balances:

Barclays/Santander	£
Community (Barclays)	42,991.15
Business Reserve (Barclays)	4,283.24
Business Premium (Barclays) MUGA Income	2,361.97
Investment Business Premium (Barclays)	0.04
Business Reserve (Santander)	55,579.96
Business Bond (Santander)	85,000.00
TOTAL	190,216.36

1230.2 The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Kettle the approval of the following payments, all agreed:

Cheque Number	Payee	£
700623	K Barker – Salary	385.28
700623	K Barker – Expenses	28.22
700624	Turney Landscapes – grass cutting	750.00
700625	Parish Hall Committee – hall hire	315.00
700626	B Osborne – payroll	60.00
700627	Marco Loxley – youth café	TBC
	TOTAL	2,529.85
	Cheques raised on 8th December	
700620	Bowlamania – bowling mats	1,811.80
700621	Table Tennis Tables	887.00

700622	Trent Furniture – chairs	1,077.00
	TOTAL	3,775.80

1230.3 Other financial matters:

- 1230.3.1 Budget Report
The Clerk gave a budget report to all Cllrs showing expenditure to date.
- 1230.3.2 Clerks Tax – GBPC refund request to HMRC
Nothing to report.
- 1230.3.3 Parish Council/Parish Hall Committee VAT
Nothing to report.

1231 **Public Participation**

Police report – local criminal activity between 18th November 2017 to 2nd January 2018 - 1 burglary other than from a dwelling, 2 other theft, 7 theft from a vehicle and 1 anti-social behaviour.

1232 **Planning:**

1232.1 Planning Applications

- 1232.1.1 17/04323/AOP – The Stables, Ivy Lane – erection of dwelling
District Cllr Blake said that he fails to see how the Parish Council can make a comment on the application with such a lack of information supplied.

The Parish Council object to the application as there is no proven need for the proposed dwelling and insufficient information has been supplied. The Parish Council agreed that they would be prepared to send a Representative if the application was to be considered by the Development Control Committee.

- 1232.1.2 17/04696/ADJ – The 'Marston Vale' Rookery South Pit, Nr Millbrook – consultation reference Millbrook Power Limited proposed gas fired power plant at Rookery South Pit, Nr Millbrook, Bedfordshire: notification of acceptance of an application for a development consent order in accordance with Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008, Regulation 8 of the Infrastructure Planning Regulations 2009 and Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. The Parish Council support the application.

1232.2 Decisions: There were no decisions.

1232.3 Other Planning Matters

- 1232.3.1 17/03553/COUAR – Papermill Farm
District Cllr Blake said that the Parish Council will no longer be notified of any applications being considered by Development Control. He said that the Parish Council will need to make it clear on the planning portal in their response to planning applications, particularly those under dispute, if they wish to attend the Development Control Committee. Cllrs agreed that they had been unaware of this change and that the Clerk will need to respond accordingly in future.
- 1232.3.2 Neighbourhood Plan
Nothing to report.
- 1232.3.3 Lavente Gate development
District Cllr Blake said that AVDC has only just officially been informed of the planning application. The Parish Council agreed to object to the planning application. The Clerk was asked to write to Milton Keynes Council to submit the Parish Council's comments to include: the proposed development area is not in the current MK local plan; archaeological remains may extend south-east along Watling Street and into the Lavente Gate development necessitating a full archaeological investigation; the A4146 and its junction with the A5 is over capacity at peak hours with queuing traffic at times reaching back to Water Eaton and forcing traffic onto local roads which will be used as rat runs; the site is on prime agricultural land which should be safeguarded against loss to the country

and local community; the development will border the Area of Attractive Landscape which extends as far as the river Ouzel and would cause a severe reduction in both the attractive view and irreversible damage to ecology and wildlife at both the proposed development site and the Greensand Ridge. A copy of the comments to be sent to County Cllr Blake and Tfb.

(Action Clerk)

1233 Review of Projects

1233.1 Traffic Calming Measures

1233.1.1 Feasibility Study

The Clerk read out an email from Tfb. They will be commencing the Traffic Calming Feasibility Study shortly and a programme will be issued in due course. In principle, Bucks CC would like Parish Councils to undertake a greater role on delegated responsibility, however currently there is no process in place to allow Parishes to undertake such work on the Public Highway which includes excavation and amendments to carriageway and kerbs. Therefore it could be agreed that the Parish could act as 'Client' and employ a 'Contractor' directly. Employing a Contractor that is an approved Tfb Subcontractor ensures that the contractor has the correct insurance and accreditation. Tfb (Ringway Jacobs) could be appointed as Principle Designer and could also provide site supervision for the Client to ensure duties under Construction, Design, Management Regulations (CDM) are met.

The Chairman said that a contribution towards the cost of the feasibility study may be available from the Local Area Forum providing the scheme is still underway but not until 2019 as there is no money available until then.

1233.1.2 NHB funding towards Traffic calming

Cllr Wight said that the panel are hoping to bring forward the next round of funding submissions to July 2018 and this timescale will be more beneficial for the Parish Council's application.

1234 Village Improvements Committee

It was agreed that VIC will arrange for a contractor to trim the laurel and other hedges around the village.

1234.1 Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

The Chairman reported that one of the signs was pulled out of the ground but it still seems to be working ok.

1234.2 Speed Monitoring Device

The Chairman said that he has been in touch with Bucks CC. There are two Sentinel devices currently available to parishes in the local area. One is hosted by Edlesborough Parish Council and the other is hosted by Ivinghoe Parish Council. The Parish Council has to arrange collection and return with the rep from each parish council and the device needs to be signed in and out. Both devices come with a set of Hi Viz Jackets as well as Triangular Speed Watch signs which must be in place when an operation is being carried out. Speedwatch volunteers need to be trained and registered with Thames Valley Police and each parish using the device must ensure that it is covered on their insurance for theft, loss and accidental damage. There has never been a charge to use the equipment but this may change. The Chairman said that he will make some more enquiries.

(Action Clerk)

1234.3 Letters to landowners re ditches/hedges

Cllr Wight has made some amendments to the letter. The Clerk to send it out to the landowners.

(Action Clerk)

1235 Village Matters:

1235.1 Unregistered land in Great Brickhill

The Chairman confirmed that land around the Sport Ground has now been registered with Land Registry. He said that he is waiting to hear about the land at Green End. There is a query with regard to the ownership of the 15m strip of land at Horsepond and he is looking in to it.

1235.2 Public footpaths – progress (Pochards Lake to Cuff Lane)

Cllr Middleton said that he has taken it over from Cllr Jackson and will report further at the next meeting.

- 1235.3 Village Logo – update
Cllr Middleton said that he will make enquiries with the school. **(Action Cllr Middleton)**
- 1235.4 School Parking
Cllr Wight said that there is a regular attendance for the walking bus. Cllr Middleton said that the initiative to 'design a road safety banner' is moving forward.
- 1235.5 Village website regeneration
Cllr Middleton said that he has been working on the website over Christmas and would like Cllrs views. The Chairman thanked Cllr Middleton for his hard work.
- 1235.6 Cemetery wall damage
The Chairman said that the ivy is difficult to kill but he will spray it again. He said that he may approach Turney Landscapes for advice as they are licensed to use commercial weedkillers.
- 1235.7 Boundary with Soulbury
District Cllr Blake said that a parish boundary review is due to take place. The Chairman said that he will look in to it further. **(Action Chairman)**
- 1235.8 Grass cutting – on-going costs and renewal of contract
The Clerk said that Turney Landscapes have accepted the extension to the Grass Cutting contract for a further two years and they will not increase their costs. They will also set up a reporting system each time the grass cutting has been completed.
- 1235.9 Sandstone Wall – Ivy Lane
The Chairman said that he has been in contact with Matt Whincup at Bucks CC regarding the wall. The wall forms the boundary to several properties in Holts Green but it is not clear whether maintenance obligations lie with the home owners or Bucks CC. The wall is dangerous and could fall on to the highway. There is also a problem with the buttress' which are holding up the wall closer to Cromwell Cottages as they obstruct the footpath and a wheel chair or push chair user has to go on to the road to get past them. The Chairman said that he will email County Cllr Blake. **(Action Chairman)**
- 1236 **Play Areas:**
1236.1 Inspection Reports
Cllrs noted the reports. The gate post has been moved as it was a potential finger trap and the gate timer needs adjusting. Concrete has been placed around the manhole.
- 1237 **Parish Council Administration**
1237.1 Asset Register/Risk Assessment/Standing Orders/Financial Regulations – yearly review
The Clerk to update the asset register with the recent items purchased and email all documents to the Cllrs for review. **(Action Clerk)**
- 1238 **Correspondence**
The Chairman summarised the correspondence, to be included in the Circulation Folder.
- 1239 **Matters for the newsletter**
VIC responsibilities, Cllr vacancy
- 1240 **Date of next meeting – Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 7.30pm**
- 1241 **The meeting closed at 9.18pm**