



**MINUTES of the Meeting of Great Brickhill Parish Council**  
**held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.30pm**  
**in the Parish Hall, Great Brickhill**

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

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

1380 **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Mr A Middleton, Mrs K Layland, Mrs W New

1381 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 were approved. Cllr Bratt proposed, seconded by Cllr Kettle the approval of the minutes as a true record, all agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

1382 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Leech – Finance Point 1385.2

1383 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

1384 **Reports (County and District Cllrs, other organisations)**

1384.1 County Cllr Blake

County Cllr Blake said that consultations regarding adult social care, school transport and the budget have been issued. The Clerk to check these have been received.

**(Action Clerk)**

1384.2 District Cllr Blake

District Cllr Blake said that Mr James Brokenshire has issued a statement in respect of unitary arrangements for Buckinghamshire and that he aims to implement a single unitary district council. District Cllr Blake said that whilst this is not the result hoped for it is not an adoption of the "County's" plan but will be a "District" Unitary so it is hoped that the District Councils proposals will form the basis of a new Unitary. AVDC will be writing to Mr Brokenshire to request his reasons for this decision and how members are to be distributed across the county. The elections which were due to be held in 2019 are to be deferred due to this decision but Parish Councils should still include the cost in their budget for the following year. Cllr Blake said that he would like to congratulate the Parish Council for the work that they do and would like to see more residents attend and contribute to the meetings.

1384.2.1

Oxford/Cambridge expressway

District Cllr Blake said that he does not have any more information at present. The Chairman said that there is a drop-in session regarding the new expressway. The Chairman and Cllr Kettle agreed to attend.



1384.3 Parish Hall Committee

Cllr Bratt said that the Citizens Advice Bureau are now holding meetings in the small meeting room on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm and it is necessary to book an appointment. The proposed small extension to the hall will provide a new disabled toilet plus additional toilets, disabled access, pre-school storage plus extra storage. The bar area would then be re-instated and available for use again. The cost of the extension is expected to be in the region of £50,000 and grants have been identified.

1384.4 Youth Café

Marco Loxley attended the meeting to give an update on the Youth Café. He said that the Youth Café is now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year in the Village. Due to GDPR the database of members has been regenerated. 59 members have signed up since September. A trip to Mexico is planned with a team of 20 including 2 members from the Youth Café. The Youth Café need to raise £33,000 towards the trip as a team. There is also a summer residential planned of which 4 members from the Youth Café will be attending. Marco said that there have been some issues with young people hanging around outside the hall on a Friday evening. Marco stressed that they are not signed up to the Youth Café but he will challenge their behaviour particularly if there is a danger to the person or property. He has asked his members to stay inside the hall until this is sorted out. He expressed his thanks to Cllr Layland and Cllr Middleton for their help. Marco said that there may be a misunderstanding regarding admittance to the Cricket Club and he will talk to the Club.

1385 **Finance:**

1385.1 Bank balances:

	£
Barclays/Santander	
Community (Barclays)	40,684.98
Business Reserve (Barclays)	4,289.66
Business Premium (Barclays) MUGA Income	3,207.93
Investment Business Premium (Barclays)	0.04
Business Reserve (Santander)	56,431.07
Business Bond (Santander)	85,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>189,613.68</b>

1385.2 The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Kettle the approval of the following payments, all agreed:

Cheque Number	Payee	£
700701	K Barker – salary September	500.80
700701	K Barker – expenses	68.37
700702	Turney Landscapes – grass cutting	750.00
700703	Denne Engineering – fencing	11.99
700704	Aylesbury Mains – light repairs	43.08
700705	e.on – electricity bill	453.29
700706	CPRE – membership	36.00
700707	C Leech – re-imburse for signs	30.00
700708	Marco Loxley – Youth Café	341.86
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,235.49</b>

1385.3 Other financial matters:

1385.3.1

Finance Report

The Clerk gave out a finance report showing income, expenditure and a bank reconciliation.



- 1385.3.2 Budget and precept – 2019/20  
A finance meeting to be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm in the Parish Hall. The Clerk to book the small meeting room.  
**(Action Clerk)**

1386 **Public Participation**

Cllr Bratt reported receipt of an email from a resident. *‘Walking up to school along Pound Hill is becoming increasingly challenging with the growth of the hedge at Homerstone, No 28 Pound Hill. Can the Parish Council ask for this to be cut back as it is reducing the amount of pavement. There is no longer a Village report in the Leighton Buzzard Observer and the resident would like to take on the role as correspondent.’* The Clerk was asked to send a letter to number 28 asking for them to cut back the hedge, reminding them that it is their responsibility to cut it. The Parish Council confirmed that they would be happy for the resident to take on the role of correspondent for the Leighton Buzzard Observer and the Parish Council would like to see a copy of the editorial.  
**(Action Clerk)**

A member of the public said that they were disappointed that the village community has not made more effort to commemorate the 1<sup>st</sup> World War centenary. The Parish Council has organised the silent soldier silhouette and the beacon lighting but other villages have decorated their villages and organised events.

A resident from Green End said that the grass verge is being used as a parking area. The Parish Council suggested that they contact the housing association who owns the land.

The Chairman raised two items on behalf of Cllr Layland who was not present. Firstly, the presence of a 40 foot refrigerated container in the parish hall car park for 1 week. This is to store food for Brickstock. If the refrigerator can be booked now, it will be significantly discounted. The Parish Council agreed that they have no objection to this proposal. Secondly, there is concern regarding traffic safety on Halloween. There were probably upwards of 40 children in the village on the evening of Halloween. All were accompanied by adults. On a number of occasions cars had to be flagged down for speeding and children had to navigate between parked cars. Cllr Layland suggested that next year there could be some volunteer adults with torches at either end of the village, to alert drivers to the fact that they need to slow down for the children in the road. The Parish Council agreed that this was a good idea and asked the Clerk to put on the 2019 September agenda.

1387 **Planning:**

1387.1 Planning Applications

1387.1 18/03772/APP – The Stables, Ivy Lane – erection of dwelling. The Parish Council object to the application. The outline planning permission granted in respect of application 17/04323/AOP stated, in condition 4, that the dwelling shall only be a single storey. This application is for a two storey dwelling so should be refused. The proposed property is outside the village curtilage (of both Soulbury and Great Brickhill) and represents unwarranted ribbon development. The application is made on the basis that it is for a ‘key worker’. There is no evidence provided in relation to any viable business on the site which requires a key worker to be living there, nor any justification for building a three bedroom property.

1387.2 Decisions:

1387.2.1 18/02941/APP – Green Ridges, Upper Way – erection of side extension and enlargement of rear dormer. Approved. Noted by the Parish Council.



1387.2.2 18/02659/APP – 2 Stoke Lane – front porch and garage conversion. Approved. Noted by the Parish Council.

1387.3 Other Planning Matters

1387.3.1 Lavente Gate development  
Cllrs noted that another application is in the pipeline with a reduction in housing numbers. A consultation meeting was arranged then cancelled and further information is awaited.

1387.3.2 18/02633/APP – Bryerley Springs Farm – new horse barn – response from the agent.  
The Parish Council confirmed that they considered the additional information supplied and attended a site meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council are now satisfied that the barn is for the purpose described and therefore support it. The Clerk to respond to AVDC.  
**(Action Clerk)**

1387.3.3 Planning Responsibility – November  
Cllr Wight to review planning applications received in November.

1388 **Review of Projects**

1388.1 Traffic Calming Measures

1388.1.1 Feasibility Study  
The Chairman confirmed that he has been asked to complete a brief sheet by TfB confirming the elements of works required. Due to current workload, TfB are not in a position to undertake the work immediately. One of the first tasks would be meeting with their lining contractor who would help advise on the best material to use. Once this discussion has taken place they will come back to the parish with any recommendations to agree before implementation. They would propose that the finance for the work is undertaken in two stages. Detailed design and obtaining quotations and then implementation. The two-stage approach allows TfB to undertake design work and allows the implementation costs to be minimised through reducing risk of providing a quotation before detailed design is complete. This is common for feasibility studies that have had a high level of design/pricing.

1389 **Village Improvements Committee**

1389.1 Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs  
The Chairman said that there seems to be an intermittent fault with one of the signs and it needs to be monitored.

1389.2 Purchase of equipment  
The Chairman said that VIC are using their personal tools and need to purchase some equipment for VIC use. Cllr Wight proposed, seconded by Cllr Bratt to agree to the purchase of brooms, shovels etc at a cost of £100, all agreed.

1390 **Village Matters:**

1390.1 Unregistered land in Great Brickhill  
Nothing to report.

1390.2 Public footpaths – progress (Pochards Lake to Cuff Lane)  
Nothing to report.



- 1390.3 School Parking  
Cllr Wight confirmed that the numbers using the walking bus are down but consistent.
- 1390.4 Cemetery wall damage  
The Chairman said he will find out when Turney Landscapes will undertake the work.  
**(Action Chairman)**
- 1390.5 Boundary with Soulbury  
Nothing to report.
- 1390.6 Drains – Cuff Lane  
Cllr New has sent the drains survey to Matt Whincup at BCC and County Cllr Blake.
- 1390.7 Devolved Services Contract  
The Clerk confirmed that she has registered the Parish Councils interest in the enhanced devolved service scheme. Cllr Wight said that she attended a drop-in event. The Parish Council has the ability to do a number of works according to the schedule issued in 2014 which are not currently being undertaken.
- 1390.8 Spinney (trees/collapsed bank)  
Cllr Bratt reported that the raised bank in the spinney partially collapsed at the end of May this year due to a very heavy rain storm. The banking needs to be repaired and the remainder of the raised area supported to stop future problems. He said that he met with Mike Turner to discuss the issue and confirmed that the Cricket Club are looking into the possibility of repairing the bank and adding a 'ramp' from the raised area into the spinney to prevent future problems. The bank would be at roughly a 45 degree angle and would necessarily extend into the spinney by between 1 and 3 metres. It will NOT impact on the existing footpath. The proposal is that the banking would be made out of a combination of felled trees and new imported soil and be reinforced as necessary. It would then be seeded to blend into the environment. The Cricket Club is keen to repair the banking before the winter weather moves in, ideally around the middle of November. They are not looking for financial support but do need the trees felled in order to incorporate them in the new 'ramp'.
- Cllr Bratt said that there are 6 dead trees in the spinney which have been marked with a red dot. These trees should be felled as they present a potential long term risk to passers-by. The tree conservation officer commented in early 2014 that the spinney will have a number of trees die each year as it is getting old and does need to be replanted. None of the 6 trees that have died are as a result of the works constructing the original bank. The major oak tree will need pruning. Quotations have been sought for the tree works.
- The Parish Council discussed the quotations and it was agreed that due to the requirement of having to obtain a license from AVDC to fell the trees, as they are protected, the work cannot be undertaken for a number of weeks. It was agreed to submit an application to remove the dead trees and trim the Oak tree. Cllr Bratt said that the trees will need to be replaced and suggested that the Gardening Club be involved and could apply for a grant from Aylesbury Vale. Cllr Bratt to respond to the Contractors who quoted.  
**(Action Chairman/Cllr Bratt)**
- 1390.9 Three Trees Lectern – replacement  
The Chairman said that he has ordered the lectern base and frame.
- 1390.10 Beacon Lighting event  
Resident, Mr Turner said that he will arrange for the beacon to be lit on Sunday at 7pm to commemorate the centenary of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. It was noted that Cllr Middleton has agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council. Details of the event to be circulated as widely as possible by the Parish Council. **(Action All Cllrs)**



1390.11 Green End light

The Clerk read out a letter from a resident asking whether the Parish Council would consider reinstating the lantern on the electricity pole opposite 48 Green End. The light illuminates the junction to Home Farm Lane. The Chairman was unsure whether the light is out or has been removed and said that he will confirm this to the Clerk.

**(Action Chairman/Clerk)**

1391 **Play Areas:**

Cllr Bratt confirmed that the safety surfacing around the roundabout has been repaired at no cost. The Parish Council confirmed their thanks to Lee Roff.

1392 **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received.

1393 **Matters for the newsletter**

Community involvement, crime awareness and prevention

1394 **Date of next meeting – Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7.30pm**

1395 **The meeting closed at 9.47pm**