



## MINUTES of the Meeting of Great Brickhill Parish Council held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Great Brickhill

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 9 members of the public were present

1539 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Mr A Middleton

1539.1 Councillor vacancy

A resident has expressed their interest in the vacancy.

1539.2 Councillor resignation

The Clerk reported that Kathryn Leyland had resigned prior to the meeting. She said that she has informed AVDC and a vacancy notice has been put on the noticeboard.

1540 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 were approved. Cllr Wight proposed, seconded by the Chairman the approval of the minutes as a true record, all agreed by those present and signed by the Chairman.

1541 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Leech, Cllr Wight, Cllr Bratt, Cllr Kettle – Planning Point 1546.1.4

1542 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

1543 **Reports**

1543.1 County Cllr Blake

County Cllr Blake was not present.

1543.2 District Cllr Blake

District Cllr Blake was not present. The Clerk read out a report supplied.

1543.2.1 Single Unitary Authority

Work continues by the shadow authority to prepare for the new Buckinghamshire Authority which takes over the County Council and the four Districts next May. The timescale is extremely tight. The CEO of the new Authority has been appointed and the job has gone to the current CEO of Bucks CC who fought off competition from a number of “outside” applicants. One of the problems that has emanated from creating the new Authority is that many staff from AVDC are leaving and that has placed huge pressures on the remaining staff who are trying to carry out their day to day duties. The area particularly hit is planning and contact has been made by several residents of Great Brickhill & Newton Longville Ward whose planning applications have not been determined within the stipulated timescales – some more than four months late. This problem is expected to continue because permanent staff cannot be attracted to an Authority which has a very limited life.

1543.2.2 Expressway - update

AVDC voted, at its last Full Council Meeting, to object to the Expressway on the grounds that it would have an unacceptable adverse impact on the local environment and biodiversity. The



Government could ignore AVDC and go ahead with the scheme as it is a major infrastructure project. If that is the case there will be no opportunity of negotiating additional funds for other road improvement projects in the area. With the significant housing growth that is going to take place in The Vale, a great deal of work will have to be done to improve road infrastructure otherwise roads are going to be clogged up. However, there is no local funding available to carry out that work. The Expressway could have been part of the solution to that problem but its route should not be across open countryside, as seems to be Government's suggestion, but it should follow a route put forward by the previous Cabinet at AVDC, ie, to follow the A41 and A418 to relieve pressure on those roads and to achieve what the Government wants – a better east west connection. To object to the Expressway in any form would appear to be a retrograde step. Whilst east-west rail is to be welcomed, it will not be able to accommodate the future needs of The Vale because it will only have one new station, that at Winslow, so potential rail users will have to get to that station and probably use their cars. The roads in and out of Winslow will not be able to cope with a large rise in the volume of traffic unless, again, significant monies are spent on road improvements. Unfortunately there are no BCC updates at present on East/West Rail or the Expressway.

1543.3 Community First Responder – request for financial support

As requested at the last Parish Council meeting, Mr Robert Burton-Gow attended the meeting with a colleague to provide further information regarding the Manger Elk. Community First Responders work and are trained as part of the Ambulance Service. They are required to fund raise for equipment and are in need of a Manger Elk, an inflatable lifting cushion which costs in the region of £1,500 and financial assistance would be much appreciated. The Parish Council agreed that this is a worthy cause and would consider adding a contribution towards the equipment to the 2020/21 budget. They also said that there are organisations that offer grants and this should be looked into by Mr Burton-Gow.

1543.4 Parish Hall Committee

Cllr Bratt said that there had been trouble with youths in the village recently and the Police were called out. The youths were not necessarily from the village.

1543.4.1 Project 2020 – Parish Hall improvements

Cllr Bratt confirmed that the planning application for the hall extension has been submitted. To date, £110,000 has been raised through the New Homes Bonus scheme. County Cllr Blake has offered her Community Leaders fund towards the project of £1,525. A further grant of £10,000 has been applied for from the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust thriving communities fund and a Government grant run by ACRE for £38,000 is also being looked into.

1543.4.2 New signage for hall  
Nothing to report.

1543.4.3 Little Ashes Pre-School

Cllr Bratt reported that the Local Area Forum has awarded a grant of £5,000 towards the log cabin. Other grants have been applied for. The Chairman agreed to endorse an Aylesbury Vale micro grant of £2,000. Cllr Bratt said that the trench has been dug out for the water, drainage and sewage pipes. Electricity will be supplied from the MUGA and consideration will be given to installing sensor lights and CCTV. The Cricket Club have been very cooperative and thanks to



Michael Turner, Nigel Woodhouse and Lee Roth who have helped and given a lot of their time.

1544 **Finance:**

1544.1 Bank balances and finance report:

	£
Barclays/Santander	
Community (Barclays)	42,366.63
Business Reserve (Barclays)	4,298.22
MUGA Sinking Fund	6,151.73
Parish Hall Budget	4,068.39
Business Reserve (Santander)	56,612.60
Business Bond (Santander)	85,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>198,497.57</b>

1544.2 The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr Bratt the approval of the following payments, all agreed:

Payment method	Payee	£
Bank Transfer	K Barker – salary	439.24
Bank Transfer	K Barker – expenses	69.97
Bank Transfer	Turney Landscapes – grass cutting	750.00
Bank Transfer	Marco Loxley – Youth Café	TBC
Bank Transfer	Paul Murray – reimburse for pipes for log cabin	610.83
Bank Transfer	Aylesbury Mains – light repairs	42.00
Bank Transfer	PKF – external audit	240.00
Bank Transfer	Mr B Baker – stage lights in hall	109.75
Bank Transfer	D B Standing – shingle log cabin/forest school	363.91
Bank Transfer	Atkinson Forestry – Spinney tree work	600.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,225.70</b>

1544.3 Other financial matters:

- 1544.3.1 On-line banking/payments  
Cllr Wight is still to register for online banking.  
**(Action Cllr Wight)**
- 1544.3.2 Santander Business Bond - maturity  
Pending due to traffic calming measures.
- 1544.3.3 MUGA Income £2.67 interest  
Noted by the Parish Council.
- 1544.3.4 Smith of Derby – annual visit query  
The Clerk said that Smith of Derby had not informed anyone of their annual visit so have cancelled the invoice raised for non admittance to the Church.
- 1544.3.5 External audit completion  
The Clerk said that the external audit has been completed. The only query raised by the Auditors:
- Information received from the smaller authority indicates £452 of unpaid cheques and refunds have been included as income in Section 2, Box 3. These items should have been netted off from the relevant expenditure rather than shown as income. Box 3 for the current year should therefore read £7,831, with a corresponding total reduction of £452 in Boxes 4 or 6 depending on the nature of the original payments

The completion notice has been put on the website.



1544.3.6 Precept – second half £16,615.00 received  
Noted by the Parish Council.

1544.3.7 Budget and precept – 2020/21  
A finance meeting to be held in December.

#### 1545 **Public Participation**

A resident said they are concerned about parking around the school. The school are being proactive but more action is needed, particularly from the Police. The Chairman said that he will continue to liaise with the school and agreed that photographic evidence would be a good idea for repeat offenders.

Cllr Wight said that a Parish Councillor from Wingrave is asking if any Cllrs would like to add their names to a letter to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner concerning 20mph speed limits and asking for a meeting to discuss it. She asked that Cllrs contact her know via the WhatsApp group or contact Wingrave Parish Council directly.

#### 1546 **Planning:**

##### 1546.1 Planning Applications

1546.1.1 19/03274/APP – Alders Farm Trout Fishery, Ivy Lane – two storey rear and side extensions to office, annex and additional residential accommodation with parking and associated works. The Parish Council support the application.

1546.1.2 19/03276/APP – Alders Farm Trout Fishery, Ivy Lane – extension of existing café/Fisherman's club and other associated work. The Parish Council support the application.

1546.1.3 19/03275/APP – Alders Farm Trout Fishery, Ivy Lane – conversion of existing building to form shower block and self catering accommodation. The Parish Council support the application.

1546.1.4 19/03350/APP – Parish Hall, Rotten Row – single storey side extension to provide ancillary storage facilities together with improvements to sanitary accommodations. The Parish Council support the application.

##### 1546.2 Decisions:

1546.2.1 19/01290/APP – Lower Rectory Farm, Church Lane – erection of steel framed building to provide 450m<sup>2</sup> of mixed B1 and B2 use for an established business. Approved.

##### 1546.3 Other Planning Matters

1546.3.1 Planning Responsibility – Oct/Nov  
Cllr Wight to review planning applications received.

#### 1547 **Review of Projects**

##### 1547.1 Traffic Calming Measures

The Chairman said that TfB have now produced a PID for implementation stage and are currently going through their checking and approving procedure, which should be received shortly to be signed and returned. Adjustment to the purchase order will be required to reflect the cost of the immediate stage. The PID will be for traffic calming works only to avoid delays and would not include the virtual footway works on Lower Way. They are also investigating carriageway defects and preparing the Road Safety Audit response for the virtual footway section. A separate PID will be issued for these works in due course.



1548 **Village Improvements Committee**

The Chairman reported that the area around the Three Trees has been tidied up. There are some gulleys that need clearing out. The entrance to the graveyard is overgrown. Quotes of £450 and £460 have been obtained to reduce the height of the hedge and remove and treat the elderberry bushes within the hedge. To be discussed at the next meeting. The Clerk to add to the next agenda. **(Action Clerk)**

1549 **Village Matters:**

1549.1 Unregistered land in Great Brickhill  
Nothing to report.

1549.2 Public footpaths – progress (Pochards Lake to Cuff Lane)  
Kathryn Leyland has offered to pass her progress documents on to the Parish Council.

1549.3 Spinney (trees/bank)  
The Chairman said that the Spinney has been left very untidy after the work to fell the trees. The felled trees have not been used to reinstate the bank as proposed. Several saplings planted last winter are under a pile of debris.

Resident, Michael Turner reported that the original plan was to incorporate some of the felled trees into the bank but the Contractor had some reservations as the trees would cause rot and cause subsidence. The bank would be more stable without timber in it. The Cricket Club will buy some new saplings to replace the ones destroyed but the Parish Council should bear in mind that the area is very dry. The saplings will be planted in the middle area of the Spinney which is the best location and will be watered regularly to give them a chance of survival. He thanked Cllr Kettle for his help with the project. Mr Turner requested a small bonfire on 5<sup>th</sup> November to use up the wood. The Parish Council agreed to the request.

1549.4 School Bus/parking on Green End  
See public participation.

1549.5 War Memorial – steps breaking up  
Resident, Julia Turner has approached William Beange who has agreed to do some reinstatement work on the wall

1549.6 Allotment rubbish  
Nothing to report.

1549.7 Speedwatch  
The Chairman said that this is still ongoing.

1549.8 Devolved Services  
The Clerk said that she wrote to Bucks CC confirming that the amount of grass maintained is actually 600m<sup>2</sup> and requesting that the land is transferred to the ownership of the Village. No reply has yet been received.

1550 **Play Areas**

Nothing to report.

1551 **Matters for the newsletter**

Log Cabin – details, Village Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10am

1552 **Date of next meeting – Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30pm**

1553 **The meeting closed at 9.40pm**