

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at the Pavilion, Deep Spinney, Biddenham

Present: Peter Chase, Graham Bates, Chris Gee, Jon Gambold, Alan Jacobs, Krzys Osuch, Terry Platt, Francia Slade, Borough Cllr Rigby and the Clerk were in attendance. In addition there were 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Warren – **it was resolved** to accept the apologies.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 15th March 2017

It was resolved to approve the minutes

Clerk

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

None

There were no other matters not covered elsewhere within the agenda.

5. Public Open Session (15 mins)

It was reported that the bench at the war memorial needs refurbishment. *The clerk advised that Chris Sawyer had already been asked to undertake this work.*

Has the PC had any response regarding damage to the verges on Day's Lane? *Bidwells have confirmed that work will be carried out to repair the verges once the building work has been completed.*

Did the parish council receive confirmation from Bedford Borough Council that there would be no weed killing on the grass verges during this financial year? *The clerk had received an email delivery receipt but not had a formal response from the Borough and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Brian Hayward for a formal response.*

Clerk

The house on the corner of Church End is up for sale but there is no mention of the small development in the garden. *It was reported that the house was on the market at the request of the lender but that the small development could not be sold separately.*

Why is the paddock behind Mr Henry's property in the parish of Great Denham and not Biddenham? *The boundary line has been in place since the parish of Great Denham was created and there are no plans to alter this.*

It was reported that there had been increase in the number of burglaries taking place in Biddenham - is there anything we can put in place to deter them? *Bedfordshire Police have visited the village advising residents how to improve home security. We all need to be more vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour to the police. Homes with alarms have not been targeted. It was resolved* to publish a note on the website via links to advice from Bedfordshire Police.

Joe
Warren

Speeding on Biddenham Turn has increased again recently particularly at the weekends. *Cllr Chase and Borough Cllrs Rigby and Gambold will be meeting with Mr Prigmore at Beds BC to discuss a variety of highway issues and will raise this matter.*

6. Planning – to note the report and comment on any new applications

Members considered the application for a gypsy and traveller site on the old nursery site on Bromham Road. This was a reapplication but for one less pitch. **It was resolved** to endorse the objection from Bromham PC and to object to the application.

Clerk

The report was noted and there were no other comments on the remaining applications.

7. Financial Matters

(i) Accounts for approval – **it was resolved** to approve the accounts for payment:

BACS	Payee	£	Description
BACS	BATPC	476.00	Affiliation fees
BACS	AMF Services Ltd	1713.03	Work on Ransoms 213 roller
BACS	Green thumb	55.00	Lawn treatment for village green
BACS	Kirkby Diamond	921.60	Re-valuation fee for Pavilion
	TOTAL	3165.63	

(ii) To note the spend against budget – the report was noted

It was resolved to move CiL Funds out from general undesignated reserves into designated reserves held in the Money Manager account.

Clerk

(iii) To note the re-valuation cost of the Pavilion

The report was agreed. Members asked if it included the boilers and the kitchen equipment. The report states that permanent fixed items including the boilers and kitchen fittings were included.

Members noted that there were no pictures of the changing rooms or plant room. Can we request that these are added to the document as this will form part of our evidence should we ever need to file a claim for the Pavilion.

Clerk

The new valuation will affect the insurance premium and the clerk would need to inform the insurance brokers.

Clerk

8. Matters in Progress

Flooding on footpath – the clerk had a site visit booked with DJT surfacing.

Traffic calming on Gold Lane – Cllr Chase, Gambold to visit the Borough Highways department on Tuesday 18 April traffic calming, speed, lights at Biddenham Turn and the roundabout feature. Cllr Bates asked if permission for the wooden posts could also be discussed during the Highways visit including re-installing the post that has been knocked over on Biddenham Turn.

Clerk

Coffin Path – It was reported that the field would not be ploughed again until November and Bidwells were not sure whether they will be instructed to plant another crop.

War memorial – Gary Creek has been instructed to carry out this work.

Lavender Lodge – Cllr Chase had met with the owners of Lavender Lodge who were agreeable to undertaking work to the trees providing permission could be obtained from the Borough. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would complete an application for works to the trees but that the owner of the property would arrange and pay for any work required.

Clerk

Shrubbery on Wingfield land – It was reported that Bidwells had agreed to include this area in this year’s grounds maintenance schedule.

9. **Parish Concerns**

Bus Stop kerbs opposite wooden bus shelter overgrown - ask Chris Horne
Old Vicarage – old Yew Trees have been cut down – Write to Borough to ask for TPOS for these trees
New development – sports facility who will this be run by? *This will be run by the developers and not the Borough.*

Clerk

98 Bromham Road – Cllr Osuch had received correspondence regarding the lighting and the fencing at the front of the property. He asked members of the council to consider the correspondence which outlined the following areas of concern:

The property at the front has been extended and is now encroaching onto Borough land.
People are living in the outbuilding

The outside lights surrounding the property are intrusive and distracting to motorists.

It was resolved to pass the correspondence to the planning sub-committee for consideration who would instruct the Clerk how to proceed.

Planning sub-committee & Clerk

10. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th May.
The Annual Parish Meeting would take place first starting at 7pm and this would be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

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Approved by Chairman 10 May 2017