

# BIDDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of BIDDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm in Biddenham Pavilion.

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs Stewart Briggs (Chairman), Karen Cotton, Peter Chase, Harry Fowler, Krzys Osuch, Aaron Melvin.

**In attendance:** Borough Cllr Jon Gambold, David Brough (Clerk)

**Not present:** Borough Cllr Roger Rigby (Away).

1 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Francia Slade (Unwell), Chris Gee (Away).

2 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** Cllr Fowler declared a personal interest in planning application 23/00779/FUL as a friend of the applicant; Cllr Fowler did not speak or vote during this item.

3 **To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting** held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023.  
**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting as an accurate record.

### 4 **Public Open Session**

Members of the public addressed the council in relation to the Annual Parish meeting – see the minutes of that meeting for details.

### 5 **Correspondence (new items relating to the parish council for attention):**

- No new items for attention.

### 6 **Clerk's report on matters in progress**

Key items from the Action Tracker:

- Gold Lane/Duck End Lane parking restrictions proposal was expected from BBC Highways by the end of March, but was not received. Clerk to chase.
- Gold Lane SID: BBC Highways have installed the column and the sign is now in place.
- Tennis Club CIL request: Cllr Fowler and Clerk are to approach the Tennis Club to discuss the implementation of a lease agreement (peppercorn rent) to regularise the arrangement of the club using parish council land; the expectation is that £30k of CIL funding could then be released for the court resurfacing and fence repairs. This will set out future maintenance responsibilities and assist with insurance implications for both the club and the council.
- Playground refurbishment: Clerk has met two playground contractors to obtain quotes and a third is planned.
- Pavilion Solar Panels: Clerk will need to coordinate roof repairs prior to the panels (agreed last month), and also seek council approval for the lighting upgrades to include it within the grant request to the BBC Climate Change fund. Clerk will also apply to the BBC Rural Grant fund.

### 7 **Highways & Open Spaces**

*To consider the annual grass cutting quote from Chris Horne Gardens Ltd.*

**Resolved** to approve the quote from Chris Horne Gardens Ltd for the coming year.

### 8 **King's Coronation**

*Proposal from Cllr Fowler: To consider whether to make arrangements for marking the King's Coronation on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023.*

**Resolved** to approve up to £250 of spend on a Coronation banner to be displayed on the front of the Pavilion.

### 9 **Borough Councillors' Report**

Report circulated to councillors and placed on the parish council website.

10 **Financial Matters**

**Resolved** to approve the payments in the appendix – receipts were noted.

11 **Planning applications**

- To consider the following planning applications and any received between the date of issuing the agenda and the meeting:

The following planning applications were acknowledged without comment or objection unless noted otherwise:

APPLICATION NO: 23/00659/FUL Full Planning Application, 23/00660/LBC Listed Building Consent Application

PROPOSAL: Dismantle external brick chimney by hand and rebuild higher, together with associated specialist repair work to timber frame and daubing, including external decoration.

LOCATION : 35 Main Road Biddenham Bedford Bedfordshire MK40 4BD

APPLICATION NO: 23/00746/FUL Full Planning Application

PROPOSAL: Erection of a single-storey rear/side extension.

LOCATION : 58 Watercress Rise Biddenham Bedford Bedfordshire MK40 4US

APPLICATION NO: 23/00779/FUL Full Planning Application

PROPOSAL: Minor elevational changes and replacement of all doors and windows.

LOCATION : Hidden Land Barn 32 Main Road Biddenham Bedford Bedfordshire MK40 4BD

12 **Local Elections – 4th May 2023**

It was noted that election for parish councillors was uncontested for Biddenham Parish. The following councillors are therefore elected: Stewart Briggs, Peter Chase, Harry Fowler, Chris Gee, Francia Slade.

13 **Business for future agendas (No actions can be taken on items not on the agenda)**

None.

14 **Date of next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Annual Parish Council meeting – Biddenham Pavilion**

**BPC - Payments Apr 2023**

Date Paid	Category	Payee/Payer	Desc	Receipts	Payments Gross	VAT
17/03/2023	Pavilion Hire fees	March		£ 723.50		
20/03/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (OPUS ENERGY LTD)	Electrics		£ 137.80	
23/03/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (ANGLIAN WATER BUSI)			£ 31.00	
24/03/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (BT GROUP PLC)	Broadband		£ 53.94	
31/03/2023	Pavilion Car Parking charge	CIRCLE HEALTH GRP		£ 500.00		
31/03/2023	General Administration	Unity Trust	Bank charges		£ 18.00	
03/04/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (E.ON NEXT)	Electrics Green		£ 10.90	
03/04/2023	Pavilion Other	Direct Debit (BEDFORD BOR COUNCI)	Bin emptying		£ 130.16	
13/04/2023	Pavilion Hire fees	April		£ 1,596.75		
14/03/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (DYCE ENERGY)	Pavilion Gas		£ 525.28	
15/03/2023	Biddenham Conservation Group tools	BCG	Grant for insurance		£ 204.24	
24/03/2023	Staff Costs	Multiple			£ 2,622.54	
31/03/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (BRITISH GAS)	Pavilion Electrics		£ 265.56	
31/03/2023	General Administration	Unity Trust	Bank charges		£ 18.00	
03/04/2023	Lawn Treatment (Greenthumb)	Greenthumb	Monthly - Village Green		£ 25.17	
03/04/2023	SSSI (Beds Wildlife Trust)	BWT	Annual maintenance fee & tree works		£ 1,380.00	£ 230.00
03/04/2023	Payroll	Red Shoes	Quarterly Payroll		£ 126.00	£ 21.00
03/04/2023	Minor Highways works	C Carpenter	Bromham Road hedge		£ 136.80	
03/04/2023	Deposits returned	Multiple			£ 375.00	
03/04/2023	Biddenham Conservation Group tools	WHITES ES	Grant for BCV Tools		£ 499.38	
13/04/2023	Precept Income	Bedford BC	Precept - 1st half	£ 28,046.00		
13/04/2023	Pavilion Utilities	Direct Debit (DYCE ENERGY)	Pavilion Gas		£ 698.55	
Not yet paid	Affiliation Fees/Subscriptions	BATPC			£ 642.00	
Not yet paid	Grass Equipment Maintenance	AMF	Annual Ransomes mower service		£ 642.63	£ 107.10
Not yet paid	General Administration	D BROUGH			£ 64.99	
Not yet paid	Pavilion Maintenance/Servicing/Inspections	K HORTON	Pavilion descale		£ 105.00	
Not yet paid	Trees For Streets	Trees for Cities	2 extra trees for Biddenham		£ 600.00	