



Bulkington Parish Council  
Wiltshire

*APull*  
15/6/22

**Minutes of the Bulkington Parish Council Meeting**

**Held on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 at 7.30pm at the Bulkington Village Hall**

Attendees: Amy Powell (Chair), Alex Breach, Alison Howard-Evans, Julie Anderson-Hill, Carla Haslam (via phone)

AGENDA ITEM	AGREED ACTION												
<b>1.) Apologies for absence:</b> Andrew Grabham, Simon Downey													
<b>2.) To Record:</b> No changes to the Register of Interests received No declaration of Interest in agenda items received													
<b>3.) To Receive a report</b> from PCSO Janet and Tamara Reay:  PCSO Janet: There were no Crime Reports between 14.04.22 – 15.05.22.  Councillor Tamara Reay spoke to the councillors about Wiltshire Council updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Solar Together Wiltshire: Wiltshire Council are working with independent experts iChoosr and Swindon Borough Council to give homeowners the opportunity to invest in renewables through a group-buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage. This is a group-buying scheme which will offer solar panels with optional battery storage and EV charge points, as well as offering battery storage for residents who have already invested in solar panels and are looking to get more from the renewable energy they generate, as well as increase their independence from the grid. Given the current cost of living, significantly impacted by the surge in energy prices, we feel this scheme will be worth consideration from eligible households and help provide longer term savings. It is free to register and there is no obligation for people to go ahead with an installation. The deadline for registering interest is the 14<sup>th</sup> of June. All residents living in the Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council areas who own their own house (or have permission from the landlord to install a solar PV system) can register for the Solar Together group-buying scheme. Small and medium-sized enterprises (nondomestic) and community buildings meeting this requirement can participate as well.</li><li>- The next Devizes Area Board is the 20<sup>th</sup> of June</li><li>- A Webinar was held on Monday night by Wilts Council giving updates on the support offered to families coming over from the Ukraine. This can still be accessed by any residents wishing for more information.</li></ul>	Clerk to post solar news on FB, website and send round councillors. Clerk to find social media release from Wiltshire Council  Julie to look into registering the Village Hall for Solar Panels  Clerk to circulate Ukraine update around villagers via Website and FB.												
<b>4.) Open Forum:</b> None present													
<b>5.) Local Planning Updates:</b> no new planning known													
<b>6.) Minute Approval:</b> The Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting were approved as a true record													
<b>7.) Finance - The below outgoings were approved:</b> <table><tr><td>Clerk Pay March</td><td>£221.60</td></tr><tr><td>Print of Jubilee leaflets</td><td>£23.81</td></tr><tr><td>Bunting</td><td>£139.90</td></tr><tr><td>Grass Cutting</td><td>£168.00</td></tr><tr><td>WALC Annual Subscription 2022/2023</td><td>£110.46</td></tr><tr><td>Community First Insurance</td><td>£280.43</td></tr></table>	Clerk Pay March	£221.60	Print of Jubilee leaflets	£23.81	Bunting	£139.90	Grass Cutting	£168.00	WALC Annual Subscription 2022/2023	£110.46	Community First Insurance	£280.43	Clerk to update the VAT spreadsheet and begin Agar. Clerk to print out annual financial report in large for village noticeboard
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<p>8.) <b>Grant access:</b> Councillor Tamara Reay reported that the Devizes Area Board will no longer be receiving applications from Parish Councils – only through separate bodies. There is the opportunity for the Rec Ground to apply for funding to improve accessibility and to match the funding using some of the existing money in the account before it is spent on more maintenance. Tamara also talked about the 'Bucket Health and Wellbeing Fund' – there is the opportunity to argue that improved accessibility would enabling people to access green spaces and social interaction.</p>	<p>Clerk to reach out to Andrew Jack for more information in pursuing this funding</p>
<p>9.) <b>Recreational Ground:</b>  Football Goals: The new Goal posts have arrived and are ready for installation</p> <p>New equipment from Seend: The Bulkington Parish Council team would like to thank Seend Parish Council for the donation and delivery of tunnel shaped playground item for the Bulkington Rec Ground. The equipment will be enjoyed and used.</p> <p>Bridge pole maintenance: The poles for the bridge are ready for installation</p> <p>Funding: Rec ground funds currently stand at £12,84 with an additional £4k that is being held in the Parish Council accounts until a proposition for spending is approved.</p> <p>Grass cutting: The cut grass on the Rec Ground is currently too thick and blocking the light from the growing grass – Alex agreed to request that this is cleared and re-cut pre Jubilee</p> <p>Alex offered to lend the village some rubber matting to temporarily make the Rec Ground accessible for the Jubilee event. In the long term, plans are in place to make this area accessible but they won't be complete by the jubilee event.</p> <p>Sensory Garden: The area near the phone box is looking sad and over grown – councillors discussed options for making this area look neat for the Jubilee event</p>	<p>Andrew and Julie to talk to Kevin about goal installation and location</p> <p>Tunnel Equipment to be bolted down with 4 bolt points, which could be a length of railway sleeper or similar timber set into the ground</p> <p>Andrew and Alex to erect Bridge Posts pre Jubilee</p> <p>Secret garden area to be tidied up pre jubilee</p> <p>Hannah to talk to Bulkington in Bloom</p> <p>Andrew to draw out map of Rec Ground highlighting areas to be trimmed by hand</p> <p>Alex to request grass collection and cut pre jubilee</p> <p>Amy and Carla to meet separately to discuss Rec Ground plans</p>
<p>10.) <b>Parish Steward:</b>  The Parish Steward last visited on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, our Clerk is still chasing for the May and future dates. Councillors requested that the Steward addresses the weeds on the general curbside along the Highstreet and the sprawling soil area opposite the pub</p>	<p>Clerk to chase and if necessary escalate to Adrian Hampton or Parvis Khansari, clerk to mention Best Kept Village entry and Jubilee.</p> <p>Clerk to chase the clearing of Drains</p>
<p>11.) <b>Jubilee:</b> Bulkington will be holding a Big Jubilee Picnic on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June in the Bulkington Rec Ground from Noon - Councillors have door dropped leaflets inviting villagers.</p>	<p>Bunting to be put up</p> <p>Clerk to organize ball games</p> <p>Alex to organize bouncy castle</p> <p>Amy to source wellies for wanging</p>





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<b>12.)Improving local Accessibility in Bulkington:</b> Councillors are working hard on plans for the improvement of accessibility in the village and finding further funds to support this	
<b>13.)Best Kept Village Competition:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Judging for the first (District) round will take place from 14th May to 12th June.</li><li>• Judging for the second (County) round and for the Laurence Kitching Award will take place in July</li><li>• Some properties have flagged that they are struggling to clear the front of their house in time for the competition – volunteers agreed to help support those less able</li></ul>	Clerk to contact Bulkington in Bloom curbside clearing to be added to stewards list
<b>14.)Internet access in the village hall:</b> Councillors have investigated the installation of internet, dongles and MiFi – and concluded that due to poor Wifi signal, this agenda item will be shelved for now until the introduction of 5G in the village hopefully later this year. It is hoped that 5G will mean that people's mobiles will get enough signal without any further installations or investment in the village hall.	
<b>)Newsletter:</b> The next Newsletter will be the Autumn newsletter, an update on the year is covered in the Chairperson's report from the Parish Council Annual meeting. Councillors discussed the best way to get information and Newsletter contents to villagers other than via the website and Facebook and talked about the option of using MailChimp or similar for emails update on content for the next edition:	Julie speak to Phil about circulating newsletter etc. Alison to explore avenues of getting more people informed about Parish Council meetings/ news etc. possibly including mail chimp
<b>NEXT MEETING: 15<sup>th</sup> of June</b>	
The Parish Council team meet on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm	