



Bulkington Parish Council

Wiltshire

Monthly Parish Meeting – Draft Minutes

PENDING OFFICIAL APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING

Held Wednesday the 15th of March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Bulkington Village Hall.

Councillors: Amy Powell (Chair), Alex Breach, Alison Howard-Evans and Julie Anderson-Hill

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p>Apologies for absence: Andrew Grabham, Carla Haslam and Tamara Reay gave their apologies, their apologies were accepted in the meeting.</p> <p>Carla Haslam's temporary absence at PC meetings, due to childcare commitments, were accepted and councillors are grateful for all Carla's hard work on the Rec Committee and the monthly reports for meetings.</p>	
2	<p>To Record:</p> <p>No changes to the Register of Interests received</p> <p>No declaration of Interest in Agenda Items received</p> <p>To Receive a report from Tamara Reay</p> <p>Tamara gave her apologies for the meeting and sent her report to the councillors. The report was distributed and discussed.</p> <p>Tamara's Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Ask The Leader" event - will take place at Devizes Library on Tuesday 28 March, from 6pm to 7.30pm. Residents will be able to meet Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, share their concerns about local issues and ask questions on a wide variety of council services and projects.• Council Tax online - Wiltshire Council is launching a new, updated portal to enable residents to manage their council tax online and go paperless. The new portal will enable people to check their council tax account and make payments, view their bill, set up and amend a direct debit and notify the council of any changes. People can also opt out of receiving a paper bill through the post. To use this new facility, people need to visit <u>Managing your council tax online</u> and enter their tax reference number which can be found on their bill or bank statement if they pay by direct debit.• Wiltshire Council is supporting the local administration of national Government schemes that aim to help people who haven't yet received any automatic financial assistance from energy support schemes.• Most households get a £400 discount on their energy bills. However, in some cases, people do not get the discount automatically; for example, if they pay for energy through a landlord, housing manager or site owner, or live in a park home, houseboat or off the electricity grid. The Government's Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS AF) Alternative Funding is now in place to help these people. The EBSS AF is providing support of £400 for energy bills for households in England, Scotland, and Wales without a direct relationship to a domestic electricity supplier. The scheme is now open to all eligible households until 31 May 2023.• Anyone eligible for EBSS AF will need to fill out a short online form via the <u>www.gov.uk</u> website. The form can be found by searching "Apply for energy bill support if you do not get it automatically" into the search bar on <u>www.gov.uk</u> or an internet search engine. Applications are made directly to the Government, not to or via Wiltshire Council. For those who do not have online access, they can apply via a contact centre on 08081 753287 where a representative will guide them through the application process.	



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Wiltshire

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The EBSS AF is separate to the Alternative Fuels Payment (AFP) which is for people that use alternative fuels for heating. People should have received the £200 Alternative Fuels Payment (AFP) if both the following are true:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- their household is not connected to the mains gas grid- they use alternative fuels as their main form of heating- People are eligible for this payment if the main way they heat their home uses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- tank or bottled gas- liquid petroleum gas (LPG)- oil- wood- solid fuel• Most homes that are eligible for this payment should have received it in the last few weeks as a credit on their electricity bills. <p>Councillors discussed an expanding property in Keevil near the sewerage site</p>	Clerk to contact Keevil Clerk to find out more																				
4	<p>Local Police Report:</p> <p>The local police report for Melksham Rural South (Semington, Seend, Seend Cleeve, Great Hinton, Keevil, Bulkington, Steeple Ashton and Poulshot) reports that, for January, no offences outside of the normal average ranges occurred. The area saw 16 offences in total, most of which were one-off occurrences.</p> <p>Due to the recent burglary series, the area will remain on the Police priority list this month while the night time offendings are still being investigated.</p>																					
5	<p>Open Forum: No new matters raised by the community</p>																					
6	<p>Local Planning Updates</p> <table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response</td></tr><tr><td>Application No:</td><td>PL/2023/00927</td></tr><tr><td>Application Type:</td><td>Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)</td></tr><tr><td>Proposal:</td><td>Demolish modern ground floor rear lean-to and replace it with new lean-to addition. Replace rear first floor joinery.</td></tr><tr><td>Site Address:</td><td>Home Farm Cottage, 8 High Street, Bulkington, SN10 1SJ</td></tr></table> <p>No comments raised</p> <table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response</td></tr><tr><td>Application No:</td><td>PL/2023/01321</td></tr><tr><td>Application Type:</td><td>Removal/variation of conditions</td></tr><tr><td>Proposal:</td><td>Variation of condition 2 from application ref PL/2021/05910</td></tr><tr><td>Site Address:</td><td>Land adjacent to Ashatch Farm, Mill Lane, Bulkington, SN10 1SP</td></tr></table> <p>No comments raised</p>	Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response		Application No:	PL/2023/00927	Application Type:	Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)	Proposal:	Demolish modern ground floor rear lean-to and replace it with new lean-to addition. Replace rear first floor joinery.	Site Address:	Home Farm Cottage, 8 High Street, Bulkington, SN10 1SJ	Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response		Application No:	PL/2023/01321	Application Type:	Removal/variation of conditions	Proposal:	Variation of condition 2 from application ref PL/2021/05910	Site Address:	Land adjacent to Ashatch Farm, Mill Lane, Bulkington, SN10 1SP	
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7	<p>Minute Approval: Approval of the last Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting in February with minor adjustments made.</p>	Chair																				



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Wiltshire

8	<p>Finance:</p> <p>Clerk February £325</p> <p>Defib contribution to The Well 2023 £30</p> <p>Defib contribution to The Well 2022 £30</p> <p>Contribution to electricity used by Defib for The Well to be paid very March going forward</p> <p>Total approved in meeting: £385</p> <p>Total in account: £ 9,308.35</p>	Clerk to make a note to pay for the Defib Contribution every March.
9	<p>Newsletter: Councillors discussed the next Newsletter and agreed that all working files will be sent to the Clerk to complete so that the finished Newsletter can be included in the submission for Best Kept Village as this fulfills some of the judging criteria. The submission deadline is the 21st of April. It was agreed that the newsletter will mention Council tax online from Tamara's report along with a reminder about the upcoming Coronation event in May. It was also agreed to include a plea to villagers not to park blocking pavements as this really affects pedestrian access.</p>	Amy to send draft version to Amy and Julie
10	<p>Recreational Ground:</p> <p>Carla sent Councillors an update on progress made by the Rec Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Oak Blokes are booked to begin work on the Bulkington Recreation Ground in the week commencing 26th of June 2023. The works will cost £7500. 00 and will include: To install Pathway from existing gate to new Pergola area (approximately where the little white springy horse currently is) To install Hard standing area, using same material as pathway, underneath Pergola Removal of existing timber play apparatus including swing and make good any holes. The play apparatus being removed has not passed the ROSPA tests for some time and are no longer considered safe to use. Installation of new pergola Please note that the Rec Ground will need to be closed for the duration of the works to keep children safe. The Rec Committee have submitted an Area Board Grant application for £3K to replace some of the equipment being removed in the June works. If the application is successful; the £3k will be added to the existing 2.5l the rec committee have in the account and will be used for replacing the removed apparatus with new, safe equipment. Thew current quote for this is £6k so £500 will need to be raised. Any volunteers for fundraising please contact Carla Haslam or our Clerk Hannah with and ideas. The replacement works will only be able to be completed once the funding has been secured and money raised. Both the Oak Bloke works and the equipment replacement works mentioned above will be funded through Rec Ground funds and grants. Councillors discussed changing the gate latch to the Rec Ground to allow access for mobility scooters and wheelchairs As agreed in September 2022, a new grass cutting contract with Mark Goddard & Sons Landscaping will be signed this month for the maintenance of the grass on the Rec Ground, the bus shelter and the war memorial. The contract is to start March 2023. The contract includes 12-14 cuts over the summer cutting season. £228 per month to cut all the playing field grass, the bus shelter and the war memorial area. <p>It was agreed to include the War Memorial grass area and behind the bus shelter in the scope of work despite this in theory being covered by Wiltshire Council's contract with IdeVerde. Due to past unreliable service, the Parish Council has decided to outsource these areas to ensure consistency and quality.</p>	<p>Clerk to create notice of upcoming works for display in bus shelter, website, Facebook, the newsletter and on a sign in the Rec Ground.</p> <p>Clerk to consult with Maureen</p> <p>Clerk to sign contract with Mark</p>
11	<p>Parish Steward: Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visit.</p>	Clerk to chase meeting about grass verges and contact steward. Clerk to advise Steward of Best Kept village dates



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Wiltshire

12	LHFIG requests: Bulkington currently has 3 Village requests for dropped curbs and white road markings submitted to the LHFIG group, we are awaiting an update in the next LHFIG meeting on the 14 th of April.	Clerk to keep chasing
13	Coronation Picnic: The Coronation of HM King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6 th May, with Monday 8 th being declared a holiday. It was decided that the village event will take place on the 13 th of May – between noon and 4pm. Villagers are invited to attend bringing picnic, blankets, flags, bunting etc. Team games like tug of war, rounders, three legged race and so on will be played throughout the afternoon. This event will no longer be a ticketed event.	
14	Best Kept Village Competition: The next year of this competition is coming up, the entry deadline is 21 st April. Councillors agreed that Bulkington will be entering again; judging for the first (District) round will take place from 15 th May to 13 th June.	Clerk to submit entry once the Newsletter is complete. Julie to send village report to Clerk
15	Recruitment: We are currently recruiting for one Councillor to join the team, if you would like to put yourself forward, please email our Clerk Hannah.	
16	Bus shelter Bike Rack: Councillors agreed on the style of wall rack – the Clerk volunteered to order the rack and install it.	Clerk to purchase and install wall rack
17	War memorial amend: Clerk to give update. Just repointed, original plaque.	
18	AOB: parking on paths	Clerk to include in Newsletter
NEXT MEETING: 19th of April 2023 at 7.30pm		