



Bulkington Parish Council
Wiltshire

Vice Chair
Andrew Grabham

Monthly Parish Meeting – DRAFT Minutes

Councillors met for the Annual Parish Meeting on

Wednesday the 18th of October 2023 at 7.30pm at the Bulkington Village Hall

Present: Philip Oakey (Chair), Alison Howard Evans, Julie Anderson-Hill, Andrew Grabham, Carla Haslam

Tamara Reay

2 members of the village: Tim Taylor and Steve Kerslake

Ref	Agenda Item	Action				
1	Apologies for absence: Alex Breach					
2	To Record: No changes to the Register of Interests were made No interest in Agenda Items was declared					
3	Tamara Reay welcomed questions from the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A member of the village raised that there have been an increase in power cuts recently and asked Tamara to investigate * Tamara has since received communication from SSE: "The area is provided by two different circuits and on investigation we noticed that one of the circuits had a large amount of Auto-Recloses. As a result, we replaced the Pole-Mounted Transformer on the 10th October as the low-voltage connections on the back were rubbing through on each other. I know it triggered on the 12th but (possibly a settling issue) but I think it has been ok since then."*- Councillors questioned the lack of mention of self builds in the Local plan. The Consultation is on till 22nd of November- Devizes Gateway – councillors raised that Devizes Gateway is not on the map as a potential station. *Tamara has since checked and Devizes Gateway is included in Policy 75*.- Tim Taylor reported that he has been pursuing pub signage for 9 months to get brown road signs installed in 3 locations, with no progress. (Worton road sign facing each way, top of Seend Hill and the strand on the Bulkington junction) Tim agreed to send Tamara the latest correspondence so Tamara can see if she can help.- Councillors and villagers questioned what portion of the contract for Stewards is covered by Wiltshire council costs and raised their concerns over the wrapping of Stewards vehicles from white to yellow for just 12 months.	<p>Tamara to investigate</p> <p>Alex to drop Tamara update on planning</p> <p>Clerk to email Tamara's email address to Tim</p>				
4	Local Police Report: Latest report not published yet					
5	Open Forum: Tim Taylor raised that the Defib was used at the weekend and the batteries are low, with pads needing replacement. Philip agreed to investigate the following day and arrange replacements where necessary and ensure the Defib is ready for safe use should it be needed. Villagers questioned timings for a swing and the spend of funds raised for the Rec Ground before the last Rec Committee was dissolved .	Clerk to investigate costs carried over from previous Rec Committee to PC (3k?)				
6	Local Planning Updates: No concerns raised <table><tr><td>Application No:</td><td>PL/2023/07101</td></tr><tr><td>Application Type:</td><td>Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)</td></tr></table>	Application No:	PL/2023/07101	Application Type:	Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)	
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7	Minute Approval: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting in September were approved as a true record																	
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9	Councillor Roles and Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emergency Team – Alison and Andrew- Planning - Alison- Newsletter - Julie- War Memorial - Carla- Playing Field - Carla- Defibrillator - Philip- Website – Sue has kindly offered to help but would like villagers to help contribute material to put on there.- Village Hall liaison - Alison- LHFIF – Philip- Footpaths and byways - Alex- Finance and contracts including bins – Andrew and Philip- Parish Steward – Clerk plus all- Trees – Cala on park land with Eden’s support- Best Kept Village - Julie- IT - Andrew- Insurance – Philip- Grass Cutting – Carla	<p>Hannah ask Clerk group re-emails and doc storage</p> <p>Andrew to look into new email host and online storage for documents</p> <p>Julie to request information from Eden to put in newsletter on tree planting opportunities</p>																
10	Recreational Ground: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ROSPA inspection took place last month the report is now delivered. There were red alerts on the zip wire.• The new play house and trim trail have now been ordered. The company have now requested welfare facilities and a skip – this is being contested.• Proposals for a new swing: 3 quotes between £4700 and £6000 plus vat have been received. Steve Kerslake kindly offered to donate £1000 towards a new swing on the proviso that the order is placed before the end of 2023.• Pathway – The Oakblokes will be returning to re-compact the gravel pathway.	<p>Rec Team to work through red flags and determine what work is necessary for repairs</p> <p>Carla to send dimensions of pathway to Philip</p>																



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass Cutting: Grass is cut every 2 to 3 weeks and is strimmed every time. Work dates will be included in Invoices. The Rec Committee have been pushing on with the Tree proposal – visuals expected 	
11	Parish Steward: Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visit. The last scheduled visit took place on the 9 th of October.	Clerk to chase the clearing of weeds in pavements on the curbside, emailing Northern Highways as Matt has moved on.
12	Recruitment: Our Clerk Hannah has handed in her notice and will be leaving us at the end of the Year. We are looking to fill this position, please get in touch if you would like more information. We are also recruiting for one Councillor to join the team, if you would like to put yourself forward, please email our Clerk.	
13	Tree Planting: In our July meeting, Eden Speller presented some proposals from the Woodland Creation Funding. Discussion and next steps on the below proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition/lease of WC land in Mill Lane (that was earmarked for development) Planting of verge/hedgerow trees to create a 'gateway avenue' into the village Planting of 'parkland trees' in the Rec (can be incorporated in hedge-line and appropriate locations in field so not to reduce/impact upon the amenity) Councillors agreed the need for village support and buy in before planning goes ahead with most of these options. Carla will be leading the "Parkland Trees" option. 	
14	Emergency Team updates: The Salt bin and other winter supplies need checking before going into Winter.	Andrew to check and report back
15	War Memorial and Remembrance day: Andrew to lay wreath as PC Vice Chair. Fence posts: 3 of the fence posts surrounding the war memorial have rotted and can no longer stand strong or straight. Quotes have been obtained and specialists consulted for the repair or replacement. The posts are octagonal and have been soaked in creosote, a type of wood preservative that can cause some severe skin reactions in humans. They have also been installed upside down, with a sharp tip pointing upwards which would now be regarded less safe than a flat or rounded tip. Creosote is a restricted use pesticide that can only be used in outdoor settings where it does not come in contact with the general public. As the War Memorial is in a public space, where people touch the poles and school children wait for the bus opposite, councillors decided against replacing the poles with like for like replacement. Quotes for the replacement of 3 posts (leaving them mismatched) and quotes for the replacement for all posts were compared and all councillors present concluded unanimously that it was more cost effective to replace all at once and know that the space is safe, matching and smart ahead of Remembrance Day.	Clerk to ask Maureen about plans.
16	AOB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bulkington.org.uk website domain name registration has been updated There has been a hold up on the drop curbs that were planned for August 23 - the curbs cover a BT access point so contact has been made with BT to work on a solution. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Newsletter: Julie volunteered to draft the latest edition of the Newsletter, councillors discussed possible topics: Parish Steward, tree planting opportunity and a plea to not play with the rocks on the pathway.- Tim kindly volunteered to print village notifications for events etc. and deliver them alongside Spotlight. Spotlight gets delivered at the end of each month.	
	<p>Next meeting: 15th November 2023 at 7.30pm</p> <p>December meeting on 20th December to be brought forward to 13th to avoid pre-Christmas rush.</p>	