

Bierton with Broughton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18th November 2013

Present: Cllr. Robson in the chair, Cllr Miller, Cllr Batson, Cllr. Gilpin, Cllr Horne, Cllr Webber and the Clerk Mrs. Smith in attendance.

Parishioners present – 2

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Cotton, Cllr Vaughan, County Councillor Chapple

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Miller declared an interest in Planning Application 13/02282/APP as a resident of Rowsham Lane.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 21st October were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

4. Public Forum –

One of the parishioners informed the Parish Council that a number of drivers had been observed driving through red lights at the pedestrian crossing near the Jubilee Hall. The clerk was asked to inform the police of the situation.

Cllr Robson informed the council that himself and Cllr Miller had arranged to meet County Councillor Bill Chapple to discuss a number of issues including the roads and the bus service. The other councillors were asked to e-mail Cllr Robson with any matters that they would like to be discussed at this meeting.

5. Clerks Report – The Clerk's report was noted. The Parish Council decided not to agree to the request from Martin Tett to become affiliated to Bucks County Council opposition to HS2.

6. Planning Applications

a) **13/03043/APP** - 10 Parsons Lane Bierton HP22 5DF- Single storey front extension – **No Objections**

13/03123/ATC1 Pecks Farm Close Bierton HP22 5FJ Reduce height of one elm and one ash – **No Objections**

b) **13/01578/APP** – Land at Circus Fields, –Cllr Miller had been given new maps showing the boundary change that had moved the part of Circus Fields that had been within the parish into the Oakfield district of Aylesbury Town. There had been no other boundary changes to the parish apart from this.

c) **13/02282/APP** – The Paddocks Business Centre Cane End Lane – Bucks County Council have intervened in this application and asked that the highway and transport implications of the proposal are looked at in more detail and that more detail is given regarding the site access and parking layout. It was suggested that the proposal had not taken into account employee's cars. It had therefore been suggested that either the application was withdrawn and another one submitted that included all of Bucks County Council requirements, in which case the planning costs would be waived or alternatively the application as it stands would be refused.

d) **Examination into the Vale of Aylesbury Plan Strategy** – Cllr. Robson reported on the Pre Hearing meeting on the 25th October .The inspector outlined how the enquiry will be run and was

concerned about the number of days that may be involved due to the numerous organizations that had put in objections. It was felt that the Parish Council could not add anything useful to the enquiry that was specific to Bierton and therefore it was recommended that a watching brief be kept on the enquiry but that the parish Council did not actually take an active part in the proceedings.

e) **Changes to the scheme of Officer Delegated Powers** – It was agreed that Cllr Robson and Cllr Miller would respond by the 9th December.

7. Planning Determinations – None

8. RFO Report :

a) The following receipts and payments were approved :-

Credit

Mr & Mrs Beadle	Private Hire	110.00
Christine Haes	Short Mat Bowls - Sept	144.00
Bob Sargeant	Table Tennis - Sept	129.00
Lester Wellington	Regular Booking – Karate	189.00
Mrs J R Mitchell	Regular Booking – Quigong	189.00

Debit

Eon Energy	SC - Gas	68.01
Natwest	Bank Charges	24.67
Eon Energy	Street Lights - Electricity	192.34
Aylesbury Dial-A-Ride	Donation 2013/44 8c	50.00
Royal British Legion	Donation 2013/44 8d	100.00
Buckland Landscapes Ltd	Mowing Contract – Oct	184.80
Done & Dusted	SC Commercial Cleaning	290.00
Mrs M Smith	Clerk Salary & Expenses	674.57
Brian Small	Handyman	132.00
Eon Energy	Electricity – Bierton Pavilion	64.94

Cash in Hand after these receipts and payments:

	£
Natwest	37,519
	<u>37,519</u>
Reserved monies:	
Sports Centre and Recreation Ground	11,000
Promotion of Recreational Facilities	340
Traffic Calming Measures	4,220
Traffic Lights	1,000
Replacement of Concrete Light	1,000
Replacement of Fire Alarm panel	<u>1,000</u>
	18,560
Leaving unallocated	<u><u>18,959</u></u>

b) Insurance

The Parish Council has a Long Term Agreement (LTA) with Aviva Insurance through the brokers Came & Company until 30th November 2014 and the renewal premium under this agreement

would have been £ 2,282.71. However it was suggested that the Parish Council extended the LTA until 30th November 2016 for a 5% reduction in the premium to £ 2,168.57 for 2013/2014 and the knowledge that the premiums for the following two years will increase only slightly due to the property sums insured being index linked. The Parish Council agreed to this proposal and a cheque was drawn up and signed for £ 2,168.57 and the clerk was authorised to sign the new LTA.

c) Budget

The clerk had contacted the Public Works Loan Board regarding the possibility of paying off the loan. According to the figures on the 19th November the principal left to pay was £ 19,730.47. If the loan was paid off a premium of £ 4672.66 would be added for early payment leading to a total to be repaid of £ 24,764.63. This would lead to an overall saving of £1,679.17. The Parish Council agreed that this did not seem worthwhile and therefore would continue to pay off the loan in six monthly instalments until February 2023.

The council agreed that the budget for next year would be similar to that set for this year. The matter of increased storage for the Sports Centre was raised and this may be looked into in the future.

It was agreed that there would have to be an increase in the hire charges for the Sports Centre to cover increasing bills for utilities and maintenance. The Sports Centre Management Committee would arrange a meeting to discuss these increases and put forward their proposal at the January Parish Council meeting.

d) Precept

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from AVDC to say that the grant from the government could be reduced from £2,268.89 this year to £ 1,100 for 2014/15 although this figure was still not certain.

However the tax base had increased from 807.66 to 844.55.

In order to keep the income the same as 2013/14 that is £ 25,140, the precept would have to be approximately £ 24,000 meaning that a Band D council tax payer would pay £ 28.42 rather than the £ 28.17 for this year, an increase of 25p or about 0.8%.

If the Band D taxpayer were to pay the same as last year then the precept would have to be set at $£ 28.17 \times 844.55 = £ 23,791$

9. Documents

It was agreed to follow the policy of document retention that had been drawn up by the clerk and Cllr. Miller and a copy of this policy would be filed as an appendix to the Parish Council Standing orders.

10. Meeting Dates

The meeting dates were agreed for 2014, being the third Monday of the month apart from April when the meeting will be on the 14th due to Easter and August and December when there will not be a meeting.

11. Parish Councillor Vacancy

The clerk has placed notices on the noticeboards and there will also be an advert in the village diary asking for suitable candidates to contact the clerk with a view to filling the vacancy by co-option at the Parish Council meeting on the 20th January. The Co-option process will follow the same procedure as the last co-option in 2011.

12. Outside Organisations

Malcom Ash attended the AVALC AGM on the 2nd November at which John Bercow, the guest speaker gave an excellent speech on his role as speaker of the house. Mr Bercow also stated that the main vote on HS2 would be in the Spring of 2014.

A vote was carried at the AGM to increase the request for donations from £10 to £15. AVALC has 4 meetings a year with AVDC to discuss various issues and representatives on BMKALC who have regular meetings with Bucks County Council.

The Parish Council agreed to continue to support AVALC.

Cllr Robson attended the BMKALC AGM on the 8th November. This was a short meeting and not very well attended. It was suggested that the precept may in future be kept in line with the electoral roll rather than the council tax base.

13. NAG Meetings – No Update this month

14. Temporary Speed Indicating Device (TSID)

Cllr Gilpin asked the Parish Council for permission to purchase a set of straps to fix the sign to telegraph poles. It was resolved that the clerk could authorise expenditure of up to £ 70 at the request of Cllr Gilpin on these straps and also any other accessories that would be needed to move the sign to a different location

Cllr Gilpin then proceeded to give a presentation of data that had been collected by the TSID. It was obvious from the data that more cars speed then don't speed, most are slightly over the limit but quite a few were going over 40mph and some were going over 50 mph.

Cllr Gilpin has also been offered a radar box which will count traffic in both directions and will look into the feasibility of using this in Bierton.

15. Correspondence, Circulars & Consultations

Correspondence:

- a) **AVDC** – Letter giving advanced Notification of AVDC's Householder Extensions Local Development Order - Circulated
- b) **AVDC** – 2014-15 Parish Precept request from AVDC - noted
- c) **AVDC** – Invitation to participate in Music in Quiet Places 2014 – the clerk will pass this on to the church.
- d) **Bucks C.C.** – Questionnaire on Involvement of Young People – to be sent to Cllr Cotton.
- d) Letter introducing the **War Memorials Trust** - Circulated
- e) **AVDC** – e-mail re The Coppice Play Area – Open for Public Use - Noted
- f) E –mail from Chris Tyrell re vacancy for newsletter editor - noted
- g) E-Mail from Dogs Trust to promote free micro-chipping in the community – Clerk to forward the e-mail to the PTA re the school fete.
- h) **Department for Communities and Local Government** – Letter inviting Town and Parish Councils to submit proposals under the Sustainable Communities Act - circulated
- i) Buckinghamshire Healthcare – A Big Conversation events

Circulars:

- a) Clerks & Councils Direct – November 2013
- b) **BMKALC** – Matters Arising Autumn Edition
- c) Countryside Voice – Winter 2013
- d) **AVDC** – Community Safety Parish newsletter

16. Matters of report –

Cllr Batson reported that the installation of the traffic lights on the Tring Road were nearly completed and that the residents of Broughton were worried about the effect these lights would have on traffic along Broughton Lane once the road was again open. The clerk was asked to put this issue on the agenda for the January meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 20th January 2014 at 7.30 pm.