

Bierton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HELD ON Monday 18th November 2024 at 7.00pm at the Jubilee Hall, Bierton

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr M Grieves, Cllr S Feeney Cllr A Brierley, Cllr H Smith, the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson & 6 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr N Hyre, Cllr J Ward (BC)
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None
3. **MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - **COMMUNITY LIBRARY** – Clerk advised Wendover Community Board that project is on hold for the time being. Once the works are finished at the church, will then discuss the Community Library further. Cllr Cotton has also talked to the owner regarding having a defibrillator there.
 - **BUS SHELTER RENOVATION** – Quote obtained from Mark Bryant. **Cllr Cotton to arrange for Trustees and Nigel Hyre to look at in more detail.**
 - **WENDOVER COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING** – Cllr Feeney & Cllr Smith have offered to host the event.
 - **POP-UP-PUB** – This is planned for Saturday 21st December.
 - **CONTRACTORS** – The Clerk circulated the list of Contractors/Suppliers. **Clerk to add to the agenda for January 2025.**
4. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st October 2024 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the chair.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM**
 - A parishioner asked if we have a date for the safety audit for the traffic calming. Cllr Cotton advised that we do not yet have a date. They also asked about a weight restriction limit. Cllr Cotton and Cllr Brierley explained that it is not possible to have a weight restriction limit on an 'A' road. Once the roads on Kingsbrook are adopted by Buckinghamshire Council, the Aylesbury Road will be downgraded and we can apply for weight restriction limit at that time. Cllr Knowles raised that the temporary signs are currently held down with sandbags and will not last the winter months.
 - Another parishioner voiced his concerns regarding the traffic calming. It was suggested that we ask the Police to attend. **Cllr Cotton will contact the Police.**
 - Streetlights not working along Aylesbury Road were discussed. They have been reported on FixMyStreet. Cllr Brierley has been advised that it will take 20 days from the date of the report before streetlights are initially looked at.
 - Cllr Brierley reported that Old Forge Gardens is flooding again. **Clerk to report on FixMyStreet.**
6. **ELECTIONS – 1ST MAY 2025** – Information regarding the Elections was circulated to Councillors. Cllr Cotton explained how the Elections work.
7. **NOTICE OF VACANCY** – Cllr Cotton explained that the Vacancy has been advertised and that it is the Parish Council's decision as to whether they wish to co-opt . Cllr Cotton proposed that the Parish Council do not co-opt as the Elections are so close. A discussion took place and it was felt that co-option should go ahead if somebody applied with adequate skills set. Cllr Fisher suggested an induction process for new Councillors.
8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS –**
 - 24/02937/APP - 97 Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5BT Householder application for re-thatching of both sides and rear elevations and re-applying ridge detail – **No comments and no objections.**
 - 24/03290/ALB - 97 Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5BT Listed building application for re-thatching of both sides and rear elevations and re-applying ridge detail – **No comments and no objections.**
 - 24/03227/VRC - Land East Of Aylesbury Broughton Crossing Bierton Buckinghamshire Variation of condition approved drawing condition on 15/A3462/NON relating to application 15/01767/ADP (Approval of second reserved matters pursuant to planning permission 10/02649/AOP relating to Village 4 (including all mitigation land) comprising the residential development of 861 dwellings, community facilities, public open space, SuDS, mitigation land, electricity substation and associated infrastructure to serve) – **It was agreed that comments should be made that the Parish Council are not in agreement with reducing the number affordable housing and the plans should have more wheelchair accessible housing.**

- 24/03011/ADP - Land Between Wendover Road And Aston Clinton Road Weston Turville Buckinghamshire Submission of Reserved Matters (access, landscaping, appearance, scale and layout) for Parcels EN4 and ES3 (370 dwellings) pursuant to Outline Planning Permission 16/00424/AOP and approval of Condition 9 (Details), Condition 12 (Design Code Compliance), Conditions 16 and 17 (Landscape Scheme), Condition 19 (Tree and Hedgerow Protection), Conditions 20 and 21 (Ecology), Condition 22 (Badger Mitigation), Conditions 24 and 25 (Drainage and SUDS), Condition 31 (Sustainability), Condition 38 (Slab Levels), Conditions 40 and 43 (Highways, Transport and Parking) and Condition 45 (Noise). – **No further comments.**
- 24/03226/VRC - Land East Of Aylesbury Broughton Crossing Berton Buckinghamshire Variation of condition No comments.approved drawing condition on 20/A0740/NON relating to application 20/00740/ADP (Application for reserved matters pursuant to outline planning permission 10/02649/AOP relating to access, appearance, landscaping, scale and layout for Kingsbrook Village 3 sub phase 3.3; allied green infrastructure; eastern link road; employment park and strategic landscaping) – **It was agreed that comments should be made that the Parish Council are not in agreement with reducing the number affordable housing and the plans should have more wheelchair accessible housing.**
- 23/02801/ADP - Land Between Wendover Road And Aston Clinton Road Weston Turville Buckinghamshire Submission of Reserved Matters (landscaping) pursuant to outline planning permission 16/00424/AOP for Phase 1 Green Infrastructure (soft and structural landscape) incorporating Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and associated drainage structures. (AMENDED DESCRIPTION, RED EDGE, ADDITIONAL PLANS AND INFORMATION) – **No further comments.**
- 23/01995/AOP - Land To The South Of The A418, To The West Of Gib Lane And North Of Kingsbrook Village 4 Aylesbury Bucks Outline planning application for up to 115 dwellings with access included for consideration and up to 4ha for sports pitches/recreational open space and informal open space including cricket pitch, youth football pitches, padel courts, clubhouse/changing room building and associated access car parking – Also Sport and Leisure Contribution suggested wording – email sent 31st October 2024 – **No further comments.** **Suggested wording from Buckinghamshire Council regarding the Sport and Leisure contribution to be used.**
- 24/03410/APP- 49 Parsons Lane Berton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DF Householder application for single storey rear extension, part conversion and single storey front extension to existing garage, loft conversion with rear roof dormer extension and front roof light – **No comments.**

9. CLERKS REPORT –

- The sink in the Jubilee Hall has come away from the work surface. Lifetime Installations are coming to look at it on Tuesday 19th November.
- The clerk has set up Cllrs Fisher and Grieves as users for Business Internet Banking.
- The Clerk has been looking at new business phone contracts. The best value for money found is with Tesco (O2), 24 month contract, 12GB of data, unlimited minutes and texts at £10 per month. All agreed to proceed.

10. **FINANCE & ORDERS** – The Clerk reported further payments added to the payment schedule. Payments and receipts which had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting were agreed upon with the financial receipts, payments, and proposed payment schedule. Cllr Cotton reported that the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024/25 has been issued and the Clerk's salary increased with effect from 1st April 2025.

11. **BUDGET – 2025/2026** – Cllr Cotton and Cllr Knowles had a few queries regarding the 1st draft budget. **Cllr Grieves and the Clerk will work on the 2nd draft for approval at the next meeting.**

12. **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS** – All agreed to adopt Financial Regulations. **Clerk to update website.**

13. **ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS** – Cllr Brierley spoke to the owner of the church (Wesleyan Chapel) and he will look into further.

14. **COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION** – Cllr Rachael Blackmore, Chair from Weston Turville Parish Council gave an overview of the proposal, package and cost. The intention is to spread the cost across the 10 parishes assuming they all participate. Cllr Cotton pointed out that the contribution to the cost should be pro rata based on the size of the parishes. Cllr Ward has contacted Cllr Hussain at Buckinghamshire Council and is awaiting a response. Cllrs agreed to commit to the cause but the contribution should be discussed further following the response from Cllr Hussain. **Further discussion and decision to take place via email as there is no meeting in December.**

15. **YOUTH COUNCIL** – Cllr Brierley provided feedback on the recent session held. Seven young members attended, age 11 to 17 years and it was very successful. Cllr Brierley is hoping to run another session in December. Examples of some of the topics raised by the young members are: the signs at the either end of the village could be more inviting, selling ourselves as a village and the facilities we have, what it means to be part of village life, external table tennis tables at the recreation ground, Berton Village website and the way it displays on Google, more trees and flowers by the allotment on Aylesbury Road. Cllr Fisher brought up the need for DBS checks for those facilitating sessions. **Cllr Brierley to look into further.**

- 16. PLAYGROUND FENCE** – A method statement has been received from the contractor and our consultant has looked at it. All agreed that a sample railing should be rectified and then half of the invoice to be paid. Assuming the sample railing holds over the winter, the remaining new part of the fence can be rectified. The buffer on the gate is broken and needs to be replaced. **Clerk to contact the contractor regarding the fence and to ask Kompan about the gate buffer.**
- 17. POLICIES** – Cllr Cotton reported that the Clerk is happy to work on the existing policies between now and the next meeting. All agreed to share responsibility of going through the policies before being put forward for approval. **Clerk to add to the agenda for January 2025.**
- 18. MEETING DATES 2025** – All agreed. **Clerk to add to the website and noticeboards.**
- 19. UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (if any) ;**
- Bierton Events Group – Cllr Fisher reported that the annual run was very successful with the most entries we've had at around 270 runners. The Santa Float preparations have begun. The Events Group are also looking at the calendar for next year. Cllr Grieves reported that the run is already booked for next year and the date is 16th November 2025.
 - Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground -
 - Cllr Cotton proposed reviewing the charges for the Jubilee Hall from April 2025 now the refurbishment is complete. All agreed. **Cllr Cotton to arrange for the Trustees to meet to discuss.**
 - Cllr Cotton asked for a volunteer to inspect the playground. Cllr Smith and Cllr Knowles volunteered together. Cllr Cotton reported that Kingsbrook Parish Council are organising Playground Training on 16th January 2025 which also involves taking an exam. The cost of the exam is £130 per person and the training cost will depend on the number of delegates. **Clerk to find out timings of the training and forward to Cllrs Smith & Knowles. Clerk to forward Playground inspection form to Cllrs Smith & Knowles together with the 3D plan of the playground.**
 - Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors – Cllr Knowles attended the Highways Stakeholder meeting and the slides have been circulated.
 - Highways/Footpaths – Cllr Cotton and the Clerk met with Aylesbury Town Council and Devolved Services. Cane End Lane will be cut this year and will be costed next year. If Buckinghamshire Council Devolved Services payment doesn't cover the cost of it, the Parish Council may need to pay a top up cost to Aylesbury Town Council. The hedge in Great Lane will now be the responsibility of Fairhive.
 - Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Knowles reported that we are waiting for Buckinghamshire Council to appoint an examiner. Several comments have been received and reviewed. Cllr Fisher reported that there is no requirement for the Neighbourhood Steering Group to respond as the consultation was carried out by Buckinghamshire Council.
- 20. MATTERS OF REPORT** – For Councillors to report any outstanding issues. Items not included on the agenda which require decisions will need to be included on the next agenda.
- Cllr Grieves reported that a new cricket net will be required for next Spring. **Clerk to order. Cllr Grieves will fit the new net.**
 - Cllr Knowles reported regarding the acoustics in the Jubilee Hall. He has contacted a company in High Wycombe and they are visiting Tuesday 19th November. **Cllr Knowles will report further in January 2025.**
 - Cllr Brierley enquired about the site of the bonfire and how the ground will be dealt with. The Scouts will be dealing with this as a project. **Cllr Cotton and Clerk will look at when testing fire alarms at the Sports Centre.**
- 21. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The meeting closed at 9.05pm. The next Parish Council meeting date will be Monday 20th January 2025, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.