

Bierton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 16th January 2023 at 19.00 at the Jubilee Hall, Aylesbury Road, Bierton

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr B Dewis, Cllr N Hyre, Cllr M Grieves, Cllr A Webber, Cllr N Roberts, Cllr C King, Cllr B Chapple (BC) and the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson.

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr M Collins (BC)
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
3. **MINUTES** – Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st November 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the acting chair.
4. **OPEN PUBLIC FORUM** – No members of the public were present.
5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS** -
 - 22/04278/APP - **HULCOTT** 6 Rowsham Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DZ Householder application for demolition of garage and porch. Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension. Pitched roof canopy over front door. Internal alterations – This property is not in Bierton Parish. **No objections or comments.**
 - 23/00098/APP - **BIERTON** 62 Great Lane Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5BX Householder application for alterations to front roof slope to form a gable end wall and insertion of 2no. roof lights. Conversion of existing loft void for habitable use including dormer window to rear roof slope. – **No objections or comments.**
6. **CLERKS REPORT** - The Clerk reported that the bank account name has now changed to Bierton Parish Council and that a debit card has been received. Cllr Knowles queried the security around the debit card. The Clerk advised that the card will be kept in a locked cupboard other than when needed and that the card can be blocked very quickly via the mobile banking application if it was to be misplaced or taken.
7. **FINANCE & ORDERS** - Payments and receipts which had previously been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting were agreed upon with the financial receipts, payments, and proposed payment schedule.
8. **BUDGET TO DATE AND 2023-2024 BUDGET** - No queries were raised with the budget to date. All agreed to add £30k into 2023/2024 annual Budget for the playground refurbishment if needed.
9. **PRECEPT** – A discussion took place around the percentage increase. Precept agreed at 5% increase on last year. **Clerk to submit to Buckinghamshire Council by 31st January 2023.**
10. **VAT CLAIMS FOR COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT & BIERTON EVENTS GROUP** – All agreed to refund the VAT of £176.31 to the Community Allotment fund which should have been claimed back in 2020/2021. Cllr Knowles put to the Council that items purchased for Bierton Events Groups and the Community Allotment over the value of £30 should have the VAT claimed back. All agreed subject to review of the administration time taken. All items where VAT is to be claimed back need to be purchased in the name of Bierton Parish Council and either a tax invoice to be sent to the Clerk or the Clerk's debit card used to purchase where possible.
11. **COMMERCIAL RECYCLING SERVICE** – Clerk reported costs for recycling bins. A discussion took place and it was agreed to try it for a year. Cllr Knowles suggested we make an effort to ensure hirers know what to recycle. Cllr Hyre asked if there is a threshold for Buckinghamshire Council not to empty the bin based on what has been put in it. **Clerk to find out if leaflets are available and if there is a threshold for Buckinghamshire Council not to empty the bin based on what has been put in it. Clerk to purchase green bins to go in kitchens at the halls for recycling.**
12. **KING'S CORONATION** - Bierton Events Group are going to hold a Coronation Tea Party on Sunday 7th May at the Sports centre. To enable them to manage numbers they are planning to charge an entry fee and then possibly refund the fee or do something else. Further decisions will be made at the Bierton Events Group meetings.
13. **STREETLIGHTING CONTRACT** – DD Lighting do not offer a maintenance contract but provide a price list and are called as and when required. Clerk has contacted DD Lighting to look at a streetlight in William Hill Drive but has not yet done so. **Clerk to chase and to enquire with other contractors.**
14. **JUBILEE HALL WARM SOCIAL HUB PROJECT** – Cllr Knowles reported that this has so far been successful and thanked the volunteers. Most of the £150.00 from the Griffin Trust has now been spent. There is still £440 from Wendover Community Board available. A donation pot is put out each week and currently it is raising more than is being spent. Hand sanitiser and masks are put on a table in the doorway if people want to use them. Barry Malki from Community Impact Bucks is due to visit on 17th January. Cllr Knowles reported that he is unsure if it is sustainable as it relies on people coming. He is happy to continue to run the project until the end of February and will then need to form a rota. Councillors agreed it would need 3 or 4 volunteers each week. **Clerk to add on to agenda for February to discuss further.**

15. UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (if any) -

- Bierton Events Group –
 - Dates have been set for the year. The next event is the quiz on 25th March at the Jubilee Hall.
- Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground -
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the Jubilee Hall subsidence has been referred to a consultant and that we await a further update.
 - Cllr Cotton and the Clerk have applied for £48k to the Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Fund towards the refurbishment of the Jubilee Hall.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that a party held at the Sports Centre left the hall and outside area in a bad state and there was damage to equipment in the pre school garden. The hirer has paid some money to the pre school for the damage. A discussion took place around age limits for parties in the halls. Cllr Dewis felt that we should allow teenage parties.
 - The flooring in the corridor at the sports centre is damaged. **The Clerk is in contact with company to arrange a quote for the corridor and the disabled toilet.**
 - A third quote has been received from Kompan for the playground. Cllr Grieves and Cllr Roberts are very much in favour of this quote and all agreed as much funding as possible should be raised in the hope of the work starting as soon as possible. **Clerk to apply for grants.**
 - The Wicksteed horse is leaning in the playground. **Clerk to contact Wicksteed to see if they can repair the horse and paint it red.**
- Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors –
 - Cllr Cotton attended the Community Halls meeting regarding Fire Risk Assessment and reported that our halls are low risk. Cllr Dewis said the smoke alarm in the Jubilee Hall should be on ceiling but this will not be possible until the refurbishment is completed.
 - Cllr Cotton & Cllr Hyre attended the Barratts Stakeholder meeting. A public meeting about a GP surgery on Kingsbrook will take place on 26th January with the Integrated Care Board and Poplar Grove Surgery at 7pm at Kingsbrook Primary School. Questions need to be put forward beforehand. Cllr Cotton offered to put questions forward if Councillors have any.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the Traffic Calming report is still being looked at. The Parish Council will not get another chance to have any further input. The work is due to start in Spring 2023.
 - There is no definite date for the Southern section of the Eastern Link Road. Cllr Chapple reported that due to increasing prices, Buckinghamshire Council are unable to carry out the work to the extent they originally wanted to.
- Highways/Footpaths
 - The yellow lines are now in operation on Burcott Lane.
 - Officers and Councillors from Buckinghamshire Council will visit Kingsbrook Secondary School to monitor traffic at school drop off time. At the same time they will visit Burcott Lane to monitor parked cars at end of Muddy Lane.
- Neighbourhood Plan –
 - We have still not heard back regarding this. Kingsbrook said they wrote to Buckinghamshire Council at the start of December but it went to the wrong place. Cllr Cotton and Cllr Knowles commented that depending on the outcome, new volunteers will be needed to work on the project.

16. 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 Webber & Cllr Cotton went to the Aston Clinton Repair Shop which is held in the church and reported that it is very good and well supported. At present the Jubilee Hall does not have enough electrical points to be able to run it in Bierton. It may be something that can be looked at following the refurbishment.
- Cllr Cotton reported that Zipp e-scooters are now able to come through Bierton but there are no stops. Cllr Knowles reported that the boundary goes out to near the Golf Range. Cllr Knowles suggested we reach out to them to ask for a stop. **Cllr Knowles to make contact.**
- Cllr Knowles reported on the Planning permission on the old Askeys site. The right turn at the traffic lights onto Stocklake will be reinstated. They are going to look at some form of litter control. There will be a McDonalds and some industrial units.
- Cllr King reported that the Grit Box on Thorne Way has gone missing. **Clerk has contacted the Local Area Technician.**
- Cllr Knowles reported that the grit in the box at the top of Parsons Lane is solid and difficult to use. **Clerk to check and contact the Local Area Technician if required.**

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Meeting closed at 8.25pm. The next Parish Council meeting date will be Monday 20th February 2023, which will commence at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.