

Bierton Parish Council

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

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr N Hyre, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr N Roberts, Cllr S Feeney, the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson & 4 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr M Grieves, Cllr J Ward (BC) & Des Withey
2. **PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – CO-OPTION OF TWO PARISH COUNCILLORS** – Parish Councillors asked the applicants some questions. Votes were taken by all present Parish Councillors. Clerk counted the votes. Andrew Brierley and Hayley Smith were co-opted as Parish Councillors. Existing Councillors introduced themselves.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None
4. **MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - Budget – Cllr Knowles noted that recent council tax bills show Bierton as a 3% increase but the precept was a 4% increase on last year. **Clerk to email Buckinghamshire Council to enquire.**
 - RAF Halton Plans – Cllr Cotton responded
5. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19th February 2024 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the chair.
6. **PUBLIC FORUM** –
 - A parishioner wanted to reinforce their objection to the Kingsbrook Planning Application and pointed out that it is completely out of spirit with the original plans.
7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS** –
 - 24/00655/APP - BIERTON - 27 Great Lane Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DE Householder application for single storey rear conservatory – **No comments and no objections**
 - 24/00721/APP - BIERTON - 37 Parsons Lane Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DF Householder application for demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension – **Cllr Knowles reported that the description of the application is misleading and the works are much more extensive. No comments and no objections.**
 - 24/00812/APP - BIERTON - 2 Grendon Way Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DD Householder application for single storey rear extension. Loft conversion incorporating two pitched dormer windows to front, and flat roof dormer to rear.– **No comments and no objections**
 - 24/00814/APP - BIERTON - 4 Grendon Way Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DD Householder application for demolition of garage, erection of single storey rear extension and extension of garage. Loft conversion incorporating flat roof dormer to rear and fenestration changes – **No comments and no objections**
 - 23/01995/AOP – KINGSBROOK - Amended plans - 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, tennis courts, clubhouse/changing room building and associated access car parking – **There has been a change to the planning application. It was agreed that another objection should be logged to re-iterate our original objection and to highlight again that there will be no buffer zone between Bierton and Kingsbrook and that the access via Gib Lane will cause even further traffic. Cllr Fisher pointed out that this application reflects on both Bierton and Kingsbrook residents. Cllr Hyre commented that with multi use sports pitches, will it be used more in the evenings and will lighting be added? Cllr Cotton and Clerk to put together wording for a response.**
 - Sport & Leisure Contribution suggestions – An email has been received from Buckinghamshire Council stating ‘If the above planning application is approved and commences it will generate a Sport and Leisure Contribution of around £310,617 (dependant upon the final approved bedroom per dwelling mix and on-site Public Open Space, Play Area & Sports Facilities’. Suggestions have been requested – Cllr Roberts suggested buying a plot of land to use for a community allotment, meadow and orchard. It was felt that this was an excellent suggestion. Cllr Feeney suggested if the application doesn’t go through, we could raise money to do it. Cllr Knowles commented that it would need to be maintained. **Clerk to respond to Buckinghamshire Council.**
8. **CLERKS REPORT** – New notice boards have now been installed and paid for. We will claim the majority of it back from Grantscape.
9. **FINANCE & ORDERS** – The Clerk reported two additional payments to be 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.

- 10. CLERK'S SALARY** – Cllr Cotton proposed Clerk's salary to increase by two salary scale points with effect from 1st April 2024. All agreed. The Clerk's hours were discussed. At present, the Clerk is unable to commit to contracted additional hours but is happy to work additional hours to meet deadlines where necessary.
- 11. COMMUNITY LIBRARY** – A proposal was put forward by Cllr Brierley. The cost is estimated at £600. Cllr Knowles queried the weight of the books on the shelves. A discussion took place regarding this and also about adding a water butt at a later date. A further discussion took place regarding the positioning of it. **Cllr Brierley will update the proposal and forward to the Clerk. Clerk to apply to Wendover Community Board for a small grant.**
- 12. PLAYGROUND UPDATE AND OFFICIAL OPENING** – Cllr Cotton confirmed that the playground is now open. Cllr Roberts reported that she and Cllr Grieves met with the contract manager from Kompan to discuss issues from the post installation inspection. Kompan will resolve all of the issues. Cllr Cotton raised the painting of the fence. We have received one quote. At least one further quote is required. **Cllr Roberts and Cllr Smith will obtain a further quote as soon as possible.** Cllr Cotton showed the proof of the signs for the playground and football pitch. **Clerk to organise production and installation.** The Official opening will be on Monday 6th May from 11.00am to 1.00pm. Kompan will provide a bubble machine, bunting and goody bags. All agreed to hire a bouncy castle. **Cllr Smith will research a bouncy castle. Cllr Roberts will organise a poster and ask school to distribute. Cllr Fisher and Clerk to advertise poster on social media and website. Cllr Roberts to ask local parishioner if their son can provide a Punch and Judy show. Cllr Cotton to ask Trustee from Griffin Trust to open the playground.**
- 13. APPLICATION FOR A FREE PORTRAIT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING** – All agreed to apply for one. **Clerk to organise.** The church have agreed to fly the 80 D-Day flag but have asked the Parish Council to provide it. All agreed. **Clerk to organise.**
- 14. BUS SHELTER** – Cllr Hyre reported that a specification document has been completed. The roof definitely needs to be replaced as it has asbestos. It was agreed that some seating should be put inside the shelter. **Cllr Hyre to arrange for the specification document to be amended to reflect this.** The bench next to it will also be renovated. **Cllr Cotton to look into obtaining quotes for it.** It was suggested that it may be possible to apply to Grantscape for funding when the window opens for applications.
- 15. UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (if any) ;**
- Berton Events Group – Cllr Fisher reported that the quiz night is this Saturday and has sold out. Berton events are currently trying to organise a Summer Sports Day. The Pumpkin Trail and Santa Float will also take place later in the year. They are also looking at new charity.
 - Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground –
 - Jubilee Hall Renovations – Cllr Cotton reported that Trustees and Clerk are meeting on Wednesday to go through the tenders received.
 - Cllr Feeney raised issues with the Jubilee Hall car park and cars still being there from the school drop off when classes start. Cllr Cotton confirmed that posts had been published on social media requesting the car park be vacated by 9.15am.
 - Cllr Cotton and the Clerk met with Footsteps Day Nursery and Pre-School. They have confirmed they would like to open at the Sports Centre. They are currently in the process of registering with Ofsted and are hoping to open with effect from September 2024.
 - Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors –
 - Wendover Community Board – Cllr Cotton attended. Mainly talked about youth needs.
 - Planning Forum – Cllr Cotton attended. Mainly discussed number of applications received and action on enforcements.
 - School Travel Plan – Cllr Cotton & Clerk met with the School. The school are doing their best and have achieved the Silver Travel Plan award. Cllr Roberts reported that communication has recently been sent out from the school with guidance on parking.
 - Kingsbrook Stakeholder meeting . Cllr Cotton, Cllr Hyre and Cllr Knowles attended.
 - Kingsbrook Parish Council will discuss Muddy Lane and how to resolve.
 - Railway Walk at the end of the Dairy Path is due to be opened imminently.
 - The Sports Field should be ready for new football season and the fence won't be removed until the hedges have grown.
 - The adoption of the Eastern Link Road and the Southern Link Road by Buckinghamshire Highways could take up to a year.
 - Berton Traffic Calming preliminaries are underway. The hope is to start at the end of the Summer with it being finished by the end of 2024.
 - Thames Water main is now scheduled for May 2024.
 - Kingsbrook Parish Council will comment on the amendments to the planning application 23/01995/AOP
 - Highways/Footpaths –
 - The BT plate by the crossing on Aylesbury Road is making a noise again. It has been reported.
 - The parking at end of Muddy Lane has caused the verge to be cut up and it is very muddy. This will be reported to the Local Area Technician.
 - Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Knowles reported that the public consultation is in process now and will run until 31st March 2024. There have not been very many comments. The Neighbourhood Steering Group are hopeful to move on to the next stage and have a referendum by the end of this year.

- 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 Knowles reported that he has a meeting on site on Friday regarding the Zipp scooters to discuss Old Forge Gardens and a new bay at the end of the village.
 - Cllr Feeney reported that there is a lot of algae in the pond at the well. **Cllr Cotton will mention it to the caretaker. Cllr Feeney is happy to help.**
 - Cllr Hyre raised the state of certain areas of Muddy Lane and suggested that road planings could be used as they were originally used. Cllr Cotton advised that permission is needed to do anything as it is a Public Right of Way.
 - Cllr Brierley reported that the pathway from Mike Griffin Way to Hulcott Lane has no lighting. Buckinghamshire Highways would be responsible for it. Cllr Smith suggested possible solar lighting. **Cllr Cotton will ask Cllr Ward about it.**
 - Cllr Cotton showed a book that has been given to the Parish Council from Barratts regarding Kingsbrook. The book is available for those who wish to look at it.
- 17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The meeting closed at 8.45pm pm. The next Parish Council meeting date will be Monday 15th April 2024, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.