

# Bierton Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024 held at the Jubilee Hall, Bierton at 7.00p.m.

### DRAFT

**Present** - Cllr S Cotton in the chair, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr N Hyre, Cllr N Roberts, Cllr M Grieves, Cllr A Brierley, Cllr J Ward (BC) and the Clerk Mrs W Tomlinson in attendance.

Parishioners present – 17 & 2 Police Community Support Officers (first part of meeting)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr L Fisher, Cllr S Feeney, Cllr H Smith & Cllr B Chapple (BC)
2. **Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2023** - The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed.
3. **Matters Arising** – None

**Introduction of new PCSO** – PCSO Tom Moslin introduced himself. He explained that the borders have changed and Bierton is now part of Aylesbury East Neighbourhood Policing Team. Posters with contact information will be displayed on the Parish noticeboards.

#### 4. **Proposed Development of 50 Affordable Homes on Land South of Aylesbury Road**

Cllr Cotton stressed that this is only a proposal at present with a planning application expected to be submitted in June 2024. Cllr Ward pointed out that all planning applications are assessed judiciously within the National Planning Policy Framework and are weighted on an evidence based process.

Councillors and Parishioners were given the opportunity to express their views and make points. Many concerns were voiced including:

- Additional traffic on already congested roads
- Drainage and flooding issues
- Maintenance of ditches and hedgerows
- Pressures on amenities such as GP surgery and school
- Why is there a need for further houses in Bierton with approximately 2,500 being built on Kingsbrook? There is also more local housing than just Kingsbrook. Aston Reach and Farendon Fields are also close by.

Cllr Cotton advised there is an active Action Group in the village for planning applications. It was suggested that new parishioners may wish to join the Action Group and also that a Parish Councillor should join.

The land on the opposite side of Aylesbury Road was queried and it is thought that there is a possibility for building on a larger scale on that site.

It was agreed that an Action Group will gather evidence and anyone wishing to join should email the Clerk at [parishclerk@biertonpc.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@biertonpc.org.uk), who will forward details on to the lead of the Action Group.

5. **Chairperson's Report** - The Chairperson presented her report for the year ending 31st March 2024. The report will be displayed on the village website and the Parish Council Noticeboards.

6. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Knowles gave an overview of the Neighbourhood Plan, explaining that with Kingsbrook now excluded the Neighbourhood Plan is redesignated to Bierton Parish only. Much work has taken place to rewrite the plan. In February 2024, it went to Regulation 14 (6 week public consultation) which resulted in 122 comments being received. It is not possible to respond individually to the comments made and The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are not legally obliged to do so. However, all comments that are submitted are taken into consideration. The next step will be Regulation 16 which is approval from Buckinghamshire Council and it is hoped that this will happen by the end of the Summer. After approval the plan will go to an Independent Examiner and then it will go to a public referendum.
7. **Statement of Accounts year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 24**  
Copies of the statement of accounts had been previously circulated to the councillors and were available for councillors and any parishioners to view at the meeting. The accounts were accepted by the Parish Council and the statement of accounts was duly signed. The Accounts will be externally audited, and results published on the main Noticeboard at the Jubilee Hall.
8. **Public Forum** –
- A Parishioner asked if anything could be done about the traffic lights on the Aylesbury Road as young people are taking their GCSE's and it causing additional stress. Cllr Ward explained that the works were pushed back from February and they do need to go ahead now as the Traffic Calming works are due to start at the end of the Summer. Cllr Ward also explained that Buckinghamshire Highways are also visiting to ensure the lights are being controlled manually.
  - A Parishioner asked if the pavement between the Red Lion and the pedestrian crossing is going to be looked at as part of the traffic calming. Cllr Ward explained that this will not form part of the traffic calming measures and that this would come from capital expenditure. It was agreed that this is a very dangerous part of the road where children are walking/cycling to school. **Cllr Ward will ask when this area is due to be fixed.**
  - Cllr Brierley asked why the new sports pitch car park can not be used for school parents dropping off/picking up at Bierton School. This has been asked previously and we were told that it would be for the sports field end user to decide if this was possible. Barratts currently own the sports pitch. It was agreed to approach Barratts again to explore possible options. **Clerk to email Barratts and copy in Chair of Kingsbrook Parish Council, Travel Plan Co-ordinator at Bierton School & Buckinghamshire Council.**
  - The resurfacing of Muddy Lane was mentioned. Cllr Ward had previously approached Kingsbrook Parish Council but they were not in a position to help. Cllr Ward felt there may be scope to go back to Kingsbrook Parish Council to perhaps work in collaboration to resurface it at a later date.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm