

Bierton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HELD ON Monday 28th April 2025 2025 at 7.00pm at the Jubilee Hall, Bierton

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr H Smith, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr M Grieves, Cllr S Feeney, the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson & 2 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr N Hyre
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None
3. **MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - The Playground inspection has been booked for May.
 - The new contractors for mowing the recreation ground will be starting with effect from 20th May.
 - Contact details of Community Payback have been sent to the owner of the Coffee House.
 - Election details and policies were added to the website.
 - Applications to the Rothschild Foundation and the War Memorial Trust for the Pavilion roof have been made and acknowledged but no further response has been received to date.
 - The fire extinguisher and fire alarm annual inspection has taken place at both halls.
 - Loft Ladder – No solution has been agreed yet. Cllr Knowles suggested a telescopic aluminium ladder. **Further discussion to take place between Cllr Cotton, Cllr Knowles and the caretaker.**
 - The bonfire patch from the fireworks has still not been rectified. It was reported that there is a District Scout meeting on Thursday and this is on the agenda.
4. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 17th March 2025 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the chair.
5. **REGULAR UPDATE FROM CLLR J WARD – BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL** – Moved forward to Annual Parish Meeting.
6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS** –
 - 25/00637/ALB- BIERTON 186 Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DT Listed building application for replacement outbuilding (re-submission of 21/03441/ALB) **Comment submitted on 16th April 2025 - Bierton Parish Council have no comments and no objections to this application.**
 - 25/00636/APP- BIERTON 186 Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DT Householder application for replacement outbuilding (re-submission of 21/03440/APP) **Comment submitted on 16th April 2025 - Bierton Parish Council have no comments and no objections to this application.**
 - 24/03787/AOP | Outline planning application for the erection of up to 47 dwellings, including means of access into the site (not internal roads) and associated highway works, with all other matters (relating to appearance, landscaping, scale and layout) reserved. | Land South Of Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire – An agent response has been received to the Parish Council's objection which the Clerk circulated previously. Cllr Cotton has sent the response to the Action Group. Waiting for a response from the Action Group and will then decide if the Parish Council needs to comment further.
7. **ELECTION UPDATES** – Cllr Cotton reported that Lesley Harridge and Sarah Kennedy will be joining the Parish Council in May. We have a casual vacancy for Oldhams Meadow Ward. It will be decided at the next meeting if we wish to advertise or co opt. Cllr Cotton reminded Councillors that spending and donations reports (nil returns) need to be completed and returned to Buckinghamshire Council by 29th May 2025.
8. **CLERKS REPORT** –
 - The baby swings and gate buffer have been installed in the playground. We are waiting for a quote regarding the concrete around the tunnel.
 - The pathway between Cane End Lane and Rowsham Road has been cleared by Community Payback. We are now going to ask them to clear around the Jubilee Hall.
 - Fire safety checks have been completed in both halls. The Sports Centre need new fire extinguishers and fire alarm back up batteries. The cost is £295 + VAT. Clerk has instructed them to go ahead.
9. **FINANCE & ORDERS** – The clerk reported 3 further 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.
 - **CLERK'S ANNUAL INCREMENT** – Cllr Cotton proposed Clerk's salary to increase by one salary scale point. 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.

10. **LITTER PICK** – Cllr Cotton proposed a village litter pick. All agreed it is a good idea. It was suggested it be carried out during good weather. It was felt a regular Saturday would be a good day. Lesley Harridge is happy to organise. Cllr Smith offered to help also.
11. **REPAIR SHOP** – Clerk is waiting for a call back from the insurance company. Cllr Fisher suggested the possibility of holding it at Bierton Coffee House. Cllr Feeney reported that discussions are ongoing.
12. **DOG WASTE BIN – ROWSHAM ROAD** – The Parish Council have been approached to request a Dog Bin. All agreed we should look into. As half of Rowsham Road is in Hulcott Parish, it was agreed that we would ask Hulcott Parish Council to pay half towards the cost of the bin and we will pay for the emptying. **Clerk to find out the cost of the bin and approach Hulcott Parish Council.**
13. **COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING** – Cllr Feeney reported that she has been contacted again by Weston Turville Parish Council. They have looked at a pro rata price for Bierton Parish Council which will be £300.00 for the workshop. Four Parish Councils have agreed to pay £1,000 already. A discussion took place and it was agreed that we would wait until the new Community Board is in place. Cllr Fisher suggested that it shouldn't stop us as a Council creating our own plan. Councillors agreed that we need reassurance of the long term plan, that the vast majority of Parish Councils are on board and an idea of the ongoing costs. **Cllr Feeney to discuss further with Weston Turville Climate Action co-ordinator.**
14. **UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (If any) ;**
 - Bierton Events Group – Cllr Fisher reported a very successful quiz evening. Cllr Knowles reported that it raised £800. Cllr Grieves reported that so far there are 40 entries for the annual run. Santa has been booked.
 - Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground –
 - Cllr Knowles reported that Bucks Fire & Rescue Service attended the Social Hub recently, offering advice to individuals. They also provided us with 2 Carbon Monoxide Monitors.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the fence at Jubilee Hall has been repaired. The guttering at the Sports Centre has also been repaired. Strimming the undergrowth around the recreation ground is to be carried out. Cllr Grieves reported that the new cricket net will be put up on Wednesday.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that a new memorial bench has been paid for and installed at the recreation ground by the family. Once the memorial plaque has been added, she will arrange for photos to be taken and published on social media.
 - Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors –
 - Cllr Cotton reported that regular weekly updates with P & S Plant & Construction and Buckinghamshire Highways had been taking place during the traffic calming works.
 - Highways/Footpaths – The path from Lounge India to Burcott Lane has had one gate installed and the remaining two will be installed in the next few weeks.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the verge on Burcott Lane gets very boggy when the weather is wet. P & S Plant & Construction have quoted £40k to tarmac it. The Parish Council are not in a position to fund this.
 - Neighbourhood Plan – Covered in Annual Parish Meeting.
15. **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 requested an update on the painting of the playground fence. The contractor has changed business so will not be painting the remainder of the fence. No further forward at this stage.
 - Cllr Fisher reported that the next newsletter will be in June/ July.
16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The meeting closed at 8.25pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 19th May 2025, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.