

Bierton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HELD ON Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.00pm at the Jubilee Hall, Bierton

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr N Hyre, Cllr A Brierley, Cllr H Smith, the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson & 3 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr S Knowles, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr M Grieves, Cllr S Feeney & Cllr J Ward (BC)
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None
3. **MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - Cllr Cotton & Cllr Ward are meeting with Police tomorrow regarding the parking issues on Burcott Lane.
 - Cllr Grieves circulated the email signature to all Councillors.
 - Clerk has instructed the builder regarding the bus shelter. Hoping to start in April.
 - **Clerk still to instruct company to proceed with annual playground inspection.** The company need more information.
 - We need to give Buckland Landscapes 8 weeks notice to terminate our contract with them. **Clerk will speak with Garden Forces to clarify if can start after the 8 week notice period.**
 - The swings and the gate buffer are due to be replaced on 11th April. Cllr Smith will meet with the engineer to discuss the concrete around the tunnel.
4. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 24th February 2025 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the chair.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM**
 - **REGULAR UPDATE FROM CLLR J WARD – BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL** – Cllr Cotton reported that herself and Cllr Ward are hoping to have meeting at end of this week with contractors regarding the traffic calming. The road closure has been extended by two days to 20th April 2025. We are hoping to have a scheme for businesses during the road closure.
 - The owner provided an update on the Cane End Lane Project 'Bucks Happy Place'. They have been unsuccessful with a grant application to Wendover Community Board. Volunteers are attending regularly to help prepare the site. **Clerk to send Community Payback details to owner.**
 - The owner reported that Bierton Coffee House is doing ok but needs more customers. They are looking at possibly opening an evening restaurant and planning to put a shop there also. Valentine's evening went well.
6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS –**
 - **Feedback on recent applications** – Cllr Cotton & Cllr Ward attended the planning meeting which was mainly about the 2nd Primary school on Kingsbrook. It looks like it will go ahead. It was not intended to have a travel plan in place until 3rd form entry but they are going to try to get a travel plan in place before. The footpath leading onto Burcott Lane was mentioned and it was reported that it is outside of the planning application. Everybody is against the footpath. Barratts have said they will not go ahead with the footpath but they need a letter from Buckinghamshire Council Planning department confirming it is not to go ahead.
7. **LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS** – The Clerk reported the following dates relating to the elections and that nomination papers have been printed and are available:
 - The deadline to hand in Nomination papers is 4pm on 2nd April 2025
 - Nominations will be published on 3rd April 2025
 - If an election is contested, the poll will take place on 1st May 2025Further information and guidance can be found at the following link:
[Buckinghamshire Council unitary and parish elections Thursday 1 May 2025 | Buckinghamshire Council](#)
Nomination papers can be downloaded and printed from the Electoral Commission website:
[Completing your nomination papers | Electoral Commission](#)
Clerk to put Notice of Election and above links on website and Facebook pages.
8. **CLERKS REPORT** – Nothing to report
9. **FINANCE & ORDERS** – The clerk reported 5 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.
10. **POLICIES:**
 - **ADOPTION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY** - Adopted
 - **ADOPTION OF REVIEWED COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE** - Adopted
Clerk to add to website.

11. **PAVILION ROOF** – There has not been much more progress made. Cllr Brierley mentioned Sterling Roofing Contractors and will forward the contact details to Cllr Cotton. **Clerk to apply to Rothschild Foundation and War Memorial Trust for a grant.**
12. **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS & FIRE ALARM ANNUAL INSPECTION** – All agreed to proceed with Zone 10 Protection Ltd. **Clerk to instruct to go ahead and advise previous company.**
13. **REPAIR SHOP** – Cllr Feeney emailed an update and asked if PAT testing would be required for the tools used by the volunteers. It was agreed that tools would need to be PAT tested but not at the expense of the Parish Council. Cllr Feeney also asked if the Parish Council's Public Liability Insurance will cover the Repair Shop. **Clerk to check with insurance company.** A few volunteers are still needed.
14. **UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (if any) :**
 - Bierton Events Group – Cllr Cotton reported that Bierton School Fete is on 5th June and that Bierton Events Group have booked the Sports Centre on 21st June for an event. More details to follow.
 - Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground -
 - Loft Ladder for Jubilee Hall - Received quote for loft ladder which is £980. All felt this was very expensive for the amount of times it is used. Cllr Brierley suggested telescopic ladder. **Clerk to look into further.**
 - Cllr Brierley reported that Scouts have not done anything about the patch where the bonfire was in November. Cllr Cotton reported that they were given until Easter to reinstate it.
 - Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors – Cllr Cotton attended the following:
 - Hulcott Parish Council meeting. They have the same views regarding All Saints Church in that it needs to close permanently.
 - Surgery at the Coffee House with Cllr Ward. 7 people attended including Cllr Hyre. The main topic of conversation was the traffic calming measures.
 - Kingsbrook Parish Council meeting but the meeting could not go ahead as they did not have a quorate
 - Highways/Footpaths –
 - Community Payback have cleared the path between Rowsham Road and Cane End Lane. They are going back to finish it off. Cllr Cotton reported that we hope to have them clear the ivy from the fence around the Jubilee Hall.
 - Burcott Lane – The flooding continues. It was expected to be attended to today but not been done as yet.
 - Neighbourhood Plan – The report has been received back from the examiner. Cllr Cotton reported that local green spaces, vistas and views need to be looked at. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are still working on it.
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 28th April as existing Councillors will still be in post and able to report on the previous year.
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 Brierley reported that he attended the recreation ground during the football match on Saturday. There was a very strong smell of cannabis. Cllr Cotton has reported to the police and has also written to the Aylesbury & District Football League and they have spoken with both teams.
 - Cllr Cotton raised the next issue of the Newsletter. Ideally would like it published with the candidates for the election. **Cllr Cotton will discuss with Cllr Fisher.**
 - Cllr Cotton reported that BMKALC are offering two Saturday training sessions for new Councillors.
 - Cllr Feeney emailed to report that volunteers from Aston Clinton are not in a position to prune the apple trees at St Osyth's Well.
 - Cllr Feeney emailed to raise a concern of how the asbestos from the bus shelter roof will be disposed of. Cllr Cotton confirmed that it will be disposed of appropriately.
16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The meeting closed at 8.00pm. The next Parish Council meeting will follow the Annual Parish meeting on Monday 28th April 2025, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.