

Bierton Parish Council

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 21st July 2025 at 7.00pm at the Jubilee Hall, Bierton

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr S Feeney, Cllr L Harridge, Cllr S Kennedy, Cllr J Ward (BC), Cllr K Gibbon (BC), the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson & 4 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES – Cllr H Smith & Cllr M Grieves

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

3. MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Loft Ladder – Cllr Knowles reported that telescopic ladders do not have hand rails. He has researched a ladder from Wickes costing £142 including VAT. All agreed to go ahead and Cllr Knowles will return it if it's not suitable. **Cllr Knowles will arrange with Clerk to order.**
- Cllr Knowles looked at the tunnel in the playground. It was a hot day and everything was hot. No further action.
- Cllr Knowles took the ROSPA report to the playground and looked at. **Clerk to liaise with Cllr Knowles and get a quote from Kompan for the work that needs to be carried out.**
- Pond at St Osyth's Well - Cllr Cotton reported that we should have a sign saying 'Deep Water, Children to be supervised'. **Cllr Knowles will research some signs and will circulate an email. Cllrs to respond to Clerk.**
- Open Gardens – Cllr Feeney reported that there was a good response. Agreed to organise for 2026. **Cllr Feeney and Cllr Harridge will organise.**
- Jubilee Hall – Cllr Cotton has advertised the free mornings but has had no enquiries to date.
- Sports Hall Acoustics – Cllr Knowles contacted the company who provided the sound boards at Jubilee Hall. Quote has been received for £9,350 + VAT. Cllr Knowles also looked at the bookings to see who would benefit from it and several would. **Cllr Knowles will arrange a survey with the company.**
- Litter Picking Sign/Equipment – Cllr Knowles reported that a personalised one will cost £350.00. This will be fixed to the wall and does not include a starter kit as we already have litter pickers. It would be put on the Sports Centre wall. **Cllr Knowles will investigate further and liaise with Clerk.**

4. MINUTES - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th June 2025 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the chair.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- A Parishioner queried the Barnett Way Planning Application. Cllr Cotton reported that we can submit comments during August. Bierton Action Group will be submitting comments and will advertise on Facebook. The Neighbourhood Plan can now be taken into account but it does not mean that planning will not be approved. Another parishioner pointed out that the land is currently used for livestock.
- A parishioner reported that an archaeological survey has been carried out on the land off of Aylesbury Road.
- **REGULAR UPDATE FROM CLLR J WARD – BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL –**
 - Cllr Ward reported that Aylesbury Road will be added to the list of roads that are not suitable for abnormal loads. She is in the process of arranging a meeting to discuss applying for a weight restriction limit on the Aylesbury Road.
 - Cllr Ward reported that she has been advised that it is a deliberate traffic calming measure to not white line through the middle of Aylesbury Road.
 - Cllr Ward has asked when the remaining lining work will be finished but has not had a response. The safety audit can not be completed until the lining is complete.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS –

- 25/01349/APP- 5 Barnett Way Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DN Householder application for proposed dropped kerb and vehicular cross over. **Comment submitted 8th July 2025 - Bierton Parish Council have no comments to add.**
- 25/01687/APP- 2 The Firs Aylesbury Road Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DX Householder application for open porch and railings to front elevation, removal of existing dormer and installation of new wider dormer and first floor rear extension. **Comment submitted 14th July 2025 - Bierton Parish Council would question from the Ecology and Trees Checklist if there are agricultural buildings within 200m and believes that it is within 2km of a Conservation Area. The Parish Council would also query if there is enough room for large delivery and emergency vehicles to access this and the neighbouring property.**
- 25/01867/AOP- Land Off Barnett Way Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5DN Outline planning application for the erection of up to 60 dwellings, including public open space, sustainable drainage system and associated infrastructure, with all matters reserved apart from access. **An extension of the deadline to the end of August had been requested and has been granted. Cllr Cotton previously circulated some comments to Councillors. Cllr Feeney queried if the land is within 2KM of a conservation area and Cllr Cotton confirmed that it is. Cllr Fisher raised further points. Cllr Cotton gave an overview of existing comments noted. Cllr Cotton and Cllr Fisher will liaise and circulate a response to Councillors for submission.**

- APP/J0405/W/25/3367706 - Cavan Farm Cane End Lane Bierton Buckinghamshire HP22 5BH Proposal: Removal of condition 6 (limitation to agricultural occupation) relating to application 04/00058/APP (Erection of agricultural dwelling- amendment to planning permission 03/01809/APP) **No comments to be made.**
- 25/01411/APP- 30 Oldhams Meadow Bierton Buckinghamshire HP20 2UT Householder application for removal of wooden picket fence and erection of fence and access gates **No objections and no comments.**
- 25/01867/AOP - Land Off Barnett Way Bierton - Sport and Leisure Contribution Suggestions – email sent 11th July 2025 – **Padel Court on the land allocated for green space if possible. Clerk to advise Buckinghamshire Council.**
- 24/03787/AOP - Land South Of Aylesbury Road Bierton - Sport and Leisure Contribution Suggestions – email sent 11th July 2025 **Dog agility field and a community orchard. Clerk to advise Buckinghamshire Council.**
- Cllr Cotton reported that public comments are now not visible on the planning portal. Cllr Cotton suggested an email should be sent to the cabinet member for planning pointing out that it is not transparent. Cllr Ward suggested to ask for reassurance that all comments are visible to the case officer and also visible to the local member. It would be useful to know how many comments are submitted including number of objections to an application. **Cllr Cotton will draft an email for the Clerk to send.**

7. CLERKS REPORT –

- The external audit was submitted on 24th June 2025.
- The claim for VAT for 2024/2025 of £25,424.31 has been received. £25,000.00 has been transferred to the deposit account.
- Community Payback are due to clear around the Jubilee Hall on 30th July 2025.
- Clerk will be on annual leave from 14th August to 22nd August 2025.

8. FINANCE & ORDERS – Clerk reported 4 additional payments. 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.

9. GREAT LANE ALLOTMENTS – Expression of Interest in Asset of Community Value. The owner contacted Cllr Cotton and the Clerk regarding our Expression of Interest. The owner has emailed to say that they will consider allowing the allotment to remain as part of a planning application. A discussion took place amongst all. Cllr Cotton proposed that we rescind the expression of interest seconded by Cllr Knowles. **Clerk to email Assets of Community Value at Buckinghamshire Council to rescind the expression of interest.**

10. FOOTWAYS ON AYLESBURY ROAD – Cllr Knowles has received several reports from parishioners about the state of disrepair of the footways on Aylesbury Road. Cllr Ward reported that it's on a rolling capital maintenance program which has substantially less funding than roads. There is a meeting being held in October which Cllr Ward and Cllr Gibbon will attend. Cllr Ward reported that they are guided by the Local Area Technicians and suggested emailing our Local Area Technician referring to a previous conversation regarding resurfacing of the footways. Cllr Ward will report back after the meeting in October.

11. COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS – EAST BUCKS COMMUNITY BOARD – Cllr Cotton reported that she and the Clerk are meeting with the Community Board Manager on 30th July. Cllr Cotton will report back at the next meeting.

12. ELCTRICITY & GAS CONTRACTS – Our five year contracts end in August. The quotes received are considerably higher than what we are paying now. All agreed to look at three year contracts. **Clerk to obtain quotes from current provider, SSE and report back via email.**

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM – Cllr Cotton reported that the Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted. 515 votes were cast with 482 voting 'Yes' and 33 voting 'No'. This represented a 33% turnout. Cllr Cotton suggested going through the plan with Cllr Fisher & Cllr Knowles to see if there is anything we can do as a Parish to benefit the village further. **Cllr Cotton, Cllr Fisher and Cllr Knowles to liaise.**

14. OLD CRICKET PAVILION ROOF – The Mike and Claire Griffin Trust have confirmed they would like to assist but have requested further quotes. One has been received and we are waiting for the other. **Cllr Cotton will email Parish Councillors when the Griffin Trust have confirmed the grant has been approved.**

15. JUBILEE HALL – FACIAS, GUTTERING & SOFITS – Three quotes were shared with Parish Councillors. All agreed to contract RB Roofing Services. **Cllr Cotton will instruct to go ahead.**

16. UPDATES – To receive any updates on the following (If any) ;

- Bierton Events Group – There is a possibility of a Sports Quiz in September at Bay 19 but not yet confirmed. The running arch has been donated to Friends of Bierton School. The Santa Float maybe changing format to a meet and greet at the coffee house. Emmett's Genies have been nominated as the charity to fundraise for.
- Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground – Nothing to report
- Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors –
 - Cllr Cotton attended the Parish Liaison meeting:
 - Going to ask BMKALC if they can provide some training on planning. It will cost £420. We can invite Kingsbrook Parish Council also. **Clerk to arrange.**
 - The Street Trading Policy is coming back.
- Highways/Footpaths –
 - Cllr Fisher will look at the public footpath between Barnett Way and Brick Kiln Lane.

- Cllr Cotton reported that our Local Area Technician is leaving and will be replaced by Paul Foot.
- 17. 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 Feeney reported that the property leading into Great Lane has overgrown hedges to the side forcing pedestrians into the road. **Clerk to send a letter asking to cut back.**
- 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The meeting closed at 9.05pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 15th September 2025, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.