

Bierton Parish Council

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

Present: Cllr S Cotton in the Chair, Cllr L Fisher, Cllr S Knowles, Cllr L Harridge, Cllr S Kennedy, Cllr C Monticolumbi, Cllr J Ward (BC), Cllr K Gibbon (BC) 5 members of the public & the Clerk Mrs Wendy Tomlinson

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr S Feeney, Cllr H Smith & Cllr M Grieves
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None
3. **MATTERS/ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - Mobile Phone Survey – Cllr Knowles reported that the survey will be updated and will be distributed with the next newsletter in January 2026. The survey responses will go to the Clerk. Cllr Cotton queried if the planning application relating to the mast at Church Farm will improve the signal in the village. This is unknown. **Clerk to send letterhead to Cllr Knowles.**
4. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th October 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 Ward provided feedback from Kingsbrook Stakeholder meeting:
 - The Safety Audit for the traffic calming will hopefully take place before the end of the year.
 - The proposed footpath from Armstrong Fields to Marshalls Lea is not expected to be going ahead. Cllr Cotton has asked for confirmation of this in writing.
 - Opening of Nature Reserve – Phase 1 is expected to be delivered in 12 months (to include dog walking areas), phase 2 in 24 months and phase 3 in 40 months. Cllr Knowles commented that the Nature Reserve is expected to be very good. It will be managed by the RSPB.
 - There were several issues with fireworks on Kingsbrook recently. Kingsbrook Parish Council had to speak to the PCSO.
6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PLANNING MATTERS** –
 - PL/25/4794/TELN Church Farm, Church Farm Close Off Aylesbury Road, Bierton, Buckinghamshire, HP22 5BU Notification under Regulation 5 of the electronic communications code (conditions and restrictions) Regulations 2003 (as amended) for the installation of 1no. new power generator, 2no. new equipment cabinets and associated ancillary works thereto **All agreed to support and comment that there is hope that it increases the signal in the village.**
 - PL/25/4018/FA 68 Aylesbury Road, Bierton, Buckinghamshire, HP22 5BU Erection of timber canopy with festoon lighting and planters. New post with rope to boundary. New timber 1800mm high fencing to be painted. Treat evidence of damp to wall. Retain fixed seating and upholster. Refresh all timber joinery work. New lighting to existing positions. Skim wall and provide wallpaper. New hand basin, sink, drying rack, cisterns to urinals and WC. New screen to bar to hide glass wash. Allow for new bar backfitting . Repair brickwork allow to repoint and clean to fireplace. New bound gravel **All agreed to support.**
 - PL/25/4019/HB 68 Aylesbury Road, Bierton, Buckinghamshire, HP22 5BU Listed building consent for erection of timber canopy with festoon lighting and planters. New post with rope to boundary. New timber 1800mm high fencing to be painted. Treat evidence of damp to wall. Retain fixed seating and upholster. Refresh all timber joinery work. New lighting to existing positions. Skim wall and provide wallpaper. New hand basin, sink, drying rack, cisterns to urinals and WC. New screen to bar to hide glass wash. Allow for new bar backfitting. Repair brickwork allow to repoint and clean to fireplace. New bound gravel **All agreed to support.**
 - Cllr Cotton reported that the Cowley Close planning application is expected to go to Committee in December but a date has not yet been confirmed.
7. **CLERKS REPORT** –
 - The gas contracts have now transferred over to United Gas and Power. We are expecting one final invoice from SSE for the Jubilee Hall.
 - Fox Companies Limited are increasing their prices by 6% with effect from 1st January 2026.
 - Good Dog Behaviour Priority – Clerk attended a teams meeting to discuss and Michelle Parker has some action points such as producing a toolkit and to agree campaign days/weeks between parishes where we all promote the subject. Michelle will arrange another meeting in January.
8. **FINANCE & ORDERS** – Clerk reported 6 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.
 - **INSURANCE RENEWAL – CONFIRMATION TO RENEW AND 1 OR 3 YEARS** – All agreed to go ahead and sign up to the Long Term Agreement of 3 years. **Clerk to confirm renewal with insurance company.**

9. BUDGET 2026/2027 – All agreed first draft.

10. ASSERTION 10 – CHANGES TO 2025/2026 AGAR – Cllr Monticolombi will come on board to help with IT. Cllr Cotton reported that Fluent Ltd has made some changes to the website to improve the accessibility score and it is now 9.9 out of 10. The ownership of the website has also been transferred into the name of the Clerk. Fluent Ltd have sent an email confirming the above. **Clerk to forward email to Cllr Fisher, Cllr Monticolombi and Cllr Grieves.**

11. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE - Cllr Fisher explained what assets of community value are and that some have recently expired. It was agreed that nominations would be made for the following: Bierton Coffee House, St Osyth's Well, Red Lion, Lounge India, Jubilee Hall, The Barn/Bay 19/Golf Centre, The Dog House, Sports Centre & Old Cricket Pavilion, Aylesbury Road Allotments and St James the Great Church. It was noted that it is likely that not all will agreed to. **Cllr Fisher to complete nominations for the above.**

12. SOUND ABSORPTION – SPORTS CENTRE – Cllr Knowles reported that he has spoken to the company and explained we are not in a position to afford it at the moment. The company offered that if we were to set a budget, they would do their best to help as far as possible. Cllr Knowles fears that if we set a budget, the maximum sound absorption will not be achieved. The majority of Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should go ahead with the full recommendations. Cllr Fisher enquired if it would be worth replacing the roof but it was felt that the cost would be too extensive. The Clerk confirmed that two further quotes are needed. All agreed to add £2,000 to the 2026/2027 budget **Cllr Knowles will look into funding and obtain 2 further quotes. Clerk to add a line to the budget.**

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

- Bierton Events Group –
 - Cllr Fisher reported that the annual run was very successful. Approximately 280 runners took part. The Santa event for 7th December is organised and they are planning a Summer Event. The group will be meeting soon to plan events for the next year.
- Jubilee Hall & Sports Centre/Playground –
 - Cllr Cotton reported that there are a few plumbing issues at the Sports Centre. The caretaker is looking into them.
 - Cllr Knowles reported that there had been an issue with the window in the gents toilets at the Jubilee Hall but it appears that it is fine now. The flat roofs will need to be looked at sometime in the future. **Clerk to look at insurance policy regarding flat roofs.**
- Outside organisations virtual meetings attended by any Councillors –
 - Cllr Cotton & Cllr Knowles attended the Kingsbrook Stakeholder meeting. Feedback was provided earlier in the meeting.
 - Cllr Ward reported that more road signs have been knocked down and she has asked Barratts to replace them.
- Highways/Footpaths –
 - Cllr Ward reported that Buckinghamshire Council have recently looked at the capital works programme and that it is a rolling 4 year project. Cllr Ward has asked that the following be looked at as a matter of priority:
 - The footway on both sides of Aylesbury Road, from the Red Lion to up past the Jubilee Hall.
 - The left footway down Parsons Lane and the left hand side closes off of Parsons Lane.

14. 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 has signed up for the Dementia Awareness webinar.
- Cllr Fisher asked if anybody has any articles for the next newsletter which will be published in January 2026.
- Cllr Harridge and Cllr Feeney are going to meet regarding the open gardens.
- Cllr Harridge reported that Scouts have confirmed that the returfing of the bonfire site will be carried out this month.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – The meeting closed at 7.55pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 19th January 2026, commencing at 7pm at the Jubilee Hall.