



BUSHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 8th March 2022 at Bushley Village Hall Meeting Room

PRESENT: Cllrs. Nigel Nicoll, Vaughan Latter, Lesley Hirons and Jason Kinghorn

District Councillor Bronwyn Behan

In attendance Clerk: Dave Kent

1. Apologies: Cllrs Chris Miners and Jenny McDonagh

2. Declaration of Interests. There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests

3. To be added to the agenda

Considered in item 12 below

4. Minutes of PC Meeting Tuesday 11th January 2022.

Agreed as presented and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

5. District Councillor Report

District Councillor Behan presented a report.

Items included were:

District Council boundary review – proposals made by the Boundary Commission for District Councillors to be reduced from 38 to 31, with consequential boundary changes, for which submissions may be made by 21st March 2022.

Funding available for community projects to reduce carbon emissions and for Jubilee celebrations. Details on the MHDC website.

6. Recruitment of Councillor to fill the vacant position.

There had been no further responses to the 'Councillor vacancy' notices. Kim Fikry had confirmed his interest in joining the Council. His co-option was discussed and approved by all Councillors present (and Cllr McDonagh). The Clerk would issue the requisite paperwork to Kim Fikry for signing.

7. Finance.

Progress on the Unity Bank application was reported. The application with supporting documentation with the cheque payment of £500.00 to Bushley Parish was ready for submission to the bank. It was agreed that the mandatory 7 working days for the transfer to Unity from Lloyds would be arranged to take place early April to avoid possible issues with the end of financial year 31st March/1st April.

It was agreed that the mowing contract, currently with OMG, should be offered for tender to at least 3 potential tenderers (including OMG). A process for selecting potential tenderers and evaluating responses would be necessary.

It was agreed that the possibility of 'wilding' the churchyard would be considered. This would require an area of the churchyard that would have be managed as a wilding project as well as the contracted grass mowing. Cllr Nicoll would investigate.

In respect of the lack of clarity in respect of lengthsman's payment refunds, including an amount of £1,096 from year 2020-21, the Clerk would take up this matter with Worcestershire County Council.

The Clerk would follow up the VAT refund process. These refunds require resolution as a matter of urgency, before the end of the financial year.

b) The following items of expenditure were approved.

c	Cheque no	Payment	Details	Payee	Balance
11/01/2022	000606	£500.00	Startup new account (Unity)	Bushley PC	£6,397.10
11/01/2022	000607	£428.00	Clerk Salary	D Kent	£5,969.10
11/01/2022	000608	£131.80	Lengthsman	B Perry	£5,837.30

8. Royal Jubilee 2022

Cllr Hirons to check on community funding for this event

9. Planning applications.

Gravel extraction at Bow Lane, Ripple. Comments, as shown on the Agenda, from BPC submitted to MHDC.

10. Reports

- i) Septic Tanks: issues at Stokes Lane and Oxhey Cottage to be followed up.
- ii) Western Power: no report. No power failures in the recent storms.
- iii) Action on road signage and fencing from Oxhey Cottages to Mythe Bridge noted.
- iv) Bus shelter mural: now completed. Mural story to be uploaded to Parish Website.
- v) Bredon School report received.
- vi) Parish Paths: Stile (2no.) replacements on the Worcestershire Way and general repairs to stiles are ongoing. Concerns were expressed about manure heaps at locations in the parish. The Clerk to follow up with the landowner, following advice from the Chair.

11. Councillor Reports

- a) Village Hall Report – a positive report highlighting increased usage and the installation of wi-fi.
- b) Bushley Cricket Club:
Progress on the replacement pavilion was reported. Following the forthcoming grant application, the existing pavilion would be demolished and replaced later in 2022.
The Bluebell walk will be reinstated this year (date to be confirmed, usually Easter time).
- c) Highways: no outstanding issues
- d) Footpaths: Concern was expressed about dog fouling at Moss Green. The Clerk to seek the provision of relevant signage from the District Council.
- e) The Oxhey residential home (Tewkesbury Fields) is due to re-open in April.

12. Other Reports

Additional support for the 'Bushley News' was discussed. It was agreed that it should be issued at the start of each month. The Clerk would send information of interest from Council meetings to be included in the News sheet.

Meeting Closed

Following Meetings:

12th April 2022 – Parish Council Meeting

10th May 2022 – Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting

14th June 2022 – Parish Council Meeting

12th July 2022 – Parish Council Meeting

13th September 2022 – Parish Council Meeting

11th October 2022 – Parish Council Meeting

8th November 2022 – Parish Council Meeting