

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BILTON IN AINSTY WITH BICKERTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT MANORLEA MAIN STREET BICKERTON ON MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 2021

Present:

Councillors: Mrs J Hanson (Chairman), Mrs D Podlewska, Mr S Harrison, Mr D Cross, Mr K Talling
Mr P Atkinson & Mr L T I Grant (Clerk/RFO)

Prior to the meeting commencing, the Chairman thanked Cllr Mr S Harrison and his wife for volunteering use of his barn, allowing the meeting to be held.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs J Farnworth

2. Public Questions and Statements

None received

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 May 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2021 were approved as a true record by all Cllrs present without abstention.

4. Highway Matters

4.1 Flooded Footpath Adjacent to B1224

Emails from the Area 6 Maintenance Manager had been circulated to Cllrs, outlining the alternative schemes with costs, for addressing the flooding problem. The cheapest scheme would show some benefit and partly address the flooding problem. The long term solution to resolve flooding at each road gulley along the B1224 would be addressed in the longer term by NYCC, which is aware of increasing problems with flooding due to climate change. The Maintenance Manager had been asked to explain why NYCC had not been enforcing against the landowner who had failed to take action to stop surface water draining onto the footpath causing the unacceptable flooding.

5. Police Matters

5.1 Crime statistics are available on www.police.uk (check by postcode)

6. Finance Matters

6.1 Funds Received:

- £3,530.00 HBC (Precept half year)

6.2 Bank Balances at 30.09.21 were:

- Community Account £9,937.16
- Business Money Management account £0.00 (Account now closed)

6.3 Invoices Received and Paid;

- Clerk's quarterly Invoice £1,419.74 (£1,154.70 Salary + Expenses and £265.40 PAYE) – paid 29.09.21 prior to change of bank.

The Chairman reminded Cllrs that the NALC pay scales have been increased with the Clerk's hourly pay rate being increased by 2.75% (35p) to £13.11.

6.4 Parish Council Bank Accounts

HSBC has introduced charges to all accounts and changed the name of some accounts. In addition, HSBC Bank's Safeguarding surveys have caused considerable extra work for the Clerk/RFO. The BMM account has now been formally closed to reduce bank charges. Further information may need to be provided to HSBC to satisfy the Bank's Safeguarding Team. The Chairman, who is the authorised signatory to the accounts has previously submitted supporting documents to the Wetherby Branch, but may now have to submit them again electronically. The Clerk/RFO who is not an authorised signatory to the Bank Accounts, is also now required to submit supporting documents, although Wetherby Branch of HSBC have previously received them for other HSBC accounts where he is an authorised signatory.

The Chairman agreed to review all aspects of the PC's Banking arrangements, including the security of access to 'on line' banking facilities.

An alternative account with a digital challenger bank has been started but it is inappropriately named as the Clerk T/A The Parish Council.

7. **Planning and Related Matters**

7.1 Planning Applications Received & to be Determined

- Bickerton Filling Station – 5 Dwellings- Approval of Reserve Matters

The Application is restricted to approving fences between properties and planting. Cllrs expressed concern that the front elevation that will be presented to the B1224 was not in keeping with the recommendations in the HBC approved **Village Design Statement (VDS)**. The VDS refers to the boundaries of properties fronting onto roads which should be in keeping with the existing Village, using evergreen hedges and low walls. The current proposals which show dividing timber fences between properties are considered inappropriate to a rural setting and more suitable for an urban development.

After discussion, all Cllrs present without abstention asked the Clerk to respond:

(B) The Parish Council Objects on the grounds agreed in the meeting.

7.2 Planning decision notifications received.

- None received

7.3 Planning Enforcements.

- Elmfield Main Street Bickerton.

Cllrs considered the latest email from the Enforcement Officer unacceptable.

8. **PC Administration**

8.1 Cllrs agreed that the delegated powers granted to the Clerk in March 2020, could now be rescinded.

8.2 Future Parish Council Meetings.

Cllrs discussed venues for future Parish Council meetings. Cllr Mr P Atkinson would speak to members of the Bilton Cricket Club and seek their views on the cricket pavilion being available for hire for Monthly Parish Council meetings once it had been completed and handed over. It is unlikely to be available until early 2022. An alternative venue would be needed for the November Parish Council meeting.

9. **Councillors Business Items for the next Meeting**

- HSBC Bank Accounts
- Review of banking arrangements
- Royal Platinum Jubilee Celebration
- Tree Planting near Village seat outside stud farm.

11. **Dates for future monthly Meetings**

15 November 2021 (location to be confirmed)

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PARISH WEBSITE www.biltoninainstywithbickerton-pc.gov.uk