

# LITTLE BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7.45pm via ZOOM.

**Present:**

Cllr G Bushell (Chair)  
Cllr D Lewis  
Cllr T Wheaton  
Cllr M Goddard  
Cllr D Hopkins (Ward Councillor)

**In attendance:**

A Kemp (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr V Hopkins (Ward Councillor) & Cllr A Jenkins (Ward Councillor).

**2. Public Open Session:**

Clerk confirmed that no issues had been raised.

**3. Declaration of Interest:**

None

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 February 2021:**

Minutes signed and approved.

<p><b>5. Progress Report on matters from last Minutes: 3122</b></p> <p><b>5.1 (item 5.1 of minutes 05/10/20) – Water Supply to Churchyard &amp; Watsons Field:</b></p> <p><u>Clerk confirmed that he had requested Anglian Water to provide a quotation for a water supply to the Churchyard and Watsons Field.</u></p> <p><b>5.2 - (item 6.1 of minutes 05/10/20) - Email received from W&amp;WFC regarding potential work at Watson's Field to try and incorporate a small playing pitch.</b></p> <p><u><b>NO CHANGE</b> - Clerk advised that he had contacted MKC Planning Department and that we will have to submit a planning application and the cost will be between £250 - £300. Following discussion at the November 2020 Parish Council meeting the Clerk advised that the Football club have agreed to split the cost for a planning application 50/50 and will work with the Clerk to prepare the necessary application paperwork as soon as possible.</u></p> <p><b>5.3 - (item 5.8 of minutes 05/10/20) – Community Infrastructure Fund - 2019/2020.</b> Now that we have been awarded a grant of £1,695.00 towards the cost of replacing the chairs in the Community Centre, the Clerk was tasked with agreeing with the Community Centre Committee the type of chair to be purchased. <u>Ongoing.</u></p> <p><b>5.4 – (item 5.9 of minutes 05/10/20) – Grass verges that have been damaged on both sides of the road at the former garage site on Watling Street. <u>The Chairman confirmed that he had received an assurance from the Developer that the verges would be re-seeded when building work has been completed. NO CHANGE.</u></b></p> <p><u>It was suggested that we should investigate erecting some bollards to protect the grass verge and the Clerk was asked to investigate this.</u></p> <p><u>Clerk confirmed that when lockdown is final relaxed that he would be in a better position to investigate this request. Good quality bollards are available at around £100 each.</u></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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<p><b>5.5 - (item 5.11 of minutes 05/10/20) - Cllr Wheaton expressed concerns over the state of the old, protected wall on the development site of the former Green Man public house.</b></p> <p><u>Cllr Wheaton has sent a draft response to the Clerk who will now write to seek support from MKC Planning Enforcement Team on this issue.</u></p>	Clerk
<p><b>5.6 – (item 5.13 of minutes 05/10/20) - It has been highlighted to the Parish Council that dog walkers are still using Watson Field</b> which is not permitted by the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>It was noted that there is not a sign stating that dogs are not allowed on Watsons Field from the public footpath at the top of the field and the Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for consideration. <b>NO CHANGE</b></u></li> <li>• <u>Email received 09/12/20 from MKC regarding <b>Public Spaces Protection Order No.2 – Dog Fouling</b> and requesting help from Parish Councils in displaying posters. Clerk has ordered some posters, awaiting delivery. These will be displayed in Little Brickhill, where appropriate.</u></li> <li>• <u>Still waiting for MKC on the <b>byelaw request</b> but hopefully will be concluded by MKC Legal Department when lockdown pressures are relaxed.</u></li> </ul>	Clerk
<p><b>5.7 – (item 6.2 of minutes 05/10/20) - Email received 16/09/20 from Greensand County regarding Village Gateway Signs Legal Agreement.</b> Following discussion, the Clerk was authorised to sign the agreement in order that arrangements can be made to have the two <b>Greensands Village Gateway Signs</b> installed.</p> <p><b>Update – Contact details on who in MKC will sign the contract has been established and the contract will be posted to them as quickly as possible.</b></p>	Clerk
<p><b>5.8 – (item 7.2 of minutes 05/10/20) - Watsons Field Boundary Fence.</b></p> <p><b>Update – Most of the minor repairs have been completed. However, the boundary fence at the top of Watsons Field (parallel with the footpath) is in a bad state and the whole section requires replacing. Clerk to get quotation. Ongoing.</b></p>	Clerk
<p><b>5.9– (item 7.3 of minutes 05/10/20) - (item 7.5 of minutes 06/07/20) - Tree Problem –</b></p> <p><b>Update – Tree work completed 11 February 2021; resident is asking the Parish Council if the weeds could be cleared on the boundary to their property. As the problem is within the Community Centre grounds, Clerk was authorised to ask our contractor to undertake this work.</b></p>	Clerk
<p><b>5.10 – (item 17.3 of minutes 05/10/20) - Cllr D Lewis advised that parts of the footpath / cycle path are overgrown towards the bottom of Watling Street and as you travel towards Bletchley near to the garden centre.</b></p> <p><b>Update – It was noted that this work has still not been completed. Clerk to report this issue to MKC.</b></p>	Clerk
<p><b>5.11 – (item 7.7 of minutes 05/10/20) - Changes to Subsidised Bus Services.</b></p> <p><b>Update – From March 31, 2021, many of the supported bus services in Milton Keynes come to an end and in its place a new service known as Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) will be available to those bus users who do not have access to the commercial routes. It was agreed to monitor this issue very closely over the coming months. Ongoing.</b></p>	
<p><b>5.13 - (item 16.5 of minutes 05/10/20) - Woburn Estates – Cllr Goddard advised that there was still evidence of anti-social behaviour taking place at the derelict barns off Woburn Road.</b></p> <p><b>Update – Clerk has recently emailed Woburn Estates advising them that the temporary fences are now not adequate and that there was still antisocial behaviour taking place.</b></p>	Clerk

<p><b>6. Correspondence: 3123</b></p> <p><u>No correspondence received.</u></p>	
<p><b>7. Clerks Report / Local Issues: 3124</b></p> <p><b>7.1 – New email address</b></p> <p><u>Clerk in the process of informing all concerned that the Parish Council now have a new email address.</u></p>	Clerk
<p><b>8. To discuss the forthcoming South East Milton Keynes Consultation: 3125</b></p> <p>It was noted that this consultation will start on Monday the 8 February 2021 and finish on the 19 April 2021. <u>More details in Unitary Report.</u></p> <p><u>Final decision on a response from Little Brickhill Parish Council will be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting on the 12 April 2021.</u></p>	
<p><b>8. Unitary Councillors' Report: 3126</b></p> <p>Copies of the Ward Councillors' reports to Little Brickhill Parish Council for March 2021 are <u>appended to these minutes.</u></p>	
<p><b>10. Planning: 3127</b></p> <p><b>10.1 – 21/00365/CLUP</b> - Certificate of lawfulness for single storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable room, addition of conservation rooflight to bedroom 4 at Pineapple House, 2 Eversden Close, Little Brickhill. <u>No issues were raised.</u></p> <p><b>10.2 - 21/00367/FUL</b> - Single storey extension to front and side to create storage and home office at 6 Great Brickhill Lane, Little Brickhill.</p> <p><b><u>Clerk was asked to write to MKC detailing the following concerns.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I have been requested to write to you on behalf of my Parish Council concerning the above-mentioned planning application.</u></li> <li>• <u>My Parish Council is aware that neighbours have raised objections to this planning application and have sympathy with their concerns.</u></li> <li>• <u>We ask that these concerns are considered and satisfactory resolved before any planning decision is made.</u></li> </ul> <p><b>10.3 - 21/00406/TPO</b> - Tree Preservation Order Consent for T1, T2 and T3 - Horse Chestnuts - Reshape crown by 2m on each tree to keep the trees tidy and healthy and prevent overhang on the foot path at 9 Brickhill Manor Court, Little Brickhill. <u>No issues were raised.</u></p> <p><b>10.4 - 21/00522/CONS</b> - Erection of 12m high wind turbine at Bryerley Springs Farm, Galley Lane, Great Brickhill, MK17 9AA. <u>No issues were raised but Cllr D Bushell agreed to notify a few residents of this planning application.</u></p> <p><b>10.5 – 20/03258/FUL</b> - Single Storey rear extension, first floor extension over existing garage and minor elevational alterations at 8 Great Brickhill Lane, Little Brickhill.</p> <p><u>Notification received 08/02/21 from MKC that full planning permission had been granted.</u></p> <p><b>10.6 - 21/00507/HNOT</b> - Hedgerow notification to remove max. 40m of hedgerow to facilitate the laying of approx. 566m of 280mm HPPE SDR21 pipe. The hedgerow requires removal to install start and end connection and to install pipe at safe distance from root protection area of mature oak at Land at A5 Between Beds Boundary and Little Brickhill Bypass, Milton Keynes. <u>No issues were raised.</u></p>	Clerk

<p><b>11. To discuss any Highway issues including introduction of (20 MPH Zones): 3128</b></p> <p><b>11.1 - Progress on introduction of 20 MPH Zones:</b></p> <p><b><u>Update</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ward Councillor David Hopkins distributed to all Little Brickhill Parish Councillors via mail (01/02/2021) the latest procedures for submitting schemes to MKC.</u></li> <li>• <u>It was agreed that Cllr Goddard would prepare some evidence from the SID data for agreement on how to proceed with this at the next Parish Council Meeting on the 12 April 2021.</u></li> </ul> <p><b>11.2 – Other issues raised.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can MKC be approached to undertake a review of road safety issues concerned with the junction of Great Brickhill Road and Watling Street.</li> <li>• Could the A5 heading north out of the village be stopped up so that all traffic enters the A5 from Woburn Road access?</li> <li>• Questions were raised about the necessity for the refuge on Watling Street opposite the new houses on the former garage site.</li> <li>• If none of the above is possible could the speed limit heading north on Watling Street be extended in area to beyond the access to the buttery and the other dwellings access point leaving the village.</li> <li>• Require audit of all Street Lighting in the Village.</li> <li>• Road Sign repair on Watling Street.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Update</u></b> – <u>Clerk to contact MKC to arrange a meeting with a representative from MKC Highways when COVID-19 lockdown conditions are relaxed.</u></p> <p><b>11.3 - Ongoing Highway Issues:</b></p> <p><b>11.3.1 - Parking Issue</b> with parking outside the flats on the pavement and grass verges on Great Brickhill Lane.</p> <p><b><u>Update</u></b> – <u>Clerk to contact MKC to arrange a meeting with a representative from MKC Highways when COVID-19 lockdown conditions are relaxed.</u></p> <p><b>11.3.2 – Village Issues:</b> It was noted that MKC had provided feedback on the service levels for grass cutting, drain cleaning, road sweeping, moss clearing, weed straying and play equipment inspections. The feedback did not answer all the concerns raised by the Parish Council.</p> <p><u>Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to arrange a Zoom meeting as soon as possible with MKC to progress this request. Clerk and Chairman will represent Little Brickhill Parish Council.</u></p>	<p>Cllr M Goddard</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk / Cllr Bushell</p>
<p><b>12. To discuss Climate change issues / MKC initiative: 3129</b></p> <p>A draft Green infrastructure Plan was distributed prepared for the village of Silsoe in Bedfordshire. This is an example of one that could be prepared for Little Brickhill. It was estimated that it would cost between £3k - £4k to have a report prepared for Little Brickhill and it was accepted in principle that this would be a good use of Parish funds and benefit the village.</p> <p><b><u>Update</u></b> – <u>Clerk advised that he had investigated if there are grants available to produce a report, but most concerns only give grants for capital projects and that it highly unlikely to obtain funding to product a report. It was agreed to consider funding the preparation of a report from Parish Council funds at the April 2021 Parish Council meeting.</u></p>	

<p><b>13. To discuss the resurrection of the Village Newsletter: 3130</b></p> <p><u>It was agreed to delay the start of publication of the newsletter until at least May 2021 at the earliest until lockdown conditions have been relaxed.</u></p>													
<p><b>14. Financial: 3131</b></p> <p><b>14.1 - Cheques presented for payment:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>S/O</td> <td>£184.00</td> <td>Alan Kemp (Salary – March 2021)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100865</td> <td>£504.00</td> <td>Steve Dear Tree Services Ltd (Community Centre)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100866</td> <td>£450.00</td> <td>W&amp;WFC (Grass Cutting)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100867</td> <td>£46.00</td> <td>HMR&amp;C (Tax for Clerk)</td> </tr> </table> <p>This expenditure was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously.</p> <p><b>14.2 – Payments received:</b> Ward Councillor Grant - £400.00 (Greensands Gateway Signs)</p> <p><b>14.3</b> - It was noted that the <b>Bank Balance</b> following the payments made tonight (01/03/21) and cheques not cashed (100863) was <b>£22,708.28</b>.</p> <p><b>14.4 - Bank Mandate:</b> Waiting for Cllr Goddard to visit a Barclays Bank branch to go through the security checks.</p>	S/O	£184.00	Alan Kemp (Salary – March 2021)	100865	£504.00	Steve Dear Tree Services Ltd (Community Centre)	100866	£450.00	W&WFC (Grass Cutting)	100867	£46.00	HMR&C (Tax for Clerk)	
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<p><b>15. To review / agree the Clerks Salary for 2021 / 2022. 3132</b></p> <p><b>The Motion:</b> Following a review of the Clerks role and responsibilities, the Clerks salary for financial year (2020/2021) will be £2,714.00 plus £250.00 for home working, making the total for the year of £2,964.00. This equates to £247.00 per month, an increase of £17.50 per month. <u>Next review in March 2022.</u></p>													
<p><b>16. To receive reports on the Community Centre: 3133</b></p> <p><b>16.1 - Electrical Work</b> – Clerk advised that we are still waiting for a date from Western Power when they will be completing work to change the source of electricity from overhead cables underground. <u>No Change.</u></p> <p><b>16.2 – Roof Issue</b> – It was noted that a tile requires replacing and the Clerk advised that a <u>member of the Hall Management Committee had agreed to complete the repair when lockdown conditions are relaxed.</u></p>													
<p><b>17. Councillors Report: 3134</b></p> <p><b>17.1</b> – (item <b>17.1</b> of minutes 01/03/21) - Cllr Wheaton asked if anyone had any information on how take over any local facilities that may close as a Community Asset. Cllr Lewis offered his help in looking into this issue. <u>Ongoing.</u></p> <p><b>17.2</b> – (item <b>17.2</b> of minutes 01/03/21) - Cllr Bushell advised that some conifer trees have been planted at a property at Eversden Close overlooking a property on Wyness Avenue and asked the Clerk to looking into this issue.</p> <p><b>Update</b> - Complaining to your local council - If you would like your local council to investigate your complaint the hedge in question must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be rooted on land belonging to someone else.</li> <li>• Be made up of a minimum of 2 or more trees or shrubs.</li> <li>• Be mostly made up of evergreen or semi-evergreen trees or shrubs.</li> <li>• Be more than 2 metres tall.</li> <li>• Be capable of obstructing light or views.</li> <li>• You can complain to your local council if you are the owner or occupier (e.g., landlord, tenant, or resident owner) of the affected property. The property affected must however be residential (i.e., not a business or warehouse).</li> <li>• When considering whether a hedge height detracts from the reasonable enjoyment of your property or garden, the council will consider all relevant factors, including light, views, and the homeowner’s need for privacy.</li> </ul> <p><u>After discussion it was agreed that we should report this to MKC for investigation.</u></p>	Clerk												

<p><b>17.3 – Rubbish</b> – There is a report of rubbish being dumped on Woburn Road containing McDonald’s takeaway packaging. <i>Cllr Goddard agreed to take some photos and send them to the Clerk in order that he can approach McDonalds to remove these items as part of the Company’s commitment to the environment.</i></p>	<p>Cllr Goddard / Clerk</p>
<p><b>18. Items for the next / future agendas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk Assessment – TBA</li> </ul>	
<p><b>19. Date of Next Meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Future dates are noted below:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 12 April 2021</li> <li>• Monday 10 May 2021</li> </ul> <p><u>There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.26 pm.</u></p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chairman for Little Brickhill Parish Council</p>	