

Minutes of Berryfields Parish Council Meeting

held at Roman park, Sir Henry Lee Crescent, Aylesbury, HP19 0YT

on Wednesday 21st June 2023.

Present: Laurilee Green (Chairman), Paul Redshaw (Vice Chairman), Arun Sekhar, Bindu Gundapudi, John Yandrapati, Gareth Lane, Louise Rees, Lucy Harmes, Nigel Pike, Ricky Smith
Anthea Cass (Clerk), Hannah Cass (minute taker), Ashley Waite (Buckinghamshire Councillor).

23.1 Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence.

23.2 Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

No declarations of interest.

23.3 Open forum (under adjournment)

A member of the public attended to thank the Parish Council for their help in supporting the appeal for a pharmacy in Berryfields. He asked for a letter from the Parish Council in support of this appeal, to which Cllr Green agreed.

Cllr Ashley Waite discussed the issue of roads, reporting that the council are looking to achieve 2500 road repairs, and the standards of roads are slowly improving. He also gave an update on the homeless gentleman in the layby, informing that the court action is still going through, and he is replying to any comments on Facebook about the issue. He also updated the councillors about Bernie bus and informed them of the new 'youth bus'. He also raised the issue of traffic, parking and speeding around the estate, suggesting the idea of a Facebook group or page to act as a discussion point. He said he is happy to set up the group but asked for support of the Parish Council. The Councillors discussed this idea and came to the decision to try it and see if it is successful. Cllr Yandrapati asked Cllr Waite if there were any plans for a bus from Buckingham Park to Berryfields, to which Cllr Waite said he would look into. Cllr Waite also informed the Councillors that North Buckinghamshire will be getting a new MP.

23.4 Planning

To consider any planning applications submitted for consultation to the Parish Council and any other applications received after publication of this agenda:

23/01745/APP | Householder application for erection of outbuilding (retrospective) | 44 Merton Close Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP18 0ZN Full details: **23/01745/APP | Householder application for erection of outbuilding (retrospective) | 44 Merton Close Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP18 0ZN (aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk)**

Agreed unanimously to remain neutral in respect of the above application.

Proposed by: Cllr Rees

Seconded by: Cllr Lane

23.5 Minutes

To agree the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 17th May 2023.

Proposed by: Cllr Rees

Seconded by: Cllr Harmes

23.6 Land and Facilities

Roman Park Hall

Review and ratify the purchase of air conditioning unit

The councillors discussed the two quotes for the installation of air conditioning units that were circulated.

RESOLVED to purchase a cooling system in the storeroom and an air conditioning unit in the kitchen.

Proposed by: Cllr Redshaw

Seconded by: Cllr Smith

Hall Update

The Clerk read out a report written by the Angelika Opoka, that detailed regular hall bookings, community events, new cleaners, tennis courts, and the issue of being short staffed.

Cllr Rees raised the issue of the disabled parking spaces. The Clerk said she is waiting to hear back from the architect about what can be done.

Cllr Gundapudi raised the issue of bus shelters, to which Cllr Green replied that this is a transport issue and not something the Parish Council can do.

Opening hours of the kiosk

The Councillors discussed the issue of the kiosk; it has only opened twice on request, breaching the contract. It was agreed that with summer approaching, it needs to be open now more than ever. They discussed enforcing the contract, suggesting that our solicitor draft a letter. They also discussed appropriate opening times.

RESOLVED to advise tenants open the kiosk from 8am to 8pm, or terminate their contract.

Allotments

Update

The Councillors discussed the idea of a deposit scheme. The Clerk said it is possible, but the allotment holders must be given a year's notice. She also explained that Amanda is currently working on the allotments, reallocating empty plots and evicting people who are not using them appropriately (anyone who has not been cultivating this year has been given a notice). Cllr Green suggested that as the allotments are not run for a profit, a deposit may not be needed. Cllr Redshaw suggested that it would give allotment holders more responsibility. The Councillors voted on the matter by a show of hands.

RESOLVED to introduce a deposit scheme.

Installation of taps

Cllr Green asked the Councillors if they are happy to agree to a water supply, and the specifics to be agreed later. Cllr Sekhar asked for a diagram. Cllr Green agreed to get a more detailed quote and diagrams.

RESOLVED to install two taps, subject to a more detailed quote and diagrams.

Proposed by: Cllr Lane

Seconded by: Cllr Smith

Park inspections and repairs

The Clerk raised the issue of fencing in the parks; wooden posts are rotting, children are pushing on them, and the wood is falling away. Cllr Redshaw suggested not getting wooden ones again as the same thing will happen. The Clerk said she is looking for an alternative for wood and is waiting for a quote.

23.7 Finance

23.7.1 To approve the payment run as circulated and to ratify budgeted payments made outside the Parish Council meeting.

BERRYFIELDS PARISH COUNCIL Payment run 21st June 2023					
Payee	Detail		Net	VAT	Total £
Staff salaries & expenses	Net salaries and expenses	£	5,732.60		£ 5,732.60
Agnieszka Alhors consulting	Park inspections inv PC001855	£	277.50	£0.00	£ 277.50
Baughan Pest Control	Bi monthly servicing invoice 5802	£	80.00	£ 16.00	£ 96.00
Pickerings	Container hire inv no 1098637	£	110.40	£ 22.08	£ 132.48
Pickerings	Container hire inv no 1098638	£	184.00	£ 36.80	£ 220.80
KC Hogan	Accountancy and Bookkeeping services to date inv 23 05-017	£	600.00	£ 120.00	£ 720.00
RTM	Grass Cuts to parks and allotments Inv 4094	£	2,014.29	£ 402.86	£ 2,417.15
Shard Tec	Office 365 Invoice 3577	£	90.10	£ 18.02	£ 108.12
Stem Technologies	Invoice 3059 - Stem Hosting monthly rental	£	45.00	£ 9.00	£ 54.00
See The Light	CCTV Pole Berryfields Green - March- July payment due @£45.60 per month	£	190.00	£ 38.00	£ 228.00
		£	9,323.89	£ 662.76	£ 9,986.65
Receipts	Berryfields Brew - quarterly rent on kiosk	-£	2,000.00	-£ 400.00	-£ 2,400.00
	Grant from Buckinghamshire Council for Community Board Grant for Summer 22 entertainment	-£	618.80	£ -	-£ 618.80
	Martin Grant Homes - recharge for BPC maintenance of parks Sept 21- March 23	-£	1,839.51	-£367.90	-£ 2,207.41
	Berryfields News advertisers	-£	250.00	-50.00	-£ 300.00
	Stripe - tennis	-£	209.84	0.00	-£ 209.84
		-£	4,918.15	-£ 817.90	-£ 5,736.05
Budgeted Payments made					
	Action 4 youth membership	£	110.00	£0.00	£ 110.00
	HMRC	£	2,000.00	£0.00	£ 2,000.00
	Public Works Loan Board	£	13,134.87	£0.00	£ 13,134.87
	TEEC Website Hosting	£	395.30	£79.06	£ 474.36
		£	15,640.17	£ 79.06	£ 15,719.23

Proposed by: Cllr Harmes

Seconded by: Cllr Yandrapati

23.7.2 To agree the accounts to end of May as circulated.

Proposed by: Cllr Lane

Seconded by: Cllr Rees

23.7.3 To approve the Governance and Accounting Statements for Berryfields Parish Council for the financial year ended 31st March 2022. Deferred to next month.

23.7.4 To agree the dates for the Exercise of Public Rights to view the Council's accounts. Deferred to next month.

23.7.5 To appoint Gus Orchard as internal auditor for 2023 audit.

Proposed by: Cllr Yandrapati

Seconded by: Cllr Pike

23.8 Review / ratify policies as circulated to Councillors

Finance and Procurement – carried over from last month

Proposed by: Cllr Pike

Seconded by: Cllr Rees

Publications Scheme

Risk Policy

Freedom of Information

Standing Orders

Cllr Yandrapati suggested more time to review the rest of the policies.

23.9 Events

Update on hall opening event

The Clerk updated the Councillors on the event; the 5th of August has been booked, and a 'save the date' has been made. It will be a free event. The band is booked, and the Councillors can decide if there are any other activities they would like to have there. The Councillors discussed the kiosk being open for food, and the possibility of inviting the fire eater to perform.

23.10 Berryfields News & Communication

Cllr Green announced that 'Our Berryfields' is due to go out next week, and the next one will be at the end of September. The Councillors agreed that the editorial team should discuss over email during summer. Cllr Sekhar asked if the item on the agenda can be changed to 'Our Berryfields'.

The Clerk asked the Councillors to look at the new website as it is starting to be improved.

23.11 Highways & Transport

MVAS & Sentinel

Cllr Redshaw said it didn't seem to be working. The Clerk said she will check with contractor.

23.12 Meetings & matters of report

The new Councillors have their inductions tomorrow.

Cllr Lane asked about the youth club and the Clerk said all updates were in the report. The Councillors discussed whether they want to be trained or just DBS checked and that they may not need to be trained if there will be support from a youth worker. Cllr Gundapudi suggested that training may be a good idea in case of any incidents. Cllr Smith and Cllr Lane recommended different forms of funding.

23.13 Date of next Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 19th July 2023.