

## **BILLINGBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at Billingborough Primary School

**Present:** Cllr M King – Chairman, Cllr R Free – Vice chairman, Cllrs R. Stafford, P. Pocock, P. Jepson, C. Jepson, C. Woodhead plus S. Stock (from item 2 onwards)  
Clerk to the Council – M Free

There were no members of the public present but the Chairman welcomed Sarah Stock, the applicant for Co-option onto the Council.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Apologies from Cllr A. Hesslewood were accepted by the Council.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting & General Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016.** The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the file copy.
3. **Possible Co-option of Councillor.** The Council asked the applicant to wait outside, and her application for co-option was discussed. In the absence of Cllr Hesslewood, Cllrs King and P Jepson fed back their comments from the interview panel. **The Council voted unanimously to Co-opt the applicant. Sarah Stock returned to the meeting and completed her Acceptance of Office.**
4. **Urgent Payments for Approval.** The Clerk presented the Council with the previously circulated payments for approval. **The Council approved the electronic payments and receipts. Cllrs King and P Jepson signed the payments on the attached list.**
5. **Budget preparation for 2017/18.** The Council discussed the forecast outturn for the current financial year, and the committed expenditure for next year. A number of project options were considered and prioritised in line with maintaining the village as per the Parish Council's remit. Other funding options would also be explored. The chairman informed the Council that an additional donation from Horbling Parish Council towards the improvements at the Recreation Ground may also be available. The reduction in the SKDC Grant (42%), and a possible increase to the Precept was also discussed. **The following were agreed by the Council:**
  - a. **Draft Budget and Precept to be presented for approval at the January meeting.**
  - b. **Precept to be increased to cover the Grant reduction and the additional homes at Houghton and Wesley Courts and the former George & Dragon. Agreed at a ratio of 6:2**
  - c. **Clerk to publish the draft Budget and Precept with the Agenda.**
  - d. **Parish Council objectives to be finalised at the next meeting, then published on the website.**
  - e. **Refurbishment of the Pavilion patio would be discussed with the Cricket Club.**
  - f. **Cllr King to seek financial investment for the village in line with Section 106 for the 2 phases of the Grimers Developments.**
  - g. **Cllr Free to explore the approach from Sharedaccess.com to install a mobile mast at the Recreation Ground.**
  - h. **Cllr Rec Team to speak to Donington regarding their Skate Park.**
  - i. **Cllr Stock to try and determine the ownership of the old Co-Op building.**
  - j. **Cllr Stock to contact the landlord of the Fortesque Arms with regard to handing over the recently discovered historical records to the Heritage Group.**
  - k. **Clerk to contact the VH Committee with regards to holding the Annual Meeting there.**
6. **Adoption of Telephone Box & future usage.** The option to purchase and take over the responsibility of the telephone box on Pointon Road. The consultation closed at the end of the week. Future options, such as housing a defibrillator, were discussed, and also vandalism concerns. **It was unanimously agreed to not purchase the Telephone Box. A second defibrillator for the village was not ruled out. Cllr Pocock to submit Council's response to SKDC.**

7. **Cemetery damage Court Hearing.** The issue with the damaged headstones had been resolved without going into Court. Matter closed.
8. **Other Urgent Business: Vicarage Photocopier.** The Chairman read an email regarding the possible repair costs of the vicarage photocopier from Rev. Sorenson. The photocopier may have been damaged beyond economic repair. Although acknowledged as accidental and whilst undertaking Council business, the damage had been caused by a councillor. A contribution towards the repair or replacement was requested. The Council had a number of questions. It was unanimously agreed to delegate the Council's decision to Cllrs King and Free once more information was known.

There was no other business deemed urgent by the Chairman.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.33pm.