

BULKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs F A Price 1 The Croft Urchfont Devizes SN10 4RT

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17 May 2017
First Meeting of the newly-elected Council

Present: Cllrs Mrs A Read, P Bowen, Mrs K Lock
and ex-Cllrs S Barratt, Mrs C Crawford and G Elliott

Candidates for Co-option to fill Vacancies left by the Election : I Pendlebery, M Westmacott

Cllr J Seed – Wiltshire Council, Summerham & Seend

No member of the public present

The Meeting started at 7.30, with

1. 1. Election of a Chairman for 2017-18:

Cllr Mrs Read stated her willingness to serve as Chairman – **Elected unanimously**
She then signed her Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

2. Co-option of 2 Councillors :

Ian Pendlebery introduced himself. He has lived in the village since 2013, after serving in the Army, and now is concerned with Welfare with the MOD. He is a Trustee of the RAPC Service Charity.

He is experienced in Logistics and Accounting. He has adult children living elsewhere.

Matthew Westmacott then spoke. He has lived in the village for 3 years and has 3 young children: he wants to commit to living in Bulkington to see the children grow up, and is naturally interested in such things as the Playing Field.

Cllr Bowen and ex-Cllr Elliott declared support for Mr Pendlebery,
Cllr Mrs Lock and ex-Cllr Elliott for Mr Westmacott, and

Both were unanimously Co-opted to serve as Councillors until the Elections in 2021

1. All the Councillors present then signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillors;
Cllr Bennett to sign at the next Meeting.

Cllr Seed spoke briefly before leaving for another meeting, to say that he was pleased to be back in Bulkington – he attends about 100 Parish Council Meetings a year. He was returned with an increased majority; although not in the new Cabinet he has responsibility for flood precautions and related matters.

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2. 4. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Bennett

5. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Mrs Read for the Village Hall

6. Minutes of Meeting on 15 March: Accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

7. Reports:

[a] Mr Barratt has submitted a new Application for a grant of £600 towards the WWI Centenary memorial

stone itself, after the Area Board ruled that it is part of the same project for which the PC has already

received £550, which paid for the preparatory tree-stump removal.

The Area Board will decide on this grant at its Meeting on 7 June.

Cllr Seed promised his help, and will discuss the Application with Mr Barratt and the Area Board.

[Cllr Seed left at 7.55]

Mr Barratt will go ahead with the project, Cllrs Bowen and Lock agreed to join him in a Committee

to carry it to completion. He will email the design to all new Councillors.

[b] Cllr Bennett has emailed his Report on Footpaths, showing some points needing correction, and Highways Report, including the Parish Steward timetable of visits - **Clerk to put on Notice Board.**

Cllr Bennett will be the point of contact for the Steward, and he should be notified of any problems for the Steward's attention.

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8. Section 137 LGA 1972: No Application received to date. **Clerk to remind PCC.**

9. Finance:

The Clerk reported that the Accounts are with the Internal Auditor, and after her report is signed the Parish Council will hold a Special Finance Meeting to approve the Annual Return – after the Annual Parish Meeting on 24 May as it must reach the External Auditor by 30 May.

One cheque was signed while Glenn Elliott was still a Councillor – before the start of this Meeting -

chq no 000179, for £619.06, to Community First Trading, Renewal of the Parish Council's Insurance,

This is the third year of the LTA, and the Renewal shows a rise after Insurance Premium Tax and

Community First's Administration charge of just under £14 or 2.25%.

2018-19 may well show a rise in Premium and/or change of Insurer, but this cannot be predicted.

The loss of Mr Barratt and Mr Elliot means that the PC needs 2 new Signatories on the Bank Mandate:

Cllr Pendlebery and Cllr Mrs Lock agreed to do this, and will accompany the Clerk to Lloyds Bank

in Devises at a time and date to be arranged.

Payment of such things as the Community First and Local Council Review subscriptions must wait until

the changes to the mandate are complete.

The Clerk then reported – one matter of concern is that the Playing Field has still not paid the customary

reimbursement of the ex-VAT cost of the Fireworks (£416.65), having already caused problems by only

presenting the cheque for the £500 total cost – dated November - in March, which caused the PC to be

briefly overdrawn, incurring Bank Charges of £35.

Ex-Cllr Mrs Crawford said she thought repayment of these charges could be arranged. See

10. below

However, the Clerk said the PC should reconsider these arrangements to avoid future problems.

The Clerk continued, reporting that the total VAT paid in 2016-17 - £349.28 – was reclaimed from HMRC

on 25 April and should be repaid later this month.

The 2017-18 Precept - £4,750 – was received on 25 April.

10. William Breach Centenary Playing Field:

Mrs Crawford reported that there is no longer any actual Playing Field Committee, but there is a certain

amount of money in the Playing Field Bank Account, Sallie-Ann Bown remains as Treasurer, and

two people have come forward to help with the Fireworks display.

The Chairman asked whether Mrs Crawford could recruit some people to form a new Committee –

they do not have to be Councillors, but there really must be somebody to report to the Parish Council,

which is responsible for the Insurance and regular Safety Inspections.

Cllr Bowen said there *are* people ready to help, but not to form a formal Committee – however he will

discuss matters with Mrs Crawford, and do what he can to find volunteers.

Mrs Crawford said she feels that when people know what the problems are they might come forward.

11. Planning : No Application received.

12. Any Other Business:

None requiring discussion, so the Meeting closed at 8.30pm.