**Draft Minutes of the Bulkington Parish Council Meeting**

**PENDING APPROVAL**

**Held on Wednesday the 20th of April 2022 at 7.30pm at the Bulkington Village Hall**

Attendees: Andrew Grabham(Chair), Alex Breach, Alison Howard-Evans, Julie Anderson-Hill,

Simon Downey

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| **Ref** | **Subject** | **Action** |
| 28/22 | **Apologies for absence:** Amy Powell, PCSO Janet, Tamara Reay (Conservative Councillor for the Devizes Rural West Division) and Carla Haslam |  |
| 29/22 | **To Record:**  No changes to the Register of Interests were declared  No interest in Agenda Items was declared |  |
| 30/22 | **To Receive a report** from PCSO Janet and Tamara Reay  Tamara Reay: The following report was received:  The Devizes Area Board met on Monday 7 March and was attended by many local partners and Parish Council representatives -  [details here](https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=163&MId=13883&Ver=4) including reports from the Police and Fire Service.  The changes to residual waste collections (black bins) will save the Council £400,000 pa in efficiencies.  Subsequently residents will be aware that industrial action by Hills Waste (GMB Union) has resulted in difficulties over the past few days in lorries being unable to leave depots, and as a result the Council has taken the difficult decision to prioritise residual waste collections and therefore suspend recycling collections until 21 March.  It should be noted that UNISON employees have agreed to the revised pay deal offered by Hills – initially 2% last year and this was revised to 7% over two years (2% in Oct 2021 and a further 5% from March 2022). This is certainly not unreasonable given public sector pay increases are currently averaging around 2.5%.  More information for residents can be found [here](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/faqs-hills-municipal-collections-industrial-action).  PCSO Report to follow separately once received. No PCSO updates to share from the minutes from last Area Board meeting yet as it was on the 7th of March.  **The Clerk updates the Councillors on the new policing model:**   * As a police force, we cover the whole county, across both local authority areas for Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council. * The county is divided into eight Community Policing Teams (CPTs). * Each team is led by an Inspector and made up of designated Response and Neighbourhood officers. * Each CPT has five Response Teams with each one being led by sergeants. The main role of these officers is to respond to 999 and 101 calls and manage ongoing investigations. * Each CPT has a Neighbourhood Team. In Swindon this is divided into three areas. These are led by an Inspector and made up of sergeants, officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), volunteers and police staff.   Our Neighbourhood Teams play a valuable role as the main link between the Force and the community. They are the officers and volunteers you will come to recognise in your communities and will see at local meetings and events.  Our neighbourhood officers focus directly on working within the community, offering greater contact with the public and take a problem-solving approach to local community issues.  **Your Community Policing Team**  We continue to work hard to embed our neighbourhood officers within the town and parish communities and we are working to raise awareness of these teams and how the public and partners can best engage and communicate with them.  Below, you will find an updated list of all our CPTs, the Inspectors who lead them and how you can get in contact with them. You can also find out more information about the team and our policing priorities in the ‘Community Policing Team’ area on our Force [website](https://www.wiltshire.police.uk/police-forces/wiltshire-police/areas/about-us/about-us/cpts/). | Clerk to share the Sustainable Devizes Survey Report following the meeting |
| 31/22 | **Open Forum:** None raised |  |
| 32/22 | **Local Planning Updates:** opportunity to discuss any local planning, none raised |  |
| 33/22 | **Minute Approval:** The last Minutes of the February Parish Council Meeting were approved. |  |
| 34/22 | **Finance:**  Clerk Pay March £221.60  Clerk Expenses: Leaflet print £23.67  Clerk Expenses: Amazon Purchases for village event:  Napkins, Flipchart Markers, Sticky Notes and Flipchart £28.23  Ideverde Works Date: 01/02/2022 - 28/02/2022 £103.59 |  |
| 35/22 | **Finance Planning:** Following the increase of the Precept 2022/23 councillors have discussed plans for the spend and financial planning of the year but would like to give villagers the chance to contribute ideas as well. The Village event on the 26th of March has been organised with this in mind. |  |
| 36/22 | **Website:** The village is still looking for a volunteer to hand over the maintenance of the website over to**.** There will be a shout out for volunteers in the next Newsletter. | Amy to include in next Newsletter |
| 37/22 | **Recreational Ground:**  No newPlayground updates  Grass Cutting – Andrew has been in contact with Keevil PC to discuss the possibility of joining forces. | Carla to oversee the creation of a three/four year plan for the spending of the ringfenced money from the Precept  Andrew to follow up with Keevil about sharing a mower/volunteer pool |
| 38/22 | **Parish Steward:** Bulkington now has a new Parish Steward, please continue to send outstanding jobs to the Clerk. | Clerk to report current outstanding issues to the new Steward (Northfields moss, verge area opposite the pub) |
| 39/22 | **Annual Community Event:** Councillors discussed the event planned for the 26th of March.  Parish Councillors and Clerk to arrive at 1.15pm to set up the event.  The Community Event will be a great opportunity for villagers to meet and have an input into the upcoming Jubilee event and to share any other village events or works they feel the village should partake in. | Clerk to contact event planning volunteers and invite them to the event separately |
| 40/22 | **Improving local Accessibility in Bulkington:** Councillors further discussed plans to improve accessibility following Maureen Alchin’s report and email. | Clerk to draft Accessibility letter |
| 41/22 | **Best Kept Village Competition:**  Bulkington will be entering the Competition for the second time – following the positivity after the last event. Volunteers to help very welcome.   * The entry deadline is 22nd April. * Judging for the first (District) round will take place from 14th May to 12th June. * Judging for the second (County) round and for the Laurence Kitching Award will take place in July | Clerk to re-send information to Julie  Julie to submit the entry for Bulkington |
|  | **AOB:**  **Jubille Event:** Simon kindly volunteered to co-ordinate plans for some celebrations within the village  **Waste:**  **There will be no recycling collections until 4 April.**  Unfortunately, the GMB Union has confirmed that it will continue striking until 2 April. Therefore, alongside Hills Municipal Collections, recycling collection will be suspended for a further two weeks. This means that recycling collection services won’t resume until the week of 4 April, and not the previously stated 21 March.  Residents are being asked to not put their blue lidded bins and black boxes out until their next collection day from 4 April onwards.  **Litter Picking**:  Our Clerk is arranging Litter Pickers and other equipment to help us keep our village and surrounding countryside clean and tidy ahead of the Spring growth that will cover the existing rubbish. If you would like to get involved please get in touch on [**theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk**](mailto:theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk)  **Village Hall Internet:** The Parish Council would like to make meetings accessible to all by investing in an internet connection that can be used for remote access to village meetings taking place in the village hall. | Simon to start initial planning  Clerk to look as costings for bunting  Clerk to inform villagers of date changes via Facebook  Alison to make initial enquiries with possible suppliers and to research rules and limitations around internet use in public spaces |
|  | **The Parish Council team meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7pm.** |  |