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

**PENDING APPROVAL**

**Held on Wednesday the 16th of February at 7.30pm at the Bulkington Village Hall**

Attendees: Amy Powell (Chair), Alex Breach, Julie Anderson-Hill, Alison Howard-Evans,

Simon Downey, Andrew Grabham, PCSO Janet and Tamara Reay (Conservative Councillor for the Devizes Rural West Division)

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| **Ref** |  **Subject** | **Action and who by** |
| 14/21 |  **Apologies for absence:** Carla Haslam |  |
| 15/21 |  **To Record:** No changes to the Register of Interests declared No declaration of Interest in agenda items made  |  |
| 16/21 |  **To Receive a report** from PCSO Janet and Tamara Reay:PCSO Janet: No report received. Team requested an update on a wider range of villages including Melksham and Devizes.Tamara Reay: * Wiltshire council have agreed the budget and 10 year business plan yesterday the Climate Strategy was approved along with the proposal to increase parking charges buy around 10p an hour and introducing Sunday and blue badge parking charges. Money raised will be used to offset the provision of rural public transport.
* Luncheon and friendship clubs, previously funded by the council, have had their blanket funding withdrawn and the process for funding them has been changed.
* Regarding Area Board funding and grants – 800,000 pounds of funding have been made available and some has been moved to CATG funding with half of area board funding still available for non CATG matters.
* The Wessex water fund will be opening soon encouraging communities coming together and would be a good opportunity for Bulkington to request some funding to address the accessibility of the Rec Ground in phases – with the entrance area being the first phase.
* Tamara has been working with sustainable Devizes to develop plans for the Devizes area – this has included a survey in the Devizes area to identify priorities e.g. transport and active travel, recycling, incl. plastic usage. Wiltshire council is bringing in funding for parishes to build electric vehicle charging points
* Tamara urged Bulkington to have a presence at the Flood Group OFWG – to provide support on managing the flooding risk to the village.
* Tamara also recommended the “20 is Plenty” initiative as a further non council run scheme that may be an option for the village.
* Devizes railway update: The proposals are still with the department of transport.
 | Clerk to pull reports out of Area Board’s Minutes.Team to look into National Lottery funding- check themes – cover accessibility? Tamara to share questions in advance of the Bulkington community event.Clerk to re-send CATG forms for signage to be moved further outside the village to TamaraClerk ask on clerk group for any similar options |
| 17/22 | **Open Forum:** From 28 February 2022, the residual ‘general waste’ collection days will change for most Wiltshire residents. Recycling and garden waste collections will not change. Between 31 January and 11 February 2022, all Wiltshire households will receive an information letter effectively providing notice consistent with a full 10-day collection cycle of the current service, before the changes are implemented from 28 February. In addition, bin hanger information tags will be fixed to the handles of waste containers on the last collection under the outgoing schedule, reminding residents of the impending change to collection days.A member of the village wrote in to suggest a litter pick around the village to tackle the rubbish in the hedges and other areas before leaves and greenery cover it over in Spring time. The recent hedge trimming has made some of the litter very sharp and dangerous to animals and children. Noticeably on entering the village from Keevil.  | Clerk to post General Waste update on FacebookClerk to write to Matt Perrot to ask for Litter Pickers and high vis vests as these are usually supplied to villages free of charge. |
| 18/22 | **Local Planning Updates:** Not aware of any new planning updates  |  |
| 19/22 | **Minute Approval:** Last Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting were approved |  |
| 20/22 | **Finance outgoings approved:** Clerk Pay February £221.60 Ideverde Works Date: 01/01/2022 - 31/01/2022 £103.59 |  |
| 21/22 | **Finance Planning Discussions:** Councillors agreed that any funds released to the Rec Ground Committee must be requested and voted on in an official meeting and that the PC would like to see a 3**-**4 year plan from Playground Committee with their vision of how best to spend the money, to ensure the village funds are protected and maximised. |  |
| 22/22 | **Website:** The village is looking for a new Website volunteer to update and run the village (not Parish Council) website. The Clerk will be in charge of adding Agendas and Minutes under the PC headings but we are looking for an enthusiastic individual, perhaps seeking more experience with website creation and maintenance, to keep the rest updated.  |  |
| 23/22 | **Recreation Ground:** Any Playground updates:Clerk contacted Engagement Officer Andrew Jack to see if there are any volunteers through Wilshire Council that may be able to offer some expertise and help repair basic playground facilities. The access gate and existing equipment repairs and maintenance are to be priority for any spending at the Rec Ground. | Andrew to find other contractors for grass cutting and to ask Seend and Keevil about grass cutting. |
| 24/22 | **Parish Steward:** Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visitClerk chasedStreet Sweep Team again and the progress on finding a new dedicated steward for BulkingtonThe Parish Council would like to say a massive Thank you to John and Alex Breach for fixing the bin on the lane. This has been on the Stewards list for a while – when we have a dedicated Steward we hope the completion of such tasks will fall to him. In the meantime the team are grateful that this was fixed. |  |
| 25/22 | **Annual Community Event:** Councillors discussed the upcoming Community event where the Parish Council will be inviting villagers for refreshments and the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas so the Parish Council can serve the community in the best way possible. The event will be advertised on Facebook, the website and via a Door Drop.Some of the topics that councillors are keen to hear about from villagers are:* Electricity – do we need electric charging points near the Rec Ground? Electric Car charging points?
* Mobility – The Parish Council are working to improve accessibility within the village
* Sustainability and recycling
* Village signs – do we want a smart village sign at the entrance to our village?
* showcase what they do
* Best Kept Village Competition 2022:After the success of last year we are hoping to enter the competition again andwill be looking for volunteers and support to make this year even more successful than last year.
* Do you have anything you would like to offer the village?
* The Rec Ground – do you have any suggestions or would you like to help?
* The Queens Platinum Event – How should we celebrate as a village?
* The Village hall
* Litter picking
* Grass cutting

Supplies for the event were agreed as follows:Flip chart paperFelt tip pensPost it notesTeaCoffeeSugarMilkBiscuitsServiettesTray bakes from 3 Bears Bakery Stickers | Clerk to invite all the Committees in the village to attend and display their talents/offerings Clerk to purchase supplies |
| 26/22 | **Improving local Accessibility in Bulkington:** Councillors are still working on ways to fund improvements to the accessibility within the village. <https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>recommended by Age UK WiltshireThe Council advised that dropped kerbs can be progressed via a CATG application since they are “new” features they are not covered by MyWilts which is all about maintenance of existing features. The next CATG meeting where a new request will be looked at is on 12th April at 10.00am via Teams. CATG currently expects a contribution of 25% from parishes towards the cost of the projects.  There may be some changes to the way CATG operates from April ’22.  This could reduce the expected contribution to 10%. | Hannah submit CATG Form. Julie to attend CATG meeting possibly with MaureenClerk to ask highways people what white lines on the road areTeam to keep looking for alternative funding options |
| 27/22 | **Best Kept Village Competition:** * 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
* Julie volunteered to co-ordinate and the Clerk forwarded the entry paperwork on to Julie in the meeting.
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|  | **The Parish Council team meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Please contact our Clerk on** **theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk** **for location or call details as this will depend on the Covid-19 guidelines at the time.** |  |

**2022 Bulkington Parish Council Meeting Dates:**

16th March, 20th April, 18th May, 15th June, 20th of July, 21st of September, 19th October, 16th November

14th December