

Butlers Marston Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Tuesday 21st September 2021** at **7pm** at St Peter's & St Paul's Church, Church Lane, CV35 0NA

Present: Cllr Corpe, Cllr Forsyth, Cllr Crockett, Cllr Leaper, Clerk.

In attendance: District and County Cllr Mills.

27. Apologies for absence - Cllr Mitchell-Hilton.

28. Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda – None.

29. Public participation session – None.

30. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 21st July 2021 - The minutes were proposed, agreed and duly signed.

31. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

31.1 Speed reduction in the parish

- a) Update on communications with Highways regarding speed reduction options – The following response was received from Highways regarding the suggestion to put up '20 is plenty' signs and posters made by local children: 'I can advise that it would not be permitted to place signing on street furniture displaying false information regarding the permitted speed limit of the road through Butlers Marston. Also, the so called "20 is plenty" signing has no legal standing for the enforcement of speed limits and could be deemed a distraction and confusing for drivers/road users in the village. Unfortunately it is also not permitted to place any form of signing on the Public Highway as again, they are deemed a distraction and can cause further problems themselves.' It was suggested that although the PC can't put up signage there is nothing to stop parishioners putting up signs of their own, possibly on their bins or gates, encouraging road users to drive carefully etc. It was agreed that this should be advertised with the information that will be sent out when the speed pack has been received.
- b) Speedwatch Scheme – The Clerk has spoken to someone at Warwickshire Police about the possibility of starting a speedwatch scheme in the parish and they have confirmed that the scheme is still running but would require a minimum of 6 volunteers from Butlers Marston in order to be able to join the scheme. The Clerk has put a note out on the PC Facebook page asking for volunteers but there have been no responses to date. Further information should be published to advise parishioners what the speedwatch scheme entails for those who volunteer. Warwickshire County Council (WCC) have offered a Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership Community Speed Pack which should be sent out by the end of September. Pillerton Hersey PC has contacted the Chairman to ask if the PC would like to work with them to create a speedwatch group which would work across both villages. It was agreed that the PC should try to get volunteers for a group in Butlers Marston initially but if there are not enough volunteers to form a group it may be worth speaking to any volunteers about the possibility of forming a joint group.
- c) Concerns raised by parishioners re speed and care of farm vehicles driving through the village – After some discussion it was agreed that there is little the PC can do about this issue but that it could be beneficial to purchase two large signs to go on gates during the harvest period to warn drivers of the likelihood of farm vehicles on the road. It was also agreed to put a post on the PC Facebook page at the appropriate time to remind

parishioners that it is harvest time. **Clerk to look into signage options and bring back info for consideration for next year's budget.**

- 31.2 Update on concerns raised about the inability of the Butlers Marston Water Treatment Works to manage the quantity of sewage in the system – Cllr Mills has not been able to get any update on this. He will try to get a response before the next meeting. There are now people from each local parish who have put themselves forward to take part in a group recording water/sewage/flooding related issues and report them to Severn Trent and the Environment Agency when necessary. **Cllr Corpe to arrange a meeting with the parish representatives.**
- 31.3 Review of the 'Responding to Planning Applications Policy' – After much discussion it was agreed to rescind this policy as the delegation is already covered under the Scheme of Delegation. It was also agreed that all planning applications will be advertised on the PC Facebook page and if possible the village website could include details of planning applications. **Clerk to bring back suitably amended Scheme of Delegation Policy to next meeting for approval.**
- 31.4 Strimming of the path up to the Church – The Clerk was given an action to put a note out requesting a volunteer to trim the path but this was not necessary as someone completed the strimming shortly after the meeting. The PC expressed their thanks to the parishioner who kindly completed the strimming.

32. Village Green

- 32.1 Grass cutting request to Warwickshire County Council – WCC have now agreed to measure the areas that they are responsible for in order to calculate the payment they would offer to the PC should the PC wish to continue organising the grass cutting themselves. Alternatively the PC could ask WCC to take on the grass cutting from Apr 2022. The decision regarding how to proceed will need to be made based on the amount offered by WCC. **Clerk to chase up information if not received by end of October as this information will have a significant effect on the 2022-23 budget and precept.**

33. Management of the defibrillator – It was agreed that the defib will be checked monthly by whichever councillor is on the rota to complete the asset checks for that quarter. **Cllrs to e-mail details of the checks that have taken place to the Clerk in order for her to log them on the online portal.**

34. Consultation re proposal to merge Stratford on Avon (SDC) and Warwick District Councils to create a South Warwickshire District Council – Information about the consultation has been put on the BMPC Facebook page and will be included in the newsletter. Posters will also be displayed around the village. SDC will be holding a zoom meeting for parish councillors and clerks to attend to hear more about what the proposal would mean for the parishes. It was agreed that the **Clerk should put together and submit a BMPC response to this consultation before the deadline of 24th October.** The Clerk may seek the views of councillors and parishioners in order to inform the response.

35. Finance

- 35.1 Confirmation of the bank balance as at 15.09.21 of £2,152.92 – Cllr Mitchell-Hilton has confirmed by e-mail that the balance stated is correct.
- 35.2 To review the spend against budget to date – A Cllr asked if it is likely that the £200 allocated for a tree survey will be spent in this financial year. The Clerk advised that after the last survey it was found that only a limited number of trees are the responsibility of the Parish Council and the survey stated they had about 2 years before they would need some work completed on them so it is not felt that a survey is necessary this year but those funds may be required to complete the tree work recommended. **Clerk to put discussion regarding tree survey/work required on the next agenda.**

35.3 To approve the following payments to be made using delegated powers – Proposed and agreed.

19.08.21	Peter Leaper	Defib pads reimbursement	£49.14
19.08.21	Peter Leaper	Grass cutting 15.07.21	£28.52
19.08.21	Kirsty Buttle	Salary August	£96.00
19.08.21	HMRC	Tax Aug - Clerk and Groundsman	£31.20

35.4 To approve payment of the following invoices – Proposed and agreed.

Christian Hilton	Website hosting 1 year	£19.19
BHIB	Annual Insurance	£217.96

35.5 To note the following receipts – Noted.

29.07.21	Farnborough	Payment towards training	£13.00
29.07.21	Upper Lighthorne	Payment towards training	£26.00
02.08.21	Warmington and Arlescote	Payment towards training	£13.00
19.08.21	Gaydon PC	Contribution to training cost	£20.00

36. Planning applications received - None

37. Planning decisions received

DISCN/00251/21 – Monks Bridge, Butlers Marston. Discharge of conditions – 7 materials. **Approved.**

21/02054/FUL – Willowbrook, Butlers Marston. External alterations and first floor extension. **Approved.**

38. County/District Councillor’s reports – Cllr Mills provided his reports which can be found on the PC website with the minutes.

39. Information exchange – A couple of people have spoken to a councillor about the oak tree on the Village Green which is causing a problem with the bin lorries due to overhanging branches. The PC are aware of this issue and are trying to find out who can arrange to have it trimmed as this tree is not owned by the PC.

Meeting closed @ 8:43pm.

Date of next meeting – 24th November 2021 @ 7pm

Signed..... Date.....