

Butlers Marston Parish Council

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

Present: Cllr Corpe, Cllr Forsyth, Cllr Crockett, Cllr Mitchell-Hilton, Cllr Leaper, Clerk.

In attendance: District and County Cllr Mills.

14. Apologies for absence – None.

15. Members declarations of interest for items on the agenda – Cllr Corpe declared an interest in planning application 21/02054/FUL due to it being an application of a relative. Cllr Forsyth declared an interest in application 21/01582/FUL as it is an application submitted by his wife.

16. Co-option of new councillor – It was proposed and agreed to co-opt Dick Leaper onto the Parish Council.

17. Election of Chairman – It was proposed and agreed to continue with Simon Corpe as the Chairman of the Parish Council.

18. Election of Vice-Chairman – It was proposed and agreed to elect Cllr Mitchell-Hilton as the Vice-Chairman.

19. Public participation session – None.

20. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 4th May 2021 – The minutes were proposed, agreed and duly signed.

21. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

21.1 Update on discussions with Highways re speed reduction in the parish – Cllr Mitchell-Hilton advised that chicanes and speed humps would not be suitable for Butlers Marston as they require streetlights. The PC could ask for more repeater signs in the village but these would need to be paid for by the PC. Highways have advised that should the PC wish to pursue a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) a traffic survey would need to be completed at a cost of £500 and the outcome of the survey may not support the installation of a VAS. It was suggested that a traffic survey may have already been completed as part of a planning application on Kennel Hill. **Cllr Mitchell-Hilton to find out if traffic survey has already been completed. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team to get information about what speed gun devices they allow PC's to use as in other counties a device that costs £150 has been approved and contact Highways to ask if there are any legal implications of the PC putting up their own signs stating '20 is plenty' and using posters drawn by children in the parish.**

District and County Cllr Mills joined the meeting at 7:25pm.

21.2 Update on re-siting of 'bus stop' – Warwickshire County Council (WCC) have not progressed any further with their review and proposals for new bus stop locations due to Covid. The PC hope to receive an update in the next few weeks and will discuss at the first council meeting following receipt of proposals from WCC. **Clerk to write to parishioners who raised concerns about the re-siting of the stop to advise them of the current status of this issue.**

21.3 Update on concerns raised about the inability of the Butlers Marston Water Treatment Works to manage the quantity of sewage in the system – The lagoon tank has now been refurbished. It is unknown what other activity has taken place but Severn Trent have been visiting more often so it is hoped that other works are taking place. Cllr Corpe has spoken to

Pillerton Hersey and Pillerton Priors about creating an action group to put pressure on Severn Trent to resolve the capacity issues at the water treatment works and both councils have agreed to form a group. It was noted that despite Severn Trent reassuring Butlers Marston PC that they would be consulted on any new housing proposals and they would advise the planning office at that time that they don't have the capacity to service more properties Severn Trent do not appear to be responding to planning applications at all therefore the planning office are not receiving this information. **Cllr Mills agreed to make the planning team at Stratford District Council aware of this.**

22. Village Green

- 22.1 Grass cutting request to Warwickshire County Council – WCC has not provided any further response to the request for them to cut the grass for which they are responsible. The Clerk has passed the information on to the SDC Parish Champion to look into this. Cllr Mills advised that he is the WCC Parish Champion. **Clerk to provide all information relating to the query to Cllr Mills who agreed to look into this.**
- 22.2 Groundsman Contract – Cllr Leaper is the appointed groundsman but he can no longer continue in a paid role for the PC now that he has been elected as a councillor. Cllr Leaper confirmed that he is willing to continue cutting the grass on a voluntary basis in the short term whilst the PC are working to get WCC to accept responsibility. The PC expressed their thanks to Cllr Leaper for his willingness to continue with the grass cutting.

23. Finance

- 23.1 Confirmation of the bank balance as at 16.07.21 of £2,650.22 – Cllr Mitchell-Hilton confirmed the balances stated are correct.
- 23.2 Confirmation of completion of the first quarterly (Apr to Jun) financial check for 2021/22 – Cllr Mitchell Hilton confirmed the check has been completed and all was found to be in order.
- 23.3 To approve the following payments to be made using delegated powers – Proposed and agreed.

28.05.21	WALC	Annual membership	£123.00
28.05.21	Peter Leaper	Grass cutting 5th and 20th Apr	£57.24
28.05.21	Kirsty Buttle	Salary May	£96.00
28.05.21	HMRC	Tax May - Clerk and Groundsman	£38.20
29.06.21	Peter Leaper	Grass cutting 18th and 31st May	£57.24
29.06.21	Kirsty Buttle	Salary June	£96.00
29.06.21	HMRC	Tax Jun - Clerk and Groundsman	£38.20

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

Su Leaper	Plants for war memorial	£10.00
Peter Leaper	Grass cutting 14th and 30th June	£57.04
Kineton Village Hall	Hall hire for PC training	£28.00
Bill Robinson	Training fee 12th July	£75.00
Kirsty Buttle	July salary plus 5 hours overtime	£144.00
HMRC	Tax July - Clerk and Groundsman	£50.40

24. Planning applications received

21/01582/FUL – Land West of Blacklands Farm, Butlers Marston. Erection of an equine block and horse menage. **No objection.** (Response made using delegated powers).

21/01846/FUL – Court Fields, Bridge Road, Butlers Marston. Householder Planning Application for a domestic garage and home office. **No representation.** (Response made using delegated powers).

Cllr Corpe left the meeting at 7:49pm.

21/02054/FUL – Willowbrook, Butlers Marston. External alterations and first floor extension. **No representation.**

Cllr Corpe returned to the meeting at 8:03pm

25. Planning decisions received

DISCN/00251/21 – Monks Bridge, Butlers Marston. Discharge of conditions – 7 materials. **No longer showing on planning portal. Clerk to contact planning team to find out why this is no longer on the portal.**

26. Information exchange

A couple of parishioners have approached a Cllr advising that they are unhappy with the way the PC have dealt with some recent planning applications where the response was made using delegated powers rather than in a public meeting. A Cllr noted that the parishioners have the ability to respond to planning applications themselves without the input of the PC and the PC response has little weight in relation to the decision made by SDC on each application. It was also confirmed that the policy in place at the moment is lawful and is common practice within PC’s. It was agreed to put discussion and possible review of the policy on the next agenda. **Cllrs to provide suggestions for improvements to the policy to the Clerk before 14th September.**

A parishioner has contacted the Clerk to ask who is responsible for the path up to the Church as it is overgrown. Cllr Leaper is also the Church Warden and he advised that it is unregistered land therefore no one is responsible for it but in the past it has been cut by volunteers. It was agreed that **the Clerk should put a post on the PC Facebook page to see if there are any volunteers to trim the path.**

A parishioner has contacted a Cllr about a vehicle that has stickers on it with words and symbols that they feel are inappropriate particularly as it is in a location where children are likely to see it. The councillors agreed that although they understand why parishioners may not wish for their children to see this they have no authority to do anything about it.

Meeting closed @ 8:52pm

Date of next meeting – 21st September 2021 @ 7pm

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