

Minutes of Bulkington Parish Council General Meeting held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.30pm at Bulkington Village Hall, Bulkington, Wiltshire.

Membership: Councillors P. Oakey (Chair), A. Breach (Vice Chair), J. Anderson-Hill, A. Howard-Evans, S. Macalpine-Downie.

Present: Councillors P. Oakey (Chair), A. Breach (Vice Chair), J. Anderson-Hill, A. Howard-Evans, S. Macalpine-Downie. Wiltshire Councillor T. Reay.

Members of Public: None.

Proper Officer: T. Hicks.

MINUTES

No.	Item	Action
PC/24-25/164	Apologies To receive and accept apologies for those unable to attend. None.	Clerk to update absence log
PC/24-25/165	Declarations of Interest To receive any declarations of interest under the Parish Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011. None.	
PC/24-25/166 PC/24-25/166.1 PC/24-25/166.2	Minutes of the previous meeting To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 th February 2025. Approved without amendment. To note any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 12 th February 2025. None.	
Standing Orders were suspended to allow for public participation		
PC/24-25/167 PC/24-25/167.1 PC/24-25/167.2	Public Participation To enable members of the public to address the Council regarding any item on the agenda. None. To receive any petitions or deputations. None.	
Standing Orders were reinstated following public participation		
PC/24-25/168 PC/24-25/168.1 PC/24-25/168.2 PC/24-25/168.3	Reports from: To receive an update from Wiltshire Councillor – Cllr. Reay. Cllr. Reay updated the meeting regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Wiltshire Council budget has been set at a 4.5% increase for 2025/26. The budget for Q3 of the 2024/25 budget has been overspent by £1.7m (0.3% of overall budget). This is mainly due to adult social care costs but has resulted in a recruitment freeze for the council. To receive the chair's report. None. To receive the clerk's report. The clerk updated the meeting that she had received training on	

Signed:

PC/24-25/168.4	the requirements of playground inspections. Although these are not insurance policy requirements, they should be in place weekly and quarterly in addition to the formal required annual inspection. Safety of the users of the playground must be the priority. The council discussed the options, and it was agreed:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for a rota to be created of playground weekly inspections (the chair will cover in the short-term), for Inspect & Repair would be engaged to inspect both quarterly and annually. The quarterly inspection would include the maintenance of defects. 	Clerk to engage Inspect & Repair
PC/24-25/168.5	To receive the up-to-date external meetings schedule and to decide who will attend meetings.	
PC/24-25/169 PC/24-25/169.1	Matters arising from previous meetings:- To note volunteers meeting has been set for 25 th June 2025. Venue to be confirmed. This date was now not suitable. Cllrs. Breach and Anderson-Hill to notify clerk of new volunteers meeting date.	Cllrs Breach And Anderson-Hill
PC/24-25/170 PC/24-25/170.1 PC/24-25/170.2	Planning Matters to discuss: To note the BPC Planning Schedule as at 1 st March 2025. Noted. To discuss any other applications received before the meeting. None.	
PC/24-25/171 PC/24-25/171.1 PC/24-25/171.2	Maintenance to include items as below: To discuss and agree Parish Steward- Consideration of jobs for next visit. It was agreed Clerk to advise Parish Steward that the mound of earth opposite the Well needs attention. Clerk to book the Sparkle Team during the 1 st and 2 nd week of May if possible. To discuss and agree Maintenance Log – for ongoing items. Noted.	Clerk
PC/24-25/172 PC/24-25/172.1a PC/24-25/172.1b PC/24-25/172.2 PC/24-25/172.3 PL/24-25/172.4	Finance To agree and approve invoices and payments:- Clerk's Salary- Approved Clerk's PAYE - Approved To approve invoices/requests for payment received prior to the meeting. None. Monthly Management Accounts Members to receive the monthly financial report and bank reconciliation. See attached papers. A non-signatory member to sign the bank reconciliation and bank statements. Approved and signed by the chair. To note Julie Bailey has been retained as auditor for the 2024-25 accounts. Noted.	Clerk to pay
PC/24-25/173 PC/24-25/173.1	Playground & Grounds To receive an update on the playground maintenance. The clerk confirmed the previously agreed maintenance issued were booked to be repaired on 25 th March. Clerk to send weekly inspection forms to chair.	Clerk
PC/24-25/174	Best Kept Village Competition To discuss whether to enter for 2025. It was agreed to enter. Permission to spend granted for bunting and wood stain up to	

Signed:

	£100 for the war memorial and bus stop. Cllr. Anderson-Hill to review report and map. Cllr Anderson-Hill to also investigate suitable dates for the Village Tidy-Up.	Cllr. Anderson-Hill
PC/24-25/175 PC/24-25/175.1	Governance To discuss upcoming parish council. Discussed and forms completed.	
PC/24-25/176 PC/24-25/176.a PC/24-25/176.b PC/24-25/176.c PC/24-25/176.d PC/24-25/176.e	Correspondence Received Since Last Meeting, to note. NALC events newsletter. Noted. Wiltshire Council town and parish council update. Noted. INNS Poster. Noted. Wiltshire Council Local Nature Recovery Strategy update. Noted. Letter ref foul drainage issues. This matter was discussed, and it was agreed that the clerk would attend the Operational Flooding Working Group to investigate responsibilities for the pumping station. Clerk to report back.	Clerk
PC/24-25/177	Confirmation of date of next meeting: Wednesday 9 th April 25.	
PC/24-25/178	To close the meeting – 8.42pm	

Signed: