

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF BULKELEY AND RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM  
ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

**Present:** - Councillors Idina Hastings (Chairman),  
Richard Frisk, Linda Gaden, Maire Gibson, Peter Groves, Mike Hassall, Jonathan Knight,  
Jane McRae, James Weddell, Sally Williamson.  
Ward Cllr Stan Davies. Mrs Ruth Shackleton (Clerk).  
No members of the public attended the meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors were invited to declare pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests arising from matters on the agenda. None were declared.

**3. OPEN FORUM**

There was no consideration of this item.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Resolved:-** That the Council approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Proposed by Cllr Gaden and seconded by Cllr Weddell.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

5.1 Speed Limit on Stonehouse Lane (between Beeston and Peckforton):- There is no update.

5.2 Scottish Power:- There were no issues when recent works were carried out at the playing field by Scottish Power.

5.3 Stanchion at the playing field:- This appears to be working now therefore no action is required.

5.4 Buckingham Palace:- Cllr Hastings wrote a letter of condolence to King Charles III on the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Buckingham Palace responded to thank the Parish Council for the letter. The Council are to frame the card that was sent by Buckingham Palace.

**6. FINANCIAL REPORT**

6.1 To accept and approve the following payments:-

The Council approved the following payments:-

Chq No	Date	Reason	Amount
319	08/11/22	Running Costs	£19.03
320	08/11/22	Backdated Pay	£91.00
321	08/11/22	Bickerton Village Hall (room hire)	£30.00

The Clerk was paid by Standing Order.

Reconciled balance at bank as at 30/09/22:- £10,516.06

**Resolved:-** The above payments were approved by the Council.

Proposed by Cllr Hassall and seconded by Cllr Knight.

Receipts:-

Scottish Power (wayleaves payment) - £8.80

6.2 To consider any donation(s) to charity:-

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to the following donations:-

North West Air ambulance - £100.00

First Responders - £100.00

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Gaden

6.3 Budget to Date:-

The Council received budget to date figures as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 and the forecast figures to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

6.4 To agree and set precept for 2023 - 24 financial year (see attachment B):-

CEC has written to advise that the Council's existing arrangement will cease on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and will be replaced by the new Parish Council on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. This means that the Council are currently unable to set their own precept levels for the 2023 / 2024 financial year.

For this reason, CEC has set the precept at £4,353.00; this is in line with the Council's 2022 / 2023 precept.

CEC is due to fix the taxbase for the 2023 / 2024 by Resolution of the Council on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The taxbase for the Council is likely to be 223.53 (this is compared to a current amount of 226.39).

Therefore, this will result in a Band D charge for the parish of £19.47.

6.5 To consider membership of CHALC

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to renew membership of CHALC for the 2023 / 2024 financial year.

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

7. **CIL (COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY) MONIES**

The Council has received a total sum of £4,669.21 in respect of CIL monies.

The Clerk is to look into costings for play equipment.

8. **PLANNING UPDATE**

See the Planning Applications register for details of all applications received.

9. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

Cllr Hastings advised that there have been eight out of ten cuts of the playing field this year.

Peter Moulton is due to cut back the hedges at the playing field.

10. **BRASSEY STONES**

Cllr Hastings advised she has asked Andy Rubbathan to carry out the repairs to the lectern at the site.

When the notice board has been repaired, the CEC Conservation Officer has indicated his intention to help John Jones, who does the village maintenance, to replace the stone setts and notice board.

11. **COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

The Council considered way to commemorate the life of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

**Resolved:-** the Council agreed to name the playing field the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field. The naming will officially take place when the new play equipment has been installed.

Proposed by Cllr McRae and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

12. **EVENT FOR THE CORONATION OF CHARLES III**

The Council discussed how to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Suggestions included commemorative mugs; an event on the playing field. The Council considered setting up a working party to organise an event. It is hoped to hold a naming ceremony of the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field with the new play equipment at an event to celebrate the coronation.

13. **BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Hastings updated the meeting regarding the finances at BVH. The warm space initiative is currently on hold.

14. **CHALC ANNUAL MEETING**

Cllrs McRae and Gibson attended the CHALC Annual Meeting.

They reported back to the meeting about the speakers and the buffet!

Cllr McRae informed the Council of a successful average speed camera pilot scheme in Bedfordshire which incorporated both larger and smaller parish councils.

CEC and CWaC are looking into rolling out a similar scheme in the county with certain parishes being selected to take part in the pilot scheme.

15. **CLERKS REPORT**

15.1 Waste Bins:- CEC offered to provide waste bins in the lay by on the A534. The Council have declined the offer.

15.2 Road signage:- The Council asked Ward Cllr Stan Davies if road signs could be provided before and after the crossroads of Mill Lane and Cholmondeley Lane on the A534.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Previously circulated.

**PART 2**

**Resolved:-** The Council agreed to exclude press and members of the public to consider employment contacts. Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

1. **REVIEW CLERKS SALARY FOR THE 2023 – 2024 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**Resolved:-** The Clerk is currently on SCP 23 of the NALC National Salary Award. The Council agreed to for the Clerk to progress to scale SCP 24 at a rate of £16.16 per hour with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr McRae.

**NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The date of next meeting is Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Website:- [www.bulkeleyandridleyipc.org.uk](http://www.bulkeleyandridleyipc.org.uk)