LITTLE BRICKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 05 February 2024 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes.

Present:

Cllr D Lewis – Chair Cllr T Wheaton Cllr K Morgan Cllr E Priestley Cllr L Walker Cllr D Hopkins (Ward Councillor) Cllr T Bailey (Ward Councillor) A Kemp (Clerk)

In attendance:

C Till (Resident) G Bailey (Resident C Priestley (Resident) D Bowles (Greensand Trust) J Balaam (Greensands Trust)

1.	Apologies for Absence:	
Non	e.	
2.	Public Open Session:	
the Cou Cou an e	n Balaam and Daniel Bowles from Greensand Trust attend the meeting to highlight work that the trust is involved with and how this could benefit Little Brickhill Parish ncil. The presentation included how they could support Little Brickhill Parish ncil in producing a Green Infrastructure Plan for the village. He promised to provide estimate on how much this would cost for support from the Greensand Trust for sideration by Little Brickhill Parish Council.	
The	Chair thanked both representatives for attending the meeting tonight.	
3.	Declaration of Interest:	
Non	е.	
4.	Approval of the Minutes of Meeting held on 4 December 2023: 3410	
Min	utes signed and approved.	
	Progress on matters from last Minutes: 3411	
5.1 5.1 Tree are with		
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5.3 - (item 17.1 of minutes 03/04/23) - Cllr T Wheaton stated that he had been asked by a resident if a water supply could be installed at the allotments and would approach the Church to seek advice and guidance on this issue. <u>It was noted that the land is owned by the Diocese, more investigate is required.</u>	Cllr T Wheaton / Clerk
5.4 - (item 2.2 of minutes 26/06/23) - Old playground in Wyness Avenue.	
Work has been completed by MKCC except for work on the tree. MKCC have been reminded of this outstanding task. Clerk will look for alternative options for the tree work as a contingency and has requested a quotation from our tree contactor for consideration.	
<u>Clerk confirmed that the cost for LBPC to pay for the work will be £580 + VAT. It was</u> agreed that MKCC should be approached again to ask that they take on the responsibility for completing this work.	Cllr D Hopkins / Clerk
5.5 - Bench in Wyness Avenue in memory of Doreen Adcock.	
Arrangements are in hand and the bench should be delivered in February 2024. We will have to re-imburse the costs for installing the bench by residents.	
5.6 - (item 2.3 of minutes 26/06/23) - Damaged Street Light Column – A resident has asked the Clerk to report a damaged streetlight column (WA4) to MKCC.	
A new street light column has been installed by MKCC with the old, damaged one now removed. <i><u>Item closed</u></i> .	
5.7 - (item 2.4 of minutes 26/06/23) - Wyness Avenue – It was noted at the Parish Council meeting that this was area was still not in a satisfactory state	
Content of email to MKCC on the 21 January 2024.	
I would be grateful if you could investigate why the clearance near the disabled bay in Wyness Avenue was not completed last year as promised please. Attached are the photos that were emailed on the 4 October 2023.	
I have a problem with the MKCC Report it page on the website that it does not allow me to pin point the locations, but I have emailed MKCC customer services to report the following issues.	
 Between Watsons Field and the Church on Watling Street in Little Brickhill, the brambles, overhanging ivy and general foliage is making it impossible to walk on the pavement. <u>Clerk reported this to MKCC under reference</u> <u>MKCC578952196 and work has now been completed by MKCC.</u> Between Greystones and The Court House on Watling Street in Little Brickhill, the brambles, overhanging ivy and general foliage is making it impossible to 	
 walk on the pavement. <u>Clerk reported this to MKCC under reference</u> <u>MKCC582860219. Awaiting completion by MKCC.</u> MKCC seem to have missed the footpath cleaning again between Eversden 	
Close and the Village Hall on Watling Street in Little Brickhill, see attached photos. This is dangerous for residents and the Parish Council have been informed that recently someone had a fall again. <u>Clerk reported this to MKCC</u> <u>under reference MKCC582852727. Awaiting completion by MKCC.</u>	
We have a Parish Council meeting on Monday 5 February 2024 and update on the Wyness Avenue issue would be very much appreciated.	
Response received from MKCC (22/01/2024).	
I will engage with street cleaning and landscaping and update you as soon as possible.	

5.8 - (item 8.4 of minutes 26/06/23) - Roundacre Field - Cllr T Wheaton suggested that as part of the coronation this year that we should apply for National Lottery Funding to enable the site to be used by the Community & Dog Walkers. This will require new fencing / gate, commemorative benches.	
<u>Grant application submitted on the 23 December 2023 by Cllr T Wheaton. Decision</u> should be in 12 weeks from date of submission.	
5.9 - (item 8.8 of minutes 26/06/23) – Pavement on Great Brickhill Lane from the flats to the entrance of Wyness Avenue requires a safety check / repair by MKCC. <u>Clerk has reported this again to the MKCC Contact Centre on the 4 October 2023.</u> <u>Confirmation of receipt received 19/10/23 under reference No 5555688505.</u>	
<u>Clerk has emailed MKCC again (19/01/24) for a date when this issue will be actioned.</u> <u>Clerk will ring MKCC week commencing 5 February 2024 to chase this up.</u>	Clerk
5.10 - (item 8.9 of minutes 26/06/23) – Play Equipment – Clerk to ask MKCC if they can clean all the play equipment on Watsons Field. Clerk has approached MKCC and they are current going through a transition period but will look into jet washing the play equipment, although not sure yet if there will be a small charge.	
<u>Clerk confirmed that the cost for MKCC to clean all the play equipment is £300 for two</u> men at £75 per hour. Decision of this expenditure to be considered after all the tree work has been completed. <u>Ongoing.</u>	
5.11 - (item 5.1 of minutes 09/10/23 – Tree Work - It was noted that the Clerk had obtained a quotation for tree work on Watsons Field for £1,488 + VAT and explained that we have not undertaken any tree work for over 15 years. <u>All present agreed to this expenditure and the Clerk was authorised to place the order.</u>	
<u>Clerk confirmed that he had completed the online forms and that MKCC had rejected</u> <u>the application asking for a more detailed sketch of the trees that requiring work. He</u> <u>has asked the Tree Contactor for help with completing this action and is waiting for this</u> <u>to be completed to enable the Clerk to complete the online forms.</u> <u>Ongoing.</u>	
5.12 - (item 2.1 of minutes 06/11/23) – Roots impacting footpath – Residents raised safety concerns on the footpath adjacent to 44 Wyness Avenue that has become dangerous due to the impact of tree roots causing the tarmac to break up and asked if this could be reported to MKCC for investigating.	
Response received from MKCC on the 16 January 2024.	
 The Highways team have come back to us regarding the Roots impacting safety on footpath in Little Brickhill, please see response below. Not at investigatory level 	
 Thanks for letting know about this issue. We'd like to carry out more repairs and maintenance on our highway network but as we have limited resources, we have to prioritise all our work. We do this by using safety criteria and carry out emergency repairs first. This particular problem does not yet require an immediate emergency repair, but we'll keep monitoring it in case this changes. We may also schedule in the necessary repairs as part of our ongoing 	
maintenance programmes You can find more information on our repair criteria by visiting us at <u>www.milton-keynes.gov.uk</u>	
Highways have also shared the below with us:	
If the update to a customer or Cllr is " Not at investigatory level " this means we have inspected the Cllr report of a defect and carried out a Risk assessment on the defect in accordance with the cabinet approved Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance and there is not defect which requires attention at this time.	
We obviously continue to monitor highway defects as part of our routine inspections.	

5.13 - (item 2.2 of minutes 06/11/23) – Fly Tipping on Woburn Road – Residents reported that there is consistent fly tipping in this location and asked if MKCC could be approached to investigate if anything could be implemented to stop this occurring.	
Response received from MKCC on the 05 December 2023.	
Hope this email finds you well. We have received the following response from Environmental Crime Department.	
 Q1. Yes – we can look at signage at this location. Q2. Yes – we have surveyed the area and placed mobile CCTV here previously. The difficulty is that the fly tipping doesn't happen in one small location but can be along the whole length of that road and this makes it a bit hit and miss. We are currently exploring other options but won't disclose any details. Re Q3 – @Cllr Casework has sent this enquiry to Highways Department. We will update you once we have received more information from them. 	
 5.14 - (item 7.1 of minutes 06/11/23) - Letter received 16/10/23 from MKCC regarding Second Winter Plan (2023/2024) funding for Parishes. It was noted that the Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £500. 	
As a condition of receiving the grant the Clerk will have to liaise with the Residents Association to provide an update on how the funding has been used.	Clerk
5.15 – (item 18.1 of minutes 06/11/23) - Skip Hire – Cllr T Morgan asked if we could re-introduce hiring a skip on a quarterly basis so that residents that find it difficult to drive to a MKCC Recycling Centre to dispose of waste. It was noted that this was stopped by MKBC due to Health and Safety reasons.	
In view of the estimated cost of £1,500 to provide this service, it was decided not to pursue this any further. <i>Item closed.</i>	
5.15a - Recycling Clothing Facility Bin in the Community Centre grounds – Cllr K Morgan gave an update regarding the Fire Service installing a recycling bin and three suggested location were considered. A discussion was held and all present supported this initiative and agreed a location. <u>Cllr K Morgan was thanked for his efforts on this</u> <u>initiative.</u>	
5.16 – (item 18.3 of minutes 06/11/23) - Complaints Procedure – Cllr D Lewis asked if we should have a complaints procedure. <u>Clerk to check with NALC / BALC if there are any templates available that we could adopt for LBPC.</u>	
<u>Clerk has found a template from another Parish Council and will adapt it for</u> <u>consideration / approval at the March 2024 Parish Council meeting.</u>	Clerk
5.17 - (item 3.1 of minutes 04/12/23) - Incident – 16/11/23 - Murray Woodburn from MKCC (Highways Team) attended the meeting to answer concerns from Little Brickhill Parish Council and residents on this tragic accident.	
Further response received from MKCC (Murray Woodburn) on the 22 January 2024.	
 Many thanks for passing these emails on. Phil has passed them to National Highways along with our frustration about there having been no permanent improvements implemented here yet. Presumably, they will be preparing something in their response to the Coroner's Reg 28 report, and I'm sure National Highways internal processes are considerable, but their lack of action is putting them at legal risk, in my view. All we can do is pass these on along with our serious concerns – so please do share any further reports with us as they are made known to you. 	

5.18 - (item 3.2 of minutes 04/12/23) - Overhanging Tree - A resident informed the Parish Council that there is a problem with an overhanging tree near the flats on Great Brickhill Lane and asked if this could be reported to MKCC.	
Clerk advised that some work had been undertaken to cut back the overhanging tree / shrubs. <i>Item closed.</i>	
5.19 - (item 3.3 of minutes 04/12/23) - Grit Bin – A resident asked the Parish Council if it might be possible to supply a grit bin for the area close to the new development of Eversden Close where the footpaths appear to have a surface especially vulnerable to icing in the recent cold weather. MKCC to be contacted on this issue.	
David Hopkins (Ward Councillor) confirmed that MKCC had agreed to install at Grit Bin later in the next financial year,	
5.20 - (item 19.2 of minutes 04/12/23) - Christmas Trees – Cllr K Morgan confirmed that Dobbies Garden Centre had donated two trees for the village, and it was agreed that the cost of some battery powered lights would be around £100.00. <u>All present</u> <u>agreed to this expenditure.</u>	
<u>Thanks to Cllr K Morgan for arranging the installation of a Christmas tree outside the</u> <u>Church at no cost to the Parish Council.</u>	
5.21 - (item 16 of minutes 04/12/23) - To conduct a Risk Assessment Review:	
<u>Clerk confirmed that a review was undertaken, and the updated report (January 2024 issue 18) was distributed with the report and will be available to view on the Website.</u>	
5.22 - (item 7.2 of minutes 04/12/23) - New Waste Bin – Cllr K Morgan has been approached by a resident asking for a waste bin to be installed at the junction of Wyness Avenue / Great Brickhill Lane. Clerk has included £400 in the forecast expenditure for 2023/2024.	
<u>It was noted that the Clerk had approached MKCC for permission to install a waste /</u> recycling bin at this location and had received the following response.	
 I have checked with the waste officer who knows this location well. It doesn't fit the bill in terms of a location for a litter bin. It's a residential street which already benefits from an 8 weekly cleansing schedule. Litter bins should be sited in high footfall areas or in areas benefitting from a weekly cleansing collection. Can I just check with you, what is the problem that you are trying to address here? 	
Following discussion at the Parish Council meeting it was agreed not to pursue this any further. <i>Item closed.</i>	
6. Correspondence: 3412	
6.1 - Letter received from Milton Keynes Homeless Partnership asking for a donation to help them continue their work.	
No funding is available to support this initiate.	
7. Clerks Report / Local Issues: 3413	
7.1 - Newsletter – Deadline for content for the Spring 2024 edition now requested by the 9 February 2024.	

8, To progress Home to School Transport: 3414	
 Latest update provided by Cllr Wheaton. Unfortunately, the Ombudsman didn't agree and would not take up our case. Cllr T Wheaton stated that this should be the end, but he does not like losing (especially when we're right). He will send an email to Gillian Keegan MP who is the Secretary of State for Education. Other options are to try the press and the news. 	
9. To discuss to Future / Maintenance of the Village Church: 3415	
It was noted that there was a PCC meeting on the 8 November 2023 to discuss this further. Some residents have come forward regarding the monitoring of the building, but a treasurer is still desperately required. It was noted that following the PCC meeting the church will remain open. <u>Item closed.</u>	
10. Unitary Councillors' Report: 3416	
A copy of the Ward Councillor's reports to Little Brickhill Parish Council for February 2024 are available to view on the Parish Council website and are appended to these minutes.	
11. Planning: 3417	
11.1 – 23/02848/FULM - Variation of condition 1 (Approved plans) of permission ref. 23/02313/FULM seeking to enclose external porch, replace window with door and replace car parking space on north-east side of dwelling with additional rooms (relating to permission ref. 20/00193/FUL Demolition of existing garages and erection of one dwelling) at 1 The Clock House, Watling Street, Little Brickhill.	
<u>Clerk confirmed that he had sent a response to MKCC on the 31 January 2024</u> <u>following email feedback from Parish Councillors as the deadline for responses was the</u> <u>1 February 2024.</u>	
11.2 – 23/02490/TCA - The felling to ground level of Goat Willow (T1) which currently stands approximately 11m in height as it is too big for the size of the garden at Marignane, Watling Street, Little Brickhill.	
Notification received from MKCC 15/12/2023 that tree in conservation area works – no objection were raised.	
11.3 - 23/02313/FULM - Variation of condition 1 (Approved Plans - seeking proposed roofing over of the additional parking space to provide a first floor terrace, associated hard landscaping alterations and the modification of the glazing to the north-east elevation) of permission ref. 22/00028/FULMMA for the Variation of condition 1 (Approved Plans) of permission ref. 20/00193/FUL seeking an additional parking space, move of external steps and retaining wall, the insertion of a window into the lower ground floor study, and 4no rooflights to south-east elevation relating to the demolition of existing garages and erection of one dwelling at 1 The Clock House, Watling Street, Little Brickhill.	
Notification received from MKCC 14/12/2023 that full planning permission had been granted.	
11.4 – 23/02729/FUL - Erection of a new maintenance building with mezzanine levels to provide a building within the existing maintenance yard along with associated car parking (resubmission of 23/02175/FUL) at Woburn Golf and Country Club, Bow Brickhill to Little Brickhill Road, Little Brickhill.	
Notification received from MKCC 25/01/2024 that full planning permission had been refused.	

12. To discuss any Highway issues including introduction of (20 MPH Zones): 3418

12.1 - Progress on introduction of 20 MPH Zones for Watling Street and Great Brickhill Lane:

Update received from MKCC – We will be working on a design proposal for the scheme in the coming months and looking to consult on the scheme in Summer 2024.

It was noted that ClIr K Morgan had raised some concerns on the effectiveness of these type of schemes and referenced a document prepared for Buckinghamshire County Council. <u>Clerk was asked to contact a former Parish Councillor to seek help in obtaining the current data from the Speed Indicator Devices to enable further discussion on this topic.</u>

Update - Clerk has contacted our former Parish Council again who has promised to obtain the speed data for review following the machines being serviced.

12.2 - Junction at Watling Street / Great Brickhill Lane – Cllr K Morgan asked if MKCC could be approached to ask for a safety review to be undertaken at the junction.

<u>Update received from MKCC – We will be working on a design proposal for the</u> scheme in the coming months and looking to consult on the scheme in Summer 2024 including a review of this junction.

12.3 - Signs as you exit the village onto the A5 that indicate the national speed limit for the type of road and class of traffic applies could be moved as this may have an impact on slowing traffic down.

This will be investigated in conjunction with item 12.1.

12.4 - Safety issue at exit from Eversden Close to Watling Street because the positioning of refuge point does not allow vehicles to turn left without damaging the grass verge. Update provided by MKCC at the meeting Cllr D Hopkins and the Clerk held with them on the 23 August 2023, that the installation of 'grasscrete' on the radius to be undertaken by the developer was still outstanding.

Update provided by MKCC - The developer has been contacted again and that the bond for this site will not be released until the grasscrete has been installed.

12.5 - Damaged / Missing Road Sign as you exit the A5 to Woburn and Little Brickhill / Great Brickhill. It was noted that more damage to the barrier has occurred and has been repaired by Highways England. The barrier comes under the responsibility of Highways England, but the missing signs are the responsibility of MKC. The signs have been reported to MKCC under reference number FS405210254 on the 2 March 2022.

Update provided by MKCC - They are including this sign replacement with several other signs within the vicinity of this location and are waiting for budget approval from management to allow the go ahead and order.

12.6 - Greensand County Village Gateway Signs. Greensands Trust have confirmed that two signs will be allocated for Little Brickhill. An acceptance form requires completing. It was noted that there should be no objection from MKCC on the installation of two signs attached to exiting signs and a contact name from MKCC Highways Team was provided to the Clerk on who would approve the acceptance form.

Update – cost for the two signs are £240.00 + VAT. Clerk will now place an order for the two signs to be installed within this budget year now that MKCC have signed the agreement form.

	et (the old A5)	eeking a No Overnight lorry parking ban being placed as the road leaves the village heading north towards	
Update provided by MKCC that the signs had now been installed.			
Following discussion, it was felt that just installing these signs will not solve this problem and it was decided to approach MKCC to reconsider their decision not to install no entry signs for lorries over 7.5 tonne as you enter the village from the island on Watling Street. <u>Cllr D Hopkins agreed to contact MKCC again on this issue.</u>			Cllr D Hopkins
12.8 – SID's: Clerk arranged for the SID's to be inspected / serviced on the 2 February 2024 as the one installed outside the Community Centre was not working.			
if the state of		06/03/23) - Great Brickhill Lane – Cllr M Goddard asked f the village to Great Brickhill could be reported to Bucks	
		to Bucks CC, but it looks like the responsibility is split ils. <u>Clerk to seek advice from MKCC. Ongoing.</u>	
13. To discu	ss Climate cha	ange issues / MKCC initiative: 3419	
This was disc	cussed in the P	ublic Open Session.	
14. Financia	l: 3420		
14.1 - Cheau	es presented	for payment:	
100982		Goodfellers Ltd – Tree work at Community Centre	
S/O		Alan Kemp – Salary January 2024	
100983	£123.20	HMRC – Tax for Clerk – January 2024	
100984		Swarco – (SID Maintenance Contract)	
100985	£1,432.98	Clear Insurance Maintenance Ltd – Insurance 2025	
S/O	£184.80	Alan Kemp – Salary February 2024	
100986	£216.80	HMRC – Tax for Clerk – February 2024	
100987	£218.34	Alan Kemp – Salary Arrears, Stamps & Defib Pads	
100988	£450.00	W&WFC – Grass Cutting	
100989	£216.00	Scribe Systems Ltd – Accounting Package Renewal	
100990	£823.68	Marcus Young Environmental Ltd – Dog Bins Emptying	
100991	£979.80	Streetmaster (South Wales) Ltd – New Bench	
This expendit	ture was propo	sed, seconded, and carried unanimously.	
14.2 – Paym	ents received:	None	
	noted that the I cashed was <u>£2</u>	Bank Balance following the payments made tonight and 6,283.72.	
	that a current	signatory would have to contact Barclays Bank to arrange nerated to add other signatories. <u>Ongoing.</u>	
Clerk confirm transactions I	by the end of th	in a good position to have entered all the financial nis budget year. The benefit is that the records are saved on hase and are more secure. This will also generate year end	
14.6 - Invoic Clerk will sen		r 1 High View access allowance, this month.	

14.7 – New Dog Bin on Roundacre Field:	
Clerk advised that there is a requirement for the installation of a dog bin in this area. <u>All</u>	
present agreed to this request.	
15. To set the Budget and Precept Proposals for 2024/2025: 3421	
Obstantia in the falls that we state for the power state DO we state	
Clerk emailed the following documents for discuss at the PC meeting.	
 More detailed year end forecast for 2023/2024 and draft Budget 2024/2025 – 	
2025/2026 – 2026/2027.	
The Motion: That Little Brickhill Parish Council sets the Precept for 2024/2025 in the	
sum of £16,490.00 (an increase of 10.01%) was proposed, seconded, and carried	
unanimously. <u>Clerk will notify MKCC accordingly.</u>	Clerk
16. To receive reports on the Community Centre: 3422	
16.1 - Electrical Work – Clerk advised that we are still waiting for a date from Western	
Power when they will be completing work to change the source of electricity from	
overhead cables underground. There are some outside wiring problems that they were	
going to complete at the same time.	
Clark has contracted National Crid have again and is surrantly waiting for a ranky	
Clerk has contacted National Grid have again and is currently waiting for a reply.	
16.2 - Damaged Shed – The Parish Council was asked if the shed at the Community	
Centre could be replaced.	
Community Centre committee have no objections but suggested that it might be better	
to purchase a plastic version. The current shed is 8 x 12 foot.	Ola de
Quotations being sought by the Clerk.	Clerk
17. Councillors Report: 3423	
17.1 – Wyness Avenue – Cllr E Priestley advised that there is some evidence that	
some people are parking their vehicles on grass verges. It was agreed to monitor this	
and review again at a future Parish Council meeting.	
18. Items for the next / future agendas.	
Clerks Annual Salary Review – March 2024	
20. Date of Next Meeting:	
Future dates are noted below:	
Monday 4 March 2024.	
Monday 8 April 2024.	
Tuesday 14 May 2024 – Annual General Meeting / Annual Village Meeting	
 Monday 3 June 2024 – Clerk is unable to attend this meeting? 	
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.	
Chair for Little Brickhill Parish Council	