



Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council Meeting | MINUTES

19 July 2023 | 7.15pm | St Mary Magdalene Church, Latimer

ATTENDEES

CLlr Anne Birkett (AB), Cllr Steve Thorp (ST), Cllr Chris Gregory, Cllr John Drewery and Claire Leek (Parish Clerk)

AGENDA TOPICS

| Agenda topic 1 | Apologies for Absence

Cllr Rae Bramwell and Cllr Emily King

| Agenda topic 2 | Register of Interests

None

| Agenda topic 3 | Public Quarter Hour

No members of the public present

| Agenda topic 4 | Approval of June Meeting Minutes

Formally approved by all. Signed by Chairman and Clerk to upload to website.

| Agenda topic 5 | Finance

- a. **Approval of June finance report.** The finance report was approved and will be uploaded to the website.
- b. **Streetlight Energy Renewal.** The clerk has explored the option from Clear Utility Solutions, who offer a discounted price for BALC members. This was compared to the renewal offer from SSE. There was little to no difference between the quotations, so the PCC agreed to go ahead with the renewal price. No further action required.
- c. **Savings Account.** The clerk presented the figures across the two accounts held by the PC. There is currently £22,000 in the current account, with the second instalment of the precept due in September. There is £17,000 in the reserve account. The clerk proposed moving £12,000 from the current account into reserve account, and then £20,000 from the reserve into a 12 month fixed term no access savings account. Based on current interest rates, this will return +£680 next July. We would have £9,000k in the reserve account, £10,000 in the current account (+ precept) and £20,000 in fixed savings.

Action: Clerk to move funds between accounts and apply for savings account. Second signatory will be required and notified.

| Agenda topic 6 | Burial Ground

- a. **Tree Work Quotation.** Following a walk around of the burial ground before the meeting in June, a number of tree related works were discussed. A quotation was provided by Paul Empson, for works to the large laurel bushes in the remembrance garden area, the conifers in the front hedge and a large Red Cedar. It was agreed that the PC would accept the quotation for the removal of the two laurel bushes, and the works to trim and tidy the conifers along the front hedge. This work is required as a preventative measure to avoid them dying. The quotation for the removal of the large Red Cedar will not be actioned at this time.

Proposed by ST. Seconded by CG.

Action: Clerk to inform contractor of acceptance of quotation and arrange for works.

- b. **Gate Repairs.** There are some maintenance requirements to the bottom front gate at the burial ground. This has been looked at closer by Cllr Harris. An update will be provided at the next meeting as Cllr Harris was not able to attend the meeting.
- c. **Inscription Request.** An inscription request was made to the burial ground administrator for an additional inscription to be added an existing memorial. The inscription was approved by the PC.

Action: Clerk to inform funeral directors of PC approval.

| Agenda topic 7 | Planning

a. Planning applications for consideration

- i. **PL/23/1962/UA - Land Adjacent To Home Farm**

No comments.

- ii. **PL/23/2094/UA - Junction Of Kiln Lane and Holly Tree Close**

No comments.

| Agenda topic 8 | Council Business

- a. **Ley Hill Flood Investigation.** Bucks Flood Investigation team had circulated a draft report for consultation. The PC returned comments which are now being reviewed alongside other responses prior to the report being circulated wider.
- b. **Fix My Street Updates.** Following the last meeting, the clerk reported that the hedges along Middle Road have once again overgrown and are now impeding the highway. This was logged on Fix My Street however, Bucks Council have closed the report after visiting the site and claim the hedges do not meet the requirement for pruning ahead of the schedule.
- The clerk also reported the broken bollard on the green in Latimer. This will be replaced however, the time frame given via Fix My Street was 16 weeks.

- c. **The Crown.** Following the closure of The Crown, the PC made contact with the brewery, Star, to understand the plans for the pub. Work has started to carry out some refurbishments which are expected to take a few weeks, and the brewery are looking for a tenant. The PC have requested the benches be removed from the common land whilst the pub is closed, this will allow Buckinghamshire Council contractors to mow the grass.

Action: Anne Birkett to contact Bucks Estates team to request the grass in front of the Crown to be mown

A.O.B

- a. **Kiln Lane Ownership.** The installation of BT Broadband by Open Reach is struggling to progress due to the issues around the ownership of Kiln Lane. It was suggested that the transfer history on the deeds of the Kiln Lane residents may provide the information – this will be looked into. Open Reach have asked the PC to make contact with the Harman family, who are believed to own the lane. The PC will forward a wayleave produced by Open Reach to the known email address for a family member.

Meeting Closed at | 8.45pm |

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Councillor Anne Birkett (Chairman)
Latimer and Ley Hill Parish Council

Next Meeting | 19 September 2023 | St Mary Magdalene Church Hall, Latimer