

BYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Alex George

Byfield Village Hall, The Green, Byfield, Daventry NN11 6UT

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13th February 2025 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: John Gillic (JG) – Chairman; Christl Davis (CD), Barbara Ridyard (BR), Pom Boddington (PB), Michael Burdon (MB), Simon Shepherd (SS), Nick Thompson (NT)

Others: WNC Ward Cllr Rupert Frost (RF), Damien Moran (DM) and the Clerk

		Action
1.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: N/A	
2.	To receive and approve apologies for absence: Santon Crowshaw (SC) and Lindsay Clark (LC) provided apologies for this meeting. It was RESOLVED to accept the apologies for absence for this meeting.	
3.	To approve the minutes of the Meeting on 9th January 2025: It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting as an accurate record.	
4.	Matters Arising: N/A	
5.	Chairman's Announcements: It was RESOLVED to move April's meeting to 17 th April 2025. It was RESOLVED to provisionally book the Parish Annual Meeting for 27 th May 2025. It was RESOLVED to purchase more signage regarding dog fouling to be put up around the Brightwell Recreation Ground.	
6.	To receive a report from WNC Ward Councillor: RF informed the councillors about the Local Plan Briefing, which records Byfield as a secondary service village. Due to the new national guidelines, WNC will need to build an additional 10,000 – 11,000 new homes between 2029 – 2049. The councillors were warned that Byfield could be upgraded to a tertiary service village, which could open it to more housing options in the future. RF continues to chase the outstanding HS2 road safety funding for items promised to the parish. RF has arranged a meeting with WNC's highways to get funding to fix the Woodford Road and will continue to chase this.	
7.	Public Participation: DM enquired as to why residents weren't informed of the grit bin that used to be on the road leading down from The Green being moved to the Village Hall car park beforehand. In addition, there were concerns raised about the path between The Green and Becketts Close flooding during heavy rain. DM was advised to raise this concern on WNC's FixMyStreet. It was RESOLVED to source and place a new grit bin down the bottom of the hill next to the path between The Green and Becketts Close.	

Copies of all council papers are available on request from the Clerk

8.	Update on printer contract: It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to cancel the Canon contract which had 3 months left and arrange for the new contract with DolphinTec to go ahead.	
9.	Finance: a. <i>Income received from 5 January to 8 February:</i> £367.57 in VAT rebate. £24 in allotment rent. £149.00 in burial fees. b. <i>Fund balances on 8 February:</i> Current account £3,426.60. Deposit account £92,347.40. No uncashed cheques, total funds available £95,774.00 c. It was RESOLVED to make the payments detailed on the updated schedule. d. It was RESOLVED to donate £100 to the Wednesday Coffee Morning Group to cover room hire.	
10.	Planning: a. NEW APPLICATIONS: None b. APPROVALS: None c. REFUSALS: None d. It was resolved for JG to write to Flora Innes House regarding the fencing.	
11.	Highways: n/a	
12.	Rights of Way: It was resolved for the Clerk to contact Charlie Manton and arrange for clearing the path between The Green and Becketts Close and cut back vegetation behind the Village Hall.	
13.	Council and BRG Land/Property: It was RESOLVED to go with the quotation of £9,860.00 by NB Landscapes to replace the gravel path behind the Russell Pavilion with permeable gravel and extend the path along down the tennis courts. It was RESOLVED to meet on 27 th February to discuss quotations regarding work to be done on the Brightwell Pavilion. The Christmas Tree on The Green has been removed by Solden Hill.	
14.	Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard: Mole traps have been placed to capture and relocate the moles within the closed churchyard.	
15.	Lights and Utilities: The Clerk will continue to chase the streetlight supplier regarding the day burner and the installation of a screen on a streetlight.	
16.	Allotments, Pocket Park, Environment: PB provided an update regarding the pocket park. The outstanding £200 agreed in 2024 for the pocket park will be spent soon to buy more plants. Tree Surgeon is due to start work on the w/c 17 February	
17.	Playground: MB has briefed Byfield Primary School's school council that there is £10,000 in the budget for new play equipment for 2025-26. It was RESOLVED to arrange a meeting with the school council to see their proposal for the play equipment.	
18.	Date(s) of next meeting(s) 27 February (planning meeting if required) 13 March (full council meeting)	
19.	Close of meeting: JG closed the meeting at 9:14pm.	

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT