

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 12th December 2024 AT 7.30 PM

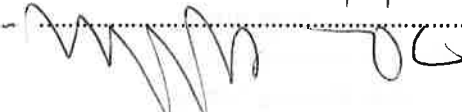
PRESENT: Councillors: John Gillie (JG) – Chairman; Christl Davis (CD), Barbara Ridyard (BR), Pom

Boddington (PB), Nick Thompson (NT), Lindsay Clark (LC)

Others: WNC Ward Cllr Jo Gifford (JOG), members of the public Rupert Sanders (RS) and Mike Bosley (MIB) and the Clerk

Action	
1.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: N/A
2.	To receive and approve apologies for absence: Michael Burdon (MB) and Santon Crowshaw (SC) 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 14th November 2024: It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting as an accurate record. The clerk was instructed to add an addendum to item 9 citing public participation during that item, linking it to item 14f.
4.	Matters Arising: The building work at the Brightwell Recreation Ground car park has been completed.
5.	Chairman's Announcements: N/A
6.	To receive a report from WNC Ward Councillor: JOG informed the councillors that while WNC has not delivered as many savings as they would have liked, the proposed budget is balanced at this moment in time during the budget cycle. WNC's planning department continues to undergo development to improve efficiency. The government's new 6-year planning figures show that West Northants is below the current land supply figures, but will see an increase of 20% of new homes being built in the next 6 years.
7.	Public Participation: Two members of the public attended the meeting to talk during item 8.
8.	Storm Bert: Members of the public, Rupert Sanders (RS) and Mike Bosley (MIB), spoke about the recent flooding of properties on Bell Lane and Banbury Lane due to Storm Bert. It was RESOLVED to send letters to residents who lived along the stream to remind them of their responsibility to ensure the stream is kept clear. It was RESOLVED to put reports of blocked drains on the A361 into FixMyStreet. It was RESOLVED to ask Chris White to add a visual check of the grill on the Brightwell Recreation Ground to their weekly playground inspection. It was RESOLVED to contact WNC's Flood Prevention Officer to ask them to provide a seminar and support to local residents at the Village Hall.

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

Signed:  Date: 9/1/25

9.	<p>Finance:</p> <p>a. Income received from 10 November to 7 December: 375.31 in VAT rebate. <i>Fund balances at 7 December:</i> Current account £3,969.07. Deposit account £103,681.41. No uncashed cheques, total funds available £107,650.48. b. It was RESOLVED to make the payments detailed on the updated schedule. c. It was RESOLVED to add an item to approve the budget for 25/26 and agree the precept on the agenda for the next meeting on 9th January 2025.</p>	
10.	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a. NEW APPLICATIONS: None b. APPROVALS: None c. REFUSALS: None</p>	
11.	<p>Highways:</p> <p>The A361 is due to reopen before the end of next week (20th December).</p>	
12.	<p>Council and BRG Land/Property:</p> <p>a. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Richard Clay to undertake maintenance of the identified trees around the parish. The Clerk will ask Richard Clay to store any chipplings from the work at the allotments for the allotment holders to utilise. b. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Central Potholes to repair the two potholes in the Village Hall car park. c. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Phil Lovesey to renovate the Pocket Park walkway. It was accepted that there could be a potential increase in the price due to inflation from when the quotation was originally provided. d. JG is working with SC to respond to the HS2 Groundworks Grant Team's request to complete the outstanding paperwork for the grant provided to Byfield Parish Council.</p>	
13.	<p>Allotments, Pocket Park and Environment:</p> <p>N/A</p>	
14.	<p>Playground:</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to cease work on the gym equipment proposal due to the response of the electorate. It was RESOLVED to undertake a survey of the electorate's thoughts and views on future projects in the Parish in 2025.</p>	
15.	<p>Date(s) of next meeting(s)</p> <p>9th January (full council meeting).</p>	
16.	<p>Close of meeting: JG closed the meeting at 9:15pm.</p>	