

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the

Parish Council

held Tuesday 5 March 2024, 7.00pm

Hall 3, Bromham Village Hall

PRESENT:

Sian Woodfine
Liz Luder
Gianluca Guerriero
Jane Shields
Bill Willgress
William Armitage
Cllr Robert Rigby
Julie Betts

APOLOGIES:

Trevor Roff, Anne Baker, Cllr Dylan Simmons

Action/Power

Public Question Time

Gloria Chukwuji, NHS Healthwatch attended the meeting to explain the Bedford Borough Council Healthwatch initiative. Healthwatch takes residents' concerns and views and refers to Public Health England for consideration and action.

The Public Bodies
(Admission to
Meetings) Act
1960 as amended
by s100, LGA 72

Jan Thompson raised the issue of potholes in the village. The Chair advised that she send locations of potholes to the Clerk who would forward to Bedford Borough Council, Highways Dept.

Twelve members of the public attended the meeting in connection with the Bromham Neighbours opposition to Bromham Mill re-development.

Mr B Bates, Resident of Bromham spoke of his concerns with regards to the redevelopment of Bromham Mill. Mr. Bates thought that the proposals were not in line with the agreed Bromham Neighbourhood Plan (BNP) and there would be a loss of heritage at the site. Mr. Bates considered that the Parish Council may be acting outside of their remit.

Cllr Woodfine refuted that the proposals for Bromham Mill were different to the BNP and referred Mr. Bates to C7.5 of the BNP.

Residents in attendance were also concerned about the loss of green space and the proposed overflow car park. Cllr Woodfine confirmed that the overflow car park would be Grass Crete and would be gated off and only used when necessary.

Note

The badgers would be moved to another area, this fact had always been in the proposals and it was required to move the sett away from the car park area. Bromham Parish Council had commissioned specialist reports to inform the Parish Council on the impact on the badgers and the environment before committing to the proposals.

Cllr Woodfine explained that extensive work was required to maintain the buildings at Bromham Mill, and renting out space to business would help contribute to the required works and the ongoing maintenance to provide an improved future for the mill.

Cllr Woodfine explained that Bromham Parish Council had consulted with the village and the planning and listed building consent application had been subject to public consultation. Information had often been disseminated in the Broadsheet, on the noticeboards and was available on the website and in the minutes.

The Parish Council had worked for about 2 years on the planning application, they had met and listened to the immediate neighbours, and some changes had been made to the planning application taking into account their comments.

Cllr Woodfine confirmed there had been 59 expressions of interest for business space at Bromham Mill.

Cllr Woodfine confirmed that Bromham Parish Council had not acted ultra vires and had the necessary statutory powers to carry out the project at Bromham Mill.

Note

19/24 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Roff, Cllr Baker and Cllr Simmons.

Note

20/24 **Minutes of Last Meeting held on 6 February 2024**

The meeting considered the draft minutes of the last meeting held on 6 February 2024.

LGA 1972, Sch 12
para

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

PC

(Proposed by: Cllr Armitage, Seconded by: Cllr Wilgress, All in favour)

21/24 **Declaration of Interests**

Disclosures on interest in relation to Parish Council business were as previously declared by Parish Councillors.

Note

22/24 **Reports**

(a) **Bedford Borough Councillor's Report**

The Borough Councillors report, attached at **Appendix A** to the minutes, was circulated and Parish Councillors sought clarification on specific items contained in the update report.

Note

- Cllr Rigby to follow up Cllr Simmons offer for Bromham to be included in a glass recycling scheme.
- Cllr Rigby to report on outturn of year end at next Meeting.
- Cllr Rigby to update on East West Rail Review.
- Cllr Rigby to update on additional bus routes / times be added into Bromham village using the Bus Improvement Plan finance.

(b) **Bedfordshire Police & Crime Statistics**

The Crime Statistics for February 2024 were circulated, and the information is summarised at **Appendix B**.

Note

RESOLVED:

That the crime statistics for February 2024 be acknowledged.

Note

(c) **Bromham Village Hall**

Cllr Shields reported that the Annual Pantomime would go ahead in January 2025.

(d) **Bedfordshire Association of Town & Parish Councils (BATPC)**

Cllr Luder had attending a BATPC meeting to discuss the consultation on Martin's Law. Martin's Law when agreed would mean that comprehensive checks on premises would make premises anti-terrorism proof. Village halls would fall into the standard tier.

Note

(e) **Parish & Town Council Network**

Cllr Woodfine encouraged all members to attend the Parish & Town Council Network. The meeting was an opportunity to understand local issues and gave direct access to officers from Bedford Borough Council and The Mayor.

Note

23/24 **Update on Current Issues**

(a) **Buckingham Palace Garden Party**

BATPC had confirmed that Cllr Woodfine had been drawn out of the hat to attend the Palace Garden Party for Bedfordshire. Councillors congratulated The Chair on her well-deserved success.

Note

(b) **Vacancies**

There were still 5 vacancies for Councillors on Bromham Parish Council. Parish Clerk to continue to advertise for Parish Councillors.

Note

(c) **Environment**

(i) **Update from Conservation Group**

Conservation work complete this month:

- Clear fire exit and branches at the back and round safety ring at back of mill.
- Rescued trees that been washed by flood within mill ground.
- Clearing the holly from playing field path at back of village hall.
- Weeding in mill grounds.
- Replaced non-slip footprints on wooden bridge.
- Repaired the owl and placed in fairy walk.
- Planting dogwood in fairy walk.
- Spreading snowdrops from dip near back gate so more visible to nearer path.
- Bark spreading on brook path.
- Clearing branches from fallen tree by bonfire site.
- Posts in for nature club fence to divide edge of brook.
- Removing tree branches in car park which had been ripped from playground tree.

Note

Work still to be carried out:

- Path between Trevor Drive and Leyside needs cutting back as brambles will soon be going over path. At Leyside end of path, wire fencing has been bent up to allow access to Brook.
- A reminder needs to go out to residents of Bromham to cut back hedges that are encroaching on to paths - Noticeboards/Broadsheet?

(ii) **Winter Maintenance**

Note

This work is now complete.

(iii) **Trees in River at Bromham Bridge:**

Flooding had moved broken trees on the riverbank into the river. There are two blocking arches at Bromham Bridge, these have been reported to Bedford Borough Council.

Note

(iv) **Grass Cutting:**

Grass cutting will commence this month.

(c) **Events**

The Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Woodfine, reported on the following:

(i) **FUTURE EVENTS AND GENERAL UPDATE**

Easter Egg Hunt 30 March 2024:

£3.50 charge in Woodland Walk/Fairy Trail.

Pre-sale of ducks to decorate for the Duck Race, and duck Race tickets.

Bromham Duck Race 27 May 2024:

3 races: Business Duck Race. Decorated Duck Race and General Duck Race.

Event will include traders, attractions, food and drink. Carlene Macfarlane to book traders.

Need volunteers to help on the day.

Bromham Apple Day Sunday 13 October 2024:

Looking to book entertainment soon. Similar format to 2023.

Christmas 21 & 22 December 2024:

This year, Christmas activities arranged over one weekend only.

Planning creating a Santa's grotto with crafts on Saturday 21st December, and Santa's grotto with Carols on Sunday 22nd December. Santa is booked. The Parish Council is working in collaboration with The Coffee Shop.

Also planning to decorate the woodland/fairy walk with lighting displays. To be agreed at Bromham Mill Board.

Makers Markets/Artisan Fairs

Returns to the Mill from April 2024. Plans are to introduce more produce stalls.

Bromham Mill Volunteers

The Volunteers would be decorating the Mill for Easter – Peter Rabbit – and plan to decorate for Halloween – Spooky times. Decoration for Christmas will be based on the Nativity figures.

Workshops

Workshops are continuing to take place at the Mill. Despite attempts to warm the space, it is still very cold. Suggest that workshops run from March to October next year, avoiding the colder months.

New chairs and tables had been delivered. Need to set up the furniture in the workshop space.

(ii) Underwriting Events

Some Events are large and required Parish Council to underwrite the expenses. The two large events – Duck Race and Apple Day had never made a loss but it was prudent that Parish Council agree a sum to underwrite in case of a loss.

1. Duck Race proposed to underwrite £1,500.
2. Apple Day propose to underwrite £4,050.

Note

RESOLVED:

To underwrite the Duck Race at £1,500 and Apple Day at £4,050.

Note

(Proposed by: Cllr Shields, Seconded by: Cllr Willgress, All in favour)

(iii) Bromham Business Network

The first meeting of the Bromham Business Network took place at Bromham Mill on Tuesday 13 February 2024. The meeting was well attended and it was agreed to have a further meeting on 9 April 2024; after this meeting the group will be independent and run themselves.

Note

(d) Finance

The Finance Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Roff, provided a report as follows:

(i) Schedule of Receipts & Payments February 2024

The Parish Council received the schedule of receipts and payments for February 2024, and these are summarised at **Appendix C**.

Note

(ii) Health & Safety Report 2023/2024:

The Health & Safety Report, attached at **Appendix D**, was considered. There had been 1 accident in 2023/2024 to date.

Note

(iii) Health & Safety Action Plan:

The Health & Safety Action Plan for 2023-2024 was considered and all actions had been carried out. The Health & Safety Action Plan for 2024-2025, attached at **Appendix E**, was also considered.

Note

RESOLVED:

- | | | |
|-------|--|----|
| (i) | That the schedule or receipts and payments made during February 2024, attached at <u>Appendix C</u> , be approved. | PC |
| (ii) | That the Health & Safety Report for 2023-2024 attached at <u>Appendix D</u> , be approved. | PC |
| (iii) | That the Health & Safety Action Plan for 2024/2025, attached at <u>Appendix E</u> , be approved effective from 1 April 2024. | PC |

(d) **Highways & Traffic**

Steven Eagell Parking:

Complaints continue with regards to parking around Steven Eagell. Bedford Borough Council had agreed to install double yellow passing places on Quenby Way and Berry Drive.

Note

Parking on grass edge on Vicarage Green

No update, waiting for quotations.

Resurfacing Wingfield Road/Woodland Drive

Cllr Rigby had informed the meeting that Bedford Borough Council were in receipt of Government funding for Highways and that this funding could bring some schemes forward. Cllr. Armitage requested that the resurfacing of Wingfield Road/Woodland Drive be considered as it had been on the schedule for required works for years. Cllr Rigby agreed to chase.

Cllr Rigby

(f) **Parish Assets**

The Parish Asset Portfolio Holder, Cllr Luder, reported that there were no updates on Parish Assets.

(g) **Planning**

The Planning Portfolio Holder, Cllr Guerierro reported on the following:

Planning Committee 20 February 2024

32 Rosemary Drive, One and two storey front, rear and side extension, garage conversion following demolition of existing conservatory.

106 Woodland Drive, Single storey front extension single storey rear extension and associated alterations.

123A Stagsden Road, One and two storey rear extension and changes to windows at front: No Objection

Note

Lane at Bromham Road, Biddenham, All reserved matters except access for residential development of 57 dwellings: Objection

61 Village Road, Single storey side extension to form garage/storage and vehicle crossover: Objection

Bromham Park protected tree works: Refer to Tree Officer.

(h) **Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The Neighbourhood Plan Review consultation was closed. The group would be analysing the results at the next meeting.

The Group continue to work with AECOM on technical support packages.

Note

Bromham Green Infrastructure Plan: A workshop had been held, on 22 February 2024 at 7pm, with Beds Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) at Bromham Village Hall. The Workshop gave residents the opportunity to have their say on how local environment can be protected and enhanced by helping to create a Bromham Green Infrastructure Plan. Next steps will be:

Note

March – online survey based on responses from the workshop.

March/April – another opportunity to speak with BRCC (via drop-in session in Bromham Village Hall).

April – 2nd online survey – prioritisation of response ideas.

June/July 2024 – Final report to the Neighbourhood Plan Group

(i) **Bromham Mill Board Update**

(i) **Planning Project Timeline and Sequencing**

Phillips Planning Services had quoted for the preparation of a Planning Project Timeline/Sequencing and project briefs to enable competitive quotations to be obtained from key consultants necessary to discharge conditions (based upon a briefing note that provides project background, details of the condition(s), and tasks required from the consultant/specialist). This would enable a budget to be prepared for this phase of the project.

RESOLVED:

To approve professional fees for Planning Project Timeline and Sequencing at a cost of £2,000 exclusive of VAT.

PC

(Proposed by: Cllr Armitage, Seconded by: Cllr Rutter, All in favour)

(ii) **Bromham Residents Group Flyer**

Parish Councillors in attendance acknowledged the leaflet distributed to houses in the village from the Bromham Residents Group about the Bromham Mill proposals, attached at **Appendix F**.

The leaflet suggested Bromham Parish Council had not consulted with residents, were acting ultra vires and had environmental concerns including moving the badgers.

The group had arranged to show other residents around the Mill site to explain the planning proposals on Saturday 3 March and Sunday 4 March 2024. Unfortunately, the group had not invited any Parish Councillors who would have been able to relevant information on the consented planning proposals for the Mill.

Parish Council had circulated a response on the Website, Social-Media and noticeboards, attached at **Appendix G**.

Note

24/24 **Communications**

- Vacancies
- Duck Race
- Neighbourhood Plan Review: Green Infrastructure Plan

PC

25/24 **New Matters from Councillors for Future Discussion - None**

26/24 **Correspondence**

A summary of correspondence is attached at **Appendix H**.

Note

27/24 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on **Tuesday 2 April 2024, 7.00pm**. The meeting closed at 8.09pm.

Note

MINUTES AGREED: _____ Date: _____ 2024

Monthly Borough Report March 2024

- **Council potentially owed millions in uncollected capital receipts.**

The Executive have been investigating the land disaggregation agreement between Bedford Borough Council (BBC) and Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) to ensure all money BBC is owed from the former Bedfordshire County Council land holdings has been collected.

A preliminary investigation has uncovered various pieces of land noted in the disaggregation agreement that had been allocated for development, proceeds of which should be split on the basis of 63% CBC and 37% BBC between April 2009 and March 2030. BBC had, however, received no capital receipts since 2018.

A very significant amount of land (199.167 acres) is now being investigated which could have resulted in a significant amounts of money being due to the Council. This funding could prevent cuts to services and ease financial pressures.

The Executive is now working with its Officers and CBC to further investigate the status of land that BBC has a financial interest in and to recover capital receipts that will be due.

- **NHS Staff announce 48 hour strike at Luton Dunstable and Bedford hospital.**

The union UNISON has confirmed more than 400 workers will be taking strike action beginning on the 11 March, Monday 7.30am and last 48 hours.

The strike action will be affecting Bedfordshire Hospitals (Bedford and Luton & Dunstable) and it is advised that any residents who have appointments to check with the hospital if their appointments are still going ahead as planned or if they will need to re-arrange or if these appointments have already been re-arranged.

- **Philharmonia Orchestra**

The Philharmonia Orchestra are continuing pop up performances session over 3 days in March. The Philharmonia's activity has taken place on Friday 1 March, Saturday 2 March and concludes on Saturday 9 March (at St Paul's Church). All events are free and open to all.

- **Garden waste bin collections**

Garden waste bin collections will be starting again from 1st March 2024 and residents are advised to put their garden waste bins alongside the recycling bins by 6am on their next collection day.

You can check collection dates and other waste services, at <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/.../household-bins-and-recycling>

- **Grant Palmer 44 service**

Despite financial pressures the Council extended the Grant Palmer 44 service on 26 February 2024 thus benefitting users of Elstow Park and Ride site. The service is being extended by the Council utilising the Bus Service Improvement Plan grant funding from the Government and ensures continued accessibility and convenience for residents and commuters.

- **SEND School and update**

Despite financial pressures the Council is building a £26million SEND school in Kempston at the former site of Robert Bruce Middle School and will have places for 200 children and young people from across Bedford Borough. The children attending this new school will predominantly have profound and multiple learning disabilities, severe learning disabilities and autism and will be open in phases and is on track to be delivered on time. In addition, the old Robert Bruce School was scheduled to be demolished however, it has been discovered that there are pregnant bats now in the School. Due to this, the Council is awaiting guidance from Natural England on how to proceed.

- **Mowsbury Golf Course**

Due to excessive amounts of rainfall Mowsbury Golf Course, like many Golf courses across the UK, has been closed due to repeated flooding.

The current provider, GLL, are looking at the current drainage provision and working with the grounds maintenance provider to look at ways to improve drainage provision.

- **More money to manage Drainage**

Due to inherited budget restrictions the Council has limited equipment and resources, however, the Council will be using £470,000 which will be used to conduct more highways work to hire more equipment and put together a cyclical drainage programme so drains and gulleys are more efficiently cleansed.

- **Home Upgrade Grant expands**

The Council will be announcing significant enhancements to the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2) scheme, making it easier for more residents to access vital energy-saving home improvements and further reducing fuel poverty across the borough. The changes will ensure the Council continues to support residents during extremely challenging times.

Residents can find further information and can make applications for HUG2 at the link: <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/environmental-issues/sustainability/home-upgrade-grant> or, alternatively at: <https://hugapply.co.uk/2023/09/06/hello-world/>

APPENDIX B**CRIME STATISTICS FEBRUARY 2024****Crime Stats to 15 February 2024**

Police UK Category	Crime Category	Offence Start Date	Recorded Date	Offence	Address 1
Violence and Sexual Offences	VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	01/02/2024	01/02/2024	ASSAULT WITH INJURY	Springfield Drive
Public Order	PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	30/01/2024	01/02/2024	PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS	Cornwallis Close
Public Order	PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	11/02/2024	11/02/2024	PUBLIC FEAR ALARM OR DISTRESS	Lower Farm Road

APPENDIX C

Bromham Parish Council Income & Expenditure February 2024

	2486.52	J Betts	Salary Feb 2024
	1005.31	HMRC	Salary Feb 2024
	1116.13	Beds Pensions	Salary Feb 2024
	60.00	AR Bookkeeping	Salary Feb 2024
	71.83	Bromham Village Hall	1/3 Ground maintenance
	60.80	Envisage Promotion	Book Santa for Xmas 24
	1065.00	Just Ducks	Duck Race 24
	162.24	Mill Coffee Shop	Business Network
	2501.04	Npower	Bromham Mill Electricity
	93.65	Onecom	Tel/Internet
	679.80	PPS	Bromham Mill Planning Jan 24
	33.52	P Grabham	Bromham Mill Expenses
	1200.00	Bromham Park Estate	Apple Day car park rent x 2 years
	61.20	Sage	Sage support
	848.00	The Colour Shop	Broadsheet print
	720.00	The Tree People	Various Tree work
	77.50	Denise Saunders	Bromham Mill cleaning
	148.00	P Kempself Ltd	Bromham Mill new tap for toilets
	109.20	Metrosigns 2000	Parish Council Sign
	2868.91	NPower	Bromham Mill final electricity
96.43		UK Equity High Inc	Interest
919.00		MacFarlane Catering	Bromham Mill Rent
1750.00		MacFarlane Catering	Bromham Mill Rent
44.00		K Hyden	Bromham Mill Workshop
100.00		Slimming world	Broadsheet advert
2909.43	15368.65		

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

To: Finance & General Purposes Committee

From: Julie Betts
Clerk to the Parish Council

Date: 27 February 2024

Health and Safety Report 2023-2024

Policy

A Health & Safety Policy was finalised and implemented in March 2009 following approval by the Parish Council. Copies of the Policy are distributed to all Councillors and employees for their information annually.

Health and Safety Action Plan

In respect of its health and safety responsibilities, the F&GP Committee (at its meeting on 29 August 2006) prepared a Health and Safety Action Plan to identify key tasks and responsibilities. This was approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 5 September 2007).

The Plan is reviewed annually and monitored regularly by the F&GP Committee, in accordance with this Action Plan, the following tasks were completed:

(a) Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments were carried out by the Clerk in February 2024 and are being reviewed continually.

Health and Safety Work Instructions have also been prepared for the range of activities undertaken and these were approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 3 April 2007.

(b) Workplace Inspections

Workplace inspections were carried out by the Clerk in January 2024.

Problem areas identified:

- a. Windows can open too wide and could be a hazard to passing pedestrians. Staff aware and do not open the window too wide.
- b. Fire Extinguisher should be relocated as it is currently too near the door. A request has been sent to the Village Hall Committee.
- c. Bars on windows are a hazard because there are no other escape routes if there was a fire in the lobby. A request has been sent to the Village Hall Committee.

(c) Electrical Equipment Checking

All electrical equipment is checked yearly by the Village Hall Committee. Any issues identified are acted upon immediately either by repair or replacement.

PAT Testing carried out at Bromham Allotments and Bromham Pavillion annually.

(d) Fire/Evacuation Reviews

Fire Notices have been displayed clearly around the Village Hall. Copies of these notices are handed out with the booking form to hirers to inform them of their responsibility.

Responsibility for fire alarm testing and evacuation is the Village Hall Committee and tests are carried out monthly.

Fire Extinguishers checked Annually at Bromham Mill, Bromham Allotments and Bromham Pavillion.

Accidents

1. Accident in the Meadow at Bromham Mill, 5.3.24, Dog pulled over owner, suspected broken wrist, possible other injuries, Family took to hospital.

Signed: *K. J. Betts*

Julie Betts, Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Date: 5 March 2024

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

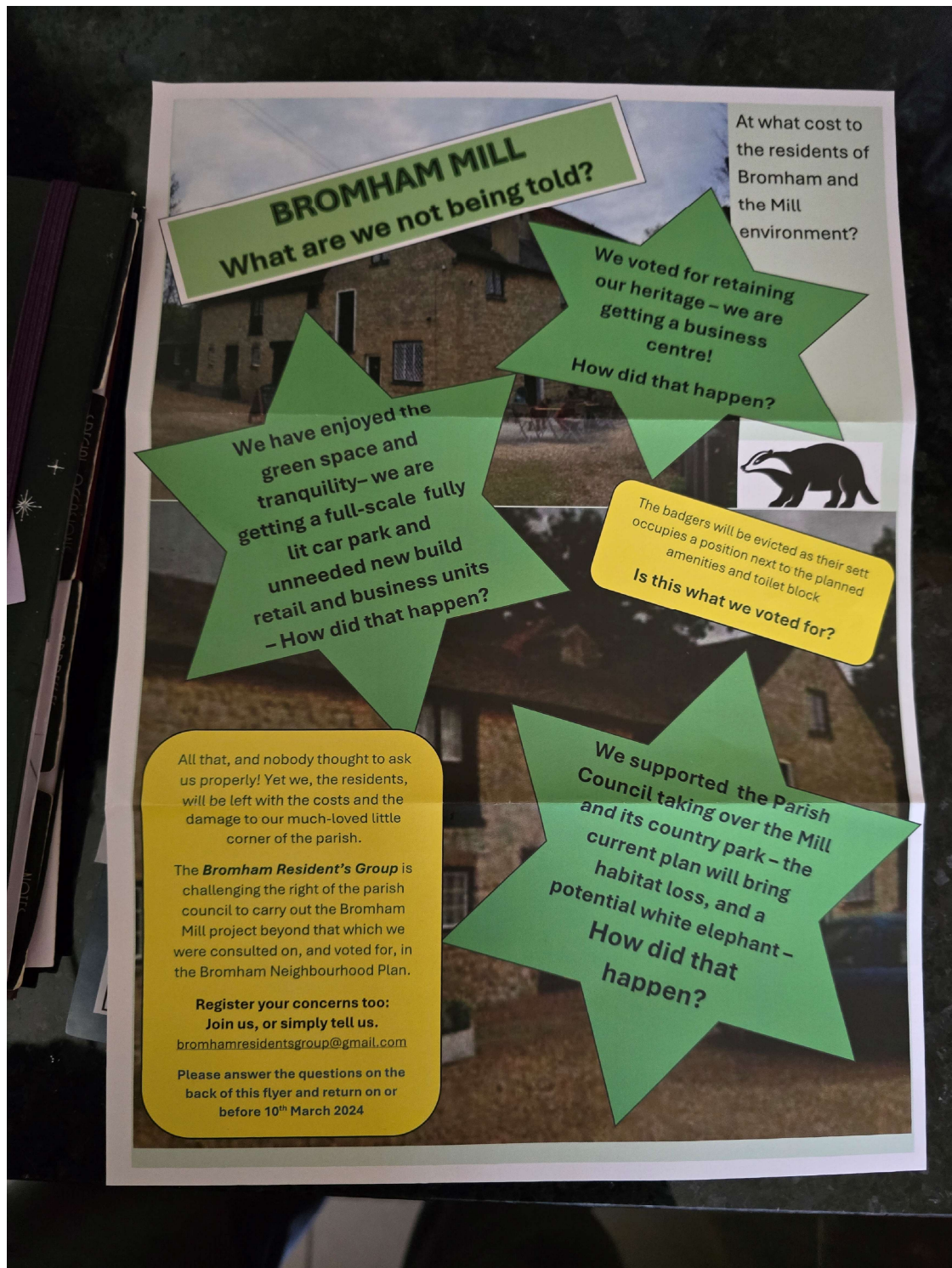
HEALTH & SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2023-2024

	2023									2024			
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	Notes
Risk Assessments/Work Instructions												*	Ongoing Reviews
Workplace Inspections	*						*						Parish Clerk to action
Electrical Equipment Checking (Annual Check)											*		Parish Clerk to action
Fire/Evacuation Review						*						*	Village Hall to action
Produce New Action Plan												*	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Yearly Update to Full Parish Council												*	Parish Clerk to action
ROSPA Inspection (Play Areas)						*							Parish Clerk to action
PC Play Area Inspections	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	Carried out weekly by PC Staff Monthly by Contractor

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

HEALTH & SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2024-2025

	2024									2025			Notes
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	
Risk Assessments/Work Instructions												*	Ongoing Reviews
Workplace Inspections	*						*						Parish Clerk to action
Electrical Equipment Checking (Annual Check)											*		Parish Clerk to action
Fire/Evacuation Review						*						*	Village Hall to action
Produce New Action Plan												*	Finance and General Purposes Committee
Yearly Update to Full Parish Council												*	Parish Clerk to action
ROSPA Inspection (Play Areas)						*							Parish Clerk to action
PC Play Area Inspections	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	Carried out weekly by PC Staff Monthly by Contractor



Did you know that the Bromham Neighbourhood Plan 2030 had a few aspirations for the community, including:

- 1) Acquiring the Bromham Mill lease and preserving the heritage whilst making better use of the campus;
- 2) Developing sporting, social and play areas for residents, especially young people, and children;
- 3) Creating a safe pedestrian and cycle crossing towards Biddenham, especially when the Doctor's surgeries move there.

Are you aware and happy that the majority of the resources of the parish are being allocated just to the Bromham Mill project alone ?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Did you know that the Parish Council claim to have consulted on the project as it currently stands – that is to say, with the six retail units, six business units and other ancillary buildings, a heavily engineered car park which will alter the levels of the entire central area of the built area and which will be lit, to facilitate trading for longer hours of the day? Did you know that to create the car park (which will include an LGV loading bay and coach park) they will demolish the 1930s barn by the current reserve car park, fell trees, change the ground level, and build right up to the badger sett?

The immediate neighbours were consulted because of a legal obligation under the Town and Country Planning Acts, but otherwise there was just the exhibition set up at Apple Day 2022. It was not a consultation because – it was not advertised, it was not restricted to Bromham residents and, ultimately the real failing, this was after the parish council had made the decisions!

Do you believe that you were fully consulted about the significant changes to the original plan that was voted upon and agreed by the residents within the Bromham Neighbourhood Plan ?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Do you believe that the Bromham Residents' Group should campaign to stop the parish council from its current plan as shown in their recently approved planning application to Bedford Borough Council?

The Bromham Residents' Group is a democratic group, and its abiding wish is to ensure that the residents are fully consulted – and only then should massive decisions of this sort be taken forward on their behalf.

Yes

☐

No

☐

If you would like to know more about what is being proposed, then we would be happy to show you. If you would care for a guided walk that will include a ramble through the Mill site – then just meet at the gate to the main field at the Mill on either of these dates (if you live nearby, please walk, and leave your car at home):
Saturday 2nd March at 10am, or Sunday 3rd March at 11am where you can walk around the site with members of the Bromham Residents' Group who will endeavour to explain what we know.

You may alternatively drop us a line to let us know your thoughts: bromhamresidentsgroup@gmail.com.
(please include your contact details, which will be kept securely)

Please drop your anonymous leaflet when completed to either: Welcome (Co-op) store, Stagsden Road, or (Please place in the box provided in each store by 10th March) One-Stop, Mollivers Lane
Thanks for reading this message from your fellow Bromham Residents – we want Bromham Mill working, just as we agreed in the neighbourhood plan and without losing the character and heritage of the site.

Bromham Resident's Group, February 2024

Response to Bromham Residents Group Leaflet from Bromham Parish Council

In connection with the consultation leaflet posted through residents' doors. It is understood that this group are made up of immediate neighbours of Bromham Mill and other residents.



All information with regard to the planning application is available online and the various minutes of Parish Council meetings, over several years, has the discussions and decisions taken in relation to Bromham Mill. Information has been in the broadsheet and on noticeboards and social media.

Bromham Parish Council have been sensitive to concerns of neighbours but also realise the importance of this asset and do not want to see it go into further disrepair. Bromham Parish Council worked tirelessly for a period of almost 5 years to negotiate and agree a long lease for Bromham Mill and then worked for a further 2 years on the planning application. In doing so, the Parish Council sought to make the proposals acceptable to neighbours, endeavouring to address as far as we could neighbours concerns.

Planning permission was given in January 2024, and it was voted for unanimously by the Planning Committee at Bedford Borough Council. The Parish Council are now working on sequencing the project in line with the planning consent and the conditions imposed. It is intended that further consultation will take place with the village as the project evolves. Funding for the project if agreed will come from CIL monies gained from new development in the village. N.B. if we do not spend the CIL money on this project we would have to find another as it has to be spent within 5 years or we give it back to the developers.

The plan is for the coffee shop to move into the front barn (the current tenant has worked with the Parish Council in terms of the layout), the mill is re-established as a museum and art gallery, and the Mill House and original stables will house small business. The plan also includes 6 new small business pods at the rear but this will only be developed if there is a sound business case and a good level of interest

The Parish Council has a lease for 100 years and needs to make the site work with proper regard to generating revenue from compatible uses. Any business tenant must, therefore, be sympathetic to the surroundings and, of course, the impact on neighbours will be considered i.e. noise levels etc and any activities are regulated by a premises licence and planning conditions.

The proposals do involve the careful relocation of the badgers; they are in the centre of the mill site – this has always been the case, as evidenced in the minutes, but the relocation will happen properly in line with the requirements of the planning consent and conditions.

It is rather disappointing that after the considerable efforts and progress made to date residents feel it necessary to create this action group. That said, the Parish Council is keen to better understand their concerns and will always ensure that, as far as is possible, their reasonable views help inform the next steps.

If you want to know more about Bromham please go to www.bromham-pc.gov.uk or contact Bromham Parish Council, Bromham Village Hall, Village Road, Bromham. Email: julie@bromhammparish.co.uk, tel 01234 828851.

APPENDIX H

SCHEDULE OF CORRESPONDENCE

Date	Type	From	
6.2.24	email	Freedom for Animals	Use of Live Reindeer in events
14.2.24	email	resident	complaint that house in Orchard Close is sweeping leaves down the drain outside 103 Village Road
14.2.24	email	Bromham Pharmacy	problems with lighting around Avoca House
14.2.24	email	Benchmark Architects	Quotation for next steps Bromham Mill
14.2.24	email	Mr Powell	POS work Dynevor Close
14.2.24	email	Resident	Request to consider markers/posts
16.2.24	email	Resident	Parking around Stagsden Road and garage
19.2.24	email	BATPC	Sian Woodfine successful in draw to go to palace garden party
19.2.24	email	Marrons/Rainier	Response to NHP questionnaire
20.2.24	letter	Resident	Commenting that there are no facilities in Bromham for retired and older people.
22.2.24	Tel	resident	overhanging tree
22.4.24	email	resident	asking about leaflet sent by Bromham residents group
26.4.24	email	resident	asking for rebuttal from PC about Bromham Residents group email
26.4.24	email	resident	interest in space at Bromham Mill
26.4.24	email	resident	booking workshop for Bromham Mill
26.4.24	email	Holly McMann AECOM	Draft Design code for NHP
28.2.24	visit	Resident	Complaint re parking on verges Springfield Drive
28.2.24	email	Resident	Reporting potholes Quenby Way