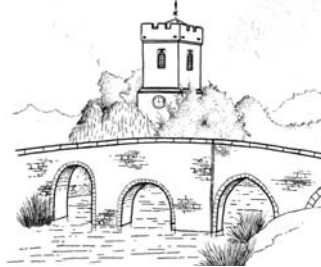


# **BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **In the County of Warwickshire**



### **TRAINING STATEMENT OF INTENT**

#### **1. Statement**

Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council is committed to ensuring its councillors and clerk are trained to enable them to carry out their duties to the best of their ability.

As legislation changes and more power is delegated to Parish and Town Councils, it is essential all members of the Parish Council, and its employees, are equipped to meet these new challenges so that it can best serve its local community.

#### **2. Training Commitments:**

- Councillors
  - All new councillors should attend the Induction courses regularly arranged by Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC)
  - The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall attend the training for Chairmen regularly arranged by WALC
  - Planning – all councillors take part in considering planning applications and it is, therefore, essential, they are all aware of up to date developments in planning matters.  
The Council shall ensure councillors and clerk attend any training arranged by Stratford on Avon DC (Planning Authority) or Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC), of which the Parish Council is an affiliate.

The Clerk shall also ensure that all information sent by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) is made available to all councillors.

- Members of the Council are expected to attend the Annual One Day Briefing arranged by the WALC (usually at the beginning of March)
- The Clerk will offer support and guidance to new councillors
- Clerk
  - With the support of the Council, the Clerk is committed to obtain her degree in Community Engagement and Governance at the University of Gloucestershire
  - Shall keep up to date with all developments relevant to the sector and attend training sessions organized by WALC or other relevant bodies.
  - Shall keep up with the Continuous Development Plan set out by the Institute of Local Council Management/Society of Local Councils
  - Special attention to be paid to the developments in the Localism Act

### **3. Identifying Training Needs**

- Changes in legislation relevant to the sector will result in extra training being needed. It is the responsibility of the Chairman and Clerk to identify these needs and to ensure councillors are kept up to date and receive training when required.
- Special attention will be needed in respect to the Localism Act and changes in the Planning System as both these will directly affect the local community which the Parish Council represents and serves.
- The Parish Council is also a member of WALC and receives regular newsletters and updates on changes to the sector which are considered by Council at each Parish Council meeting.

### **4. Training Resources**

Funds for training are allocated each year in the Budget and are regularly reviewed to ensure the training needs of the Council are met.

**5. Measuring the Impact of Training**

- Councillors are encouraged to make reports following a training/workshop session
- Improvements in the way the Parish Council works and communicates with the local community are a consequence of training
- Better understanding of the sector
- More community involvement

August 2012

.....  
Cllr. Gerrard, Chairman of Bidford on Avon Parish Council

.....  
Elisabeth Uggerloese, Clerk to Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council