

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21st August 2006 in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon

PRESENT

Chairman	Cllr. Mrs. Keeley
Cllrs.	Ms. Deacon, Gerrard, Hendey, Hiscocks, Langston, Sandle, Smith, Spiers and Ms. Varga

Also present: District Cllrs. James, Pemberton and Slaughter and 2 members of the public. .

County Cllr. Barnes had sent in his apologies

The Chairman welcomed all, noted there were no youngsters for the Youth Forum and asked the members of the public if they wished to speak.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

As Cllr. Barnes was unable to attend he had requested Cllr. Pemberton to give his report

- The Chairman expressed her disappointment at Cllr. Barnes not being there as she had wanted to challenge him to be taken in a wheelchair from Home Farm Trust on Waterloo Rd. into the village so he could see the difficulties encountered by those using this road on a regular basis.
- He drew attention to the reply received from Tony Iwanikiw from WCC regarding the resurfacing of Victoria Rd. – this item is included in Point 4 of the Agenda
- Grafton Lane (from the village speed limit to the Golden Cross) will be closed for 3 weeks end Sept. beginning of October for resurfacing work.

The Council requested that, as this work was being carried out, could Cllr. Barnes request a Village Entry sign be installed as there is no notice that you are entering the village. It was also pointed out that there is no sign on Victoria Rd. coming from Broom.

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REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

- It was confirmed that CCTV is now working fully the system having been transferred to optic fibre. The clerk confirmed the Parish Office had been duly advised.
- Ward members again stressed the importance of responding to the Acute Services Review – the Parish Council has already done. There had been a meeting in Stratford on Friday at 4.30 pm; the day and time being greatly criticized, and great concern was shown regarding the prospect of Warwick Hospital, which is greatly in debt and the feeling is that its services will be run down until it has to finally close, with patients then being referred to Coventry which is a long way from Bidford and surrounding villages both for patients and their visitors. This is further aggravated by the information that the ambulance services from Stratford is down to one vehicle covering the whole of South Warwickshire during the period of 6.00 pm to 6.00 am
- The Parish Council asked if something could be done about the Anglo Saxon Car Park, as it is already full in the early morning. District Cllrs. advised they are aware of the problem but that the only solution would be to limit the parking time and this could only be implemented by charging for the use of the car park, something both the District Cllrs. and the Parish Council are opposed to. District Cllrs. proposed that business on the High St. should encourage their staff to use the Wards Lane Car Park, this would free spaced in the Anglo Saxon car park that could be used by customers of those businesses. It was agreed this was the best way to proceed.

The Chairman then opened the Parish Council Meeting

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

All members of the Council are reminded that in order to comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 29th April 2002, if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have Declared an Interest which could be prejudicial, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to improperly influence a decision about that matter.

There were none

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 31st JULY 2006

Proposed by Cllr. Hiscocks as being accurate and signed by the Chairman

4. REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) Victoria Rd. email sent to WCC asking for site to be revisited. Reply received
(circulated) Reply from WCC had been received and was read out. Members were still unhappy and requested a site visit as well as clarification as to the “remedial works “ that were to be carried out. The Clerk to contact WCC and arrange the visit and seek clarification of the remedial works.
- b) email sent to WCC re signs for Welford Rd. and Bidford Bridge. Signs for Welford Rd. have been ordered. *Information regarding signs regarding the weight limit on Bidford Bridge remains outstanding.*
- c) Letter sent to Dept. of Transport re use of SatNav by HGV and its consequences
Reply received and only partly read out when it became obvious it was a standard letter with rather complicated language!
- d) Bidford Fire Station – reply from Cllr. Chattaway re meeting on 25th July
The final decision will be made by cabinet on the 7th of Sept it will not go to council unless it is called in by members. I invited the unions to comment at the O &S but they choose not do so . If the cabinet implement against the wish of the unions it would it assume go though the councils dispute procedure
Richard Chattaway
- e) Managing Housing Supply – representation made and sent
- f) Letter sent to Ward Members re the liaison meeting. Reply received that the letter had been passed on to Richard Hood and Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) WCC – Marriage Hill planters – *it was discovered that the flower box would be obscured by the new speed signs and village sign in view of which WCC will be paying for the replacement flower box and planting.*
Reply re Grafton Lane
Grafton Lane was widened to allow the farmer at the edge of the village to gain access to his farm with modern agricultural and heavy goods vehicles. The widening was organised by the previous County Councillor to Councillor Barnes. It is highly unlikely that the County Council will approve returning the road to its previous width. The residents on the western side of the road were told that they could park their cars half on the road and half on the verge as there was no footway on that side. Unless the Parish Council can obtain the approval of all affected parties and householders to relinquish their parking it is doubtful that any progress can be made to establish a footway on that side of the road. Also, a survey and a design would have to be carried out and costs estimated, to establish a budget. If it is found that at least a minimum of 1.2 metres is not available for a footway then no progress at all can be made.
Copy of the Environment and Economy Directorate’s Annual Review
- b) WALC – Local Democracy Campaign – circulated. *Noted*
- c) WRCC – result of the Best Kept Village Awards
Bidford-on-Avon has been awarded a Silver Award for the Large Village Category

for achieving a very good standard which will be presented on Saturday 30th Sept. at 3.30 pm at Leek Wootton.

No awards were won under the Churchyard Competition

- d) Mercia Canoe Club – permission for the annual canoe race to end at Bidford.

Permission given

- e) Stop Listen Play – requesting grant to help extend their project into 2007 – *it was resolved to give them a grant of £300 from next financial year i.e. after April 2007*

- f) British Legion – Poppy Wreath. *It was resolved the Council would purchase a wreath on behalf of the villages*

- g) Thank you letters received from various institutions to whom the PC gave donations – they will be read out at meeting

Acorns; Breakthrough Breast Cancer; Warwickshire Crime Stoppers; WRVS; St. Laurence; CAB; Warwickshire Ass. for the Blind; Vitalise; County Air Ambulance

- h) Encams – Local environmental quality – a Town and Parish Council Guide.

A summary of the Main Points of Clean Neighbourhoods and Environments Act, prepared by SDC has been circulated. In view of the complexity of this Act it was resolved to invite the SDC officer to a PC meeting. The Council has also requested the Police for assistance by allowing the PSCO to act on the Council's behalf and this is being considered. An update should be available in November

6. AVAILABLE FOR INFORMATION

The Essentials – WCC

7. AWARDS FOR ALL – WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

The Clerk had attended a meeting organised by SDC at which it was stressed that the £5,000 award was for the parish, although District Council would like to be able to work in partnership. SDC will be sending out a questionnaire and on receipt of this duly completed with the necessary information, they will arrange a face to face meeting to discuss what they have to offer and how they can assist in the improvement. It was made clear that, even if the Parish Council agreed to enter into partnership with SDC (they would act as the host), the design, input and update would remain in the hands of the Parish Council. They pointed out the advantages of having SDC as the host, for example it would assist in streamlining the planning applications fro Bidford, etc. The Clerk requested she be accompanied by the Parish Council's current web site designer to which members agreed.

8. AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY FUN FAIR

Joseph Dander had requested permission to set up a family fun fair for the bank holiday week end, which his family used to do. As the Council is always keen to improve the use of the Big meadow for the benefit of the local community, permission had been granted. A fee of £300 was agreed. It was made clear to him that the catering and ice cream rights had already been sold to other parties.

9. DUGDALE AVENUE

The car park are is now finished – a trip fence will be put up at the end of the month.

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The Clerk advised that a resident had already requested the use of the car park as his family were having a function with many guests. It was proposed, and agreed, that a sign be erected stating that this was an Public Open Space area owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk to obtain quotes.

10. TENDERS

Tenders for Gate keeping duties and Maintenance of the big Meadow and for the Mowing of the Public Open Spaces had been posted on the Notice Boards, website and the library

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

06/02197/FUL – David Roberts, 15 Millers Bank, Broom B50 4HZ

Repositioning of fence to edge of boundary

No representation

· **06/02081/TREE – Bidford-on-Avon PC**

7 no. lime and 3 no. holly – crown lift to 2.5 M at St. Laurence Church

As the Parish Council is the applicant this is for notification purposes only

· **06/00429/FUL – T.M. Ladbroke Jig & Tool, The Bank**

Written representation has been made against failure by SDC to give notice of its decision within the required period

The Chairman asked the meeting to be suspended (8.30 pm) to ask advice from District Cllrs. as to the reason for this. SDC Cllrs. advised that the local planning rules stipulate that before a business site can be considered for dwellings, it has to be advertised as a business site for a period of 12 months to prove that it is no longer a viable business site. This had not been carried out by the applicant. The Chairman thanked SDC Cllrs. for the information and the meeting recommenced at 8.35 pm. Members noted the position.

12. ACCOUNTS

Purchases : £20,952.05

Wages: £ 1,845.06

Payments received:

Crawford Hall Grant £12,851.00

Car Parking 880.00

Insurance claim 324.00

It was resolved that Cllrs. Hendey and Smith sign the cheques

The Meeting closed at 8.45 pm