

The Clerk was asked to look into this and to put it on the agenda for December's meeting for members to discuss in detail.

The Chairman then asked if any of the members of the public wished to ask any questions.

- A resident of Mill Lane advised that, despite the 30 mph and camera sign, cars were driving too fast down Mill Lane, making it dangerous for the children to walk or cycle along the road as there is no pavement. When the camera signs were initially installed, there was an immediate effect, but it did not last. The clerk was instructed to request a mobile camera for the area to check speeds along the High Street and mill Lane

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- Cllr. Barnes advised that the Open Forum for the Minerals Framework had come to an end and it appeared that there was no sand and gravel requirement in the county as proposals for the Studley relief road had been rejected. Any requirements could be fulfilled by the West Midlands.
- The repainting of the white lines in Bidford High Street and other areas of the parish would take place once the current rain stopped – it is impossible to paint roads when it is wet

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Pemberton

Cllr. Slaughter advised that there was no written report this month as all three members had been very busy attending a number of SDC meetings.

- A report regarding the new Local Government white paper was given
- Bus fares – following the comments made at last month's PC meeting concerning the high cost of traveling by bus, Ward members could advise that the Full Council will be approaching WCC supporting a reduction in the fares, specially for youngsters
- SDC Local Development Framework had been adopted, which is for a period of three years. SDC is intending arranging meetings to which Parish Council members will be invited, and encouraged to attend. This is the first time this will occur and it is important for District Council to have the local input Parish Councils can offer.

In reply to the Chairman's question, she was advised that the meetings will be

- open,
- cross party
- member
- there will be no time limit
- Health and wellbeing for the elderly was an issue currently being discussed. As a member of the Strategic Partnership for Older People, Cllr. Gerrard requested he be kept informed of any developments.
- Ward Members closed their report by congratulating Broom Village Hall Committee and residents of Broom, for their efforts to ensure the building of the new hall.

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The Chairman thanked all and opened the meeting

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Smith

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 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30TH OCTOBER 2006

Proposed by Cllr. Sandle as being accurate. However, some members did not agree with the recorded vote as shown on Point 4d) of the Minutes. The Clerk advised her notes and memory confirmed the record. It was agreed that the Minutes would be approved subject to this query and that this issue would be discussed again at the next Parish Council Meeting.

4. REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a) Rural Cinema – Clerk has written to SDC stating support from both village halls

b) Local Works – Clerk has written to John Maples MP asking him to support the EDM 641 on 23rd November. Reply received in support of the Bill

c) As resolved at the Planning Committee Meeting on 6th November the Clerk has written to all residents of Grange Rd. regarding restricted parking as part of the consultation.

d) Jubilee Close play area – cost of single football post is £282.97.

It was agreed this should go ahead allowing an additional £50 installation cost

e) Warwickshire Pension Fund – Clerks report following Annual Meeting.

Following from the resolution at the last Parish Council Meeting that WCC Pension Fund Investors should be advised of the existence of “ethical” funds, the Clerk to accept the invitation to attend the Pension Funds AGM. She brought up this issue, and was advised that this had also been raised by Leamington Spa Town Council. In reply, she was advised that:

- It is the duty of fund managers to maximise investments and therefore they could not be restricted as to the companies they could deal in, as long as they were lawful
- The issue that what one party considers ethical may not coincide with another party’s idea and as to whether it should be restricted to the manufacturer and not include sale outlets etc.
- The legal department also advised that if the funds should fall short and this result in council tax having to be raised to cover the shortfall, individual councillors could be liable to be sued.

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f) WCC – reply to request for better signage re Bidford Bridge weight limit, which advises that WCC has instructed a new sign replace the existing one on the roundabout clearly stating the 10T weight limit on the bridge and which should be visible to all drivers. Although members agreed more is required to stop HGVs driving over the bridge, it was resolved that this should be supported as it was a step in the right direction.

The clerk added that a resident had recently sent an email to the Parish Council office stating that he had counted a number of HGV's driving over the bridge (this email arrived after the agenda had been posted

g) Wards Lane sign is now up

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a) SDC - Parish Plan – report on implementation of action plans

This has been semi-completed with the information given at last month's meeting.

It should be finalised and sent by end of the month.

b) WALC – a) November Newsletter – circulated – The Chairman proposed the Council should invite Mr. Jim Graham, Chief Executive at WCC to come and talk to the Parish Council regarding the new Local Government White Paper.

Those members that had attended WALC's AGM had been impressed by him. The Chairman added that neighbouring Parish and Town Councils could also be invited to attend should Mr.Graham accept. It was agreed an invitation should be sent.

b) Local Government White Paper – Executive Summary - circulated

c) Briefing events - circulated

d) Timetable for introduction of Revised Parish Council Code of Conduct - circulated - In view of the shortage of time shown by this timetable for consultation, and no information had been received to date – the Clerk was asked to contact WALC and request an update.

c) CPRE – Nov. Newsletter – circulated . Noted

d) Letter from resident regarding traffic on Tower Close. – The letter stressed the problems on the High Street, specially when there are deliveries at the various local shops. Members were advised that at the time of the B50 Parish Plan consultation, approx. five proposals had been put forward, all of which were rejected by residents and WCC. Members agreed there was a problem but that careful consideration had to be given in view of the major work and cost it would involved. The Clerk was instructed to send the letter to WCC as it is the responsible authority.

e) Request from resident regarding situation at Falcon Crescent – The clerk had been contacted by telephone by residents who explained the problems the many disabled living in the bungalows are experiencing due to lack of dropped kerbs and the number of uneven slabs. She had contacted WCC who had advised that it has a project allowing for a this type of work every year and this would be added to the 2007/08 list. The slabs are the responsibility of SWHA, and the clerk was instructed to contact them again regarding this matter.

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- f) Request from Broom resident for improved signs on Bidford Rd.(by the bend) following 2 incidents within 1 week when their fence has been smashed by oncoming vehicles – The clerk had taken photos of the damage and she was instructed to forward these on to WCC and request some appropriate signage be considered.
- g) John Maples MP reply following letter sent from PC supporting rural Post Offices in support of David Cameron’s proposal called “Council Counters” within Post Offices which he believes will ensure the viability of many village Post offices.
- h) Worcs. CC – Supplementary Planning Document – consultation. Noted
- i) Natural Connections project – circulated. It was proposed, and agreed, the Parish Council should offer its meeting room as a venue for them to run their consultation

6. AVAILABLE FOR INFORMATION

West Midlands Regional Assembly – Speaking Out Issue 12
 WCC – Viewpoint Issue 6

7. MILLERS BANK/KINGS LANE PLAYING AREA

It was confirmed that the transfer of the open space land at Millers Bank from Persimmons to the Parish Council has now taken place and that the cheque for the commuted sum of £88,273.00 had been received by the Council’s solicitors. In view of the length of time taken by Persimmons to finalise this transfer – matters had been in the hands of their solicitors since March 2006 – they had been persuaded to make a contribution of £350 towards the legal fees incurred. It was proposed that the solicitors fees be deducted from the sum of money received and that solicitors should then forward the net amount to the Council – this was agreed. Negotiations regarding the lease of the land with SDC are in hand. The Parish Council’s solicitors have received a draft contract from SDC.

8. CALOR WARWICKSHIRE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR 2006

The final draft of the entry was made available. It was approved and together with all other required documentation would be sent.

Members showed great appreciation of the work done by the local printers Bloomfield Ltd. who had been most helpful, especially given the shortage of time, and had delivered a very well presented document.

It was confirmed that Warner Budgens would be sponsoring the Event on 9th December, which would take place at the Parish Council Meeting Room/.School Hall. Mrs. Honeybunn had kindly made the school kitchen and toilets. The following local groups and association will be taking part in the event:

- Bidford Bowling Club
- Bidford Community Group
- Bidford and District History Society
- Bidford Junior FC
- Bidford Primary School
- Bidford Sports Association
- Bidford Tennis Club
- Bidford Youth Club

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- Brownies
- Christmas Lights
- Darby and Joan
- Gardening Society
- Local Community Beat Officer
- Parish Paths Partnership
- St. John's Ambulance
- Senior Citizens
- Twinning Association
- Womens Institute
- Young firefighters

The Clerk to contact the press to request them to announce it in the local news. The newly installed Village Crier to go to all four villages and announce the news in the proper manner. Notices to be posted on notice boards. Etc.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **06/02823/FUL – Mr. & Mrs. C. Pearson – 1 Lambourne Close B50 4QH**
Single storey extension to existing ground floor family room to rear elevation
No representation
- **06/03152/FUL – Mr. & Mrs. S. Chaundy – 8 Cleeve Rd. Marlcliff**
Two storey rear extension and detached garage after demolition of existing rear kitchen and existing detached garage
No representation

10. ACCOUNTS

Purchases	£3,835.15
Wages	£1,845.06

Payments Received	
Cemetery sales	420.00
Allotment rent	50.00
Football pitches	100.00
Course refund	30.00
VAT refund	5,712.30

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

The meeting closed at 08.50 pm