

rights proportion in the event of Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Services joining with HWFRS, and was advised it would be 7 to HWFRS and 5 to WFRS as it is dependent on population.

It was also agreed that the stations at Nuneaton and Bedworth should close as should Warwick and Kenilworth.

Cllr. Barnes added that, in the event the proposal was adopted by the full council (and this was not necessarily the case as there is some disagreement), the situation of Bidford Fire Station would be considered as fulfilling the required criteria as it is near a river crossing and strategically placed to cover both sides (one being in Warwickshire the other close to Worcestershire). Furthermore, any necessary expansion could take place as there is sufficient land available.

- Overhanging brambles etc. along Waterloo Road have been removed.
- Footpath up the Waterloo Road has been done although, as it has not been carried out by Carillion, they have had to go round lamp posts etc.
- Gullies have been cleared. However, the councillor for Broom pointed out the drain opposite the telephone booth on the High Street remained blocked forcing school children to walk on the middle of the road each time it rained.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- Cllrs. James and Pemberton had sent their apologies
- Cllr. Slaughter came to the meeting but advised that he was unable to stay due to commitments and requested the Parish council to let him know if any issues arose in respect of SDC.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Barnes who then left.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted for Cllrs. Gerrard and Ms. Varga

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 20th August 2007, 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.

None declared

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH AUGUST 2007

Cllr. Ms. Deacon proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate and they were signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PUBLIC FORUM AND REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL

- The Clerk would contact WCC in respect of the blocked drain on Broom High Street

5. CLERK'S REPORT

This was read out and a copy, showing proposals and decisions made, where appropriate, is attached to these Minutes of which it forms part.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) WCC – Response from Traffic Projects Group re High Street - *Noted*
Response re land to rear of fire station – *It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk should write to accept the proposal allowing a youth shelter to be erected in the area and also request space for the erection of a baseball goal area.*
Proposed change in Public Footpaths along River Avon adjacent to Marlcliff – *Noted and no objection*
Foot and Mouth update – *Noted that restrictions had been lifted.*
- b) SDC – Harbury Cement Works Site – SPD - *Noted*
Decorum Newsletter- *Noted*
- c) John Maples re floods *Noted*
- d) WALC – The Smoking Ban – how it may affect Parish Councils- *Noted*
Invitation to Parish & Town Council's Focus Group on 1st Oct.
It was agreed Cllr. Sandle and the Clerk attend
Invitation to WALC's AGM on 25th Oct.
It was agreed that Cllrs. Mrs. Keeley (Chairman), Hiscocks (Vice Chairman) Gerrard and Ms. Deacon together with the Clerk would attend
Notification how to nominate someone for the Queen's Birthday Honours List – *Two residents, whose voluntary work the Parish Council wishes to recognize, to be put forward*
- c) Mercia Canoe Club – *Permission for the Avon Descent to end on the Big Meadow given*
- d) Thank you letter from young resident using Jubilee Close play area – *Noted with special pleasure*
- e) Thank you letter from various charities for the donations received
- f) Reply from Environment Agency – *The EA advised the only sluice on the River Arrow, which at Arrow Mill Hotel, was fully opened on Friday 20th July pm and was flooded on Saturday and was therefore not accessible. It added that the sluice operation on this event would have had minimal impact on flows.*
- g) Acorn Landscapes – offering services - *Noted*
- h) CPRE – letter (circulated)- *Noted*

7. BIDFORD FIRE STATION UPDATE

Cllr. Mrs. Keeley attended the County Council Cabinet meeting on 6th September – although it is an open meeting there is no public participation. Following the

meeting, the clerk requested an update from the Portfolio Holder, Cllr. Hobbs, and received the following reply:

- The Cabinet agreed to explore positively the combination with Hereford and Worcester
- Agreed to request the County Fire Officer to bring forward detailed proposals in support of option 4 of the independent report (this is on the Parish Council's website and available in the Parish Council office)
- Agreed to establish member/officer group, including postfolio holder and deputy leader, to consider immediately the joint requirement of, and arrangements for, a possible combination scheme with representatives from Hereford & Worcester
- Agreed to further report to Cabinet by 6th December 2007
- Agreed to request Scrutiny monitor and scrutinize the progress of these recommendations

Based on this reply, together with the comments made by Cllr, Barnes and the Parish Council's Chairman, who added that this would also mean the Fire and Rescue Services would also be able to set its own precept and not be dependent on County Council, the Parish Council stated it was broadly in favour of the proposal but would wait to see what progress was made and what would be contained in the report to Cabinet.

8. VISIT TO RIVERSIDE SHOOTING GROUND

As had been agreed, members of the Parish Council visited the shooting ground on Saturday 1st September. There were two groups: one went in the morning the other early afternoon.

Both groups advised that the shoot was well run and laid out. They were also pleased to see youngsters, mainly local resident, with their parents, being given proper training and being taught how to have a responsible attitude to guns.

They were advised that, in view of the complaints from Marlcliff, they had removed the shooting towards Marlcliff to minimise any disturbance.

One of the councillors had a sound level meter which was used in Bidford and again when councillors visited Marlcliff. They found the place which gave the highest level of noise was by the Bidford Fire Station. In Marlcliff, the noise from the traffic on the bypass gave a higher level than that from the shooting ground. Councillors spoke to a couple of residents in Marlcliff whom they met – they commented that yes they could hear it but that it was once a fortnight and usually stopped by 3.30pm.

Although a Councillor walked around the village with the sound level meter in her hands, no one approached her regarding the noise.

A couple of Councillors commented that they were the two members living closest to the shooting ground, and they could not hear anything – but could hear the traffic and the football.

Members agreed that it was a well run shooting ground used by many locals and they could see no objection to it continuing on the present basis.

9. KINGS LANE PLAYING FIELD (BROOM TIP)

Following the recent survey carried out by SDC, the Parish Council has received a letter stating that there are no public health grounds to further delay the lease negotiations. Copy of this letter is being forwarded to the Parish Council's solicitors for their attention. The Clerk to look into the matter of the leveling of the ground by SDC following the disturbance and the delay.

10. FOOTBALL CLUBS

Email received from Bidford Juniors who are continuing arrangements on Dugdale Avenue as last year, with a 11 a side pitch on Dugdale should this be required if the pitch on the Big Meadow cuts up.

The Council agreed to maintain the fee at £100 per season but will monitor the situation as it stressed the area is a Public Open Space, to be sued for other things not only football.

11. DONATION AND REQUEST FOR THE RIGHTS TO ERECT AN INFLATABLE ON THE BIG MEADOW FOR THE 2008 SEASON

Mr. J. Dobson obtained permission to erect an inflatable on the Big Meadow during the Bank Holiday week end and has donated £65 to any charity of the Parish Council's choice. There was a proposal for the donation to go to the Young Firefighters, which was unanimously agreed and was, therefore, carried.

Mr. Dobson also requested the rights to erect an inflatable on the Big Meadow for the 2008 season – it would be only on weekends and when possible. The Council agreed subject to the standard terms and conditions.

12. ACCOUNTS

Purchases :	£46,717.60
Wages:	1,988.25
Inland Revenue	1,855.45

The Clerk advised that although the cheque for the Rock 'n' Cross play equipment had been raised, she had been advised by installers that, due to the delay in receiving this bit of equipment, there was an extra charge of £750. The Council agreed this amount should be charged back to the providers of the Rock 'n' Cross and the cheque delayed accordingly.

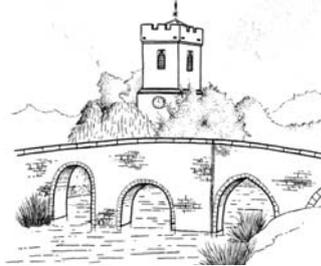
Payments received:	
Car Parking	£1,320.00
Precept	70,000.00

It was agreed Cllrs. Mrs. Keeley and Hendey sign the cheques

The meeting closed at 09.15 pm

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



CLERKS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2007

- Planning Application 07/00984/FUL – Ms.,M. Thomas, 18 Cleeve Road, Marcliff
The Parish Council objected to the plans presented in July 2007 due to:
 - Layout and design
 - No other three storey buildings on Cleeve Rd
 - Height was overwhelmingAn amendment for the “redesign of replacement dwelling” has been asked if it would like to make any further observations. Residents of 16 Cleeve Road are objecting.
- The installation of the Jubilee Close play area is now finalized. Comments from users and their parents would be appreciated.
- As advised during the meeting, the survey of Broom Tip has now finished so, hopefully, the lease for Kings Lane can now be agreed soon and the installation for the play area can start. To speed things up, I will start to obtain quotations based on the requests of the local youngsters – the equipment will be similar to that installed on Jubilee Close.
- As more of the open space areas are being used during the winter months for football (Dugdale Ave. Big Meadow and The Leys) I have authorized the mowing of the grass once per month if this should become necessary.
- Mark Smith has requested authorization to work on the exit to the Big Meadow to improve its performance once it closes for the winter.

- Final quotation from WCC has been received for the extra lighting. However, I am meeting with them and Carillion on Tuesday to confirm the cost of the lantern over the butchers as well as obtaining final agreement as the installation is on private property. As advised, there will be an agreement in place that will allow him to request the lantern be taken down if he is unhappy with it
In view of the recent coverage in the Evesham Journal of this issue, Yvette Saunders has asked me to attend a meeting with her, Sgt. Wild and County Cllr. Barnes. I have made clear to her that Bidford PC did not approach the press but it felt bound to answer by letter the incorrect allegations made in the article.
- I am meeting Solar Tech on Tuesday to confirm installation of the two solar powered streetlights on by the Broom railway bridge.
- Rural Cinema – This will be known as Moving Pictures. Both village halls are required to sign a Participation Agreement, which I have done on their behalf, it is valid for three months. There is a launching event on Monday 8th Oct. which coincides with the Planning Committee Meeting, so I would request this start at 8.00 pm to enable me to attend.
The first showing at the Crawford Hall is scheduled for Friday 16th November and then monthly thereafter.
- Willow trees by Mill Close, Broom, that had been reported dangerous as they were touching electric cables have finally been cut back by Central Networks.
- As instructed, I ordered and have received the Engaging Young People in Your Community Organization tool kit.
- I have been advised by WCC that Order for the order for the speed limit for Welford Road commences on 8th October 2007 and I have been advised they envisage work starting thereabouts.
- As I have been informed that due to the temporary closure of the A46 has resulted in more HGVs driving through the village and using the bridge. I contacted the Highways Agency asking them to see if something could be done. I was advised they would contact the appropriate party accordingly.