

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 29th March 2010 at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way @ 7.30 pm

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Hiscocks
Cllrs. Gerrard, Mrs. Getgood, Mrs. Keeley, Hendey, Langston, Sandle, Spiers and Williams

Also present. County Cllr. Barnes,
District Cllrs. James, Pemberton and Slaughter
6 members of the public and
1 member of the press

In attendance: Mrs. E. Uggerløse, Clerk to the Parish Council

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Hill.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION TO INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

All members of the Council are respectfully 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 personal or prejudicial they should declare so and leave the room.

- *Cllrs. Gerrard and Mrs. Keeley declared an interest in item 15 – Grant request from Bidford Twinning Ass. (both attended an event in Germany in 2008)*
- *Cllr. Gerrard declared an interest in item 17 (he attended the course in 2009)*

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd FEBRUARY 2010

Cllr. Langston proposed the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting be accepted as being accurate.

RESOLVED that Minutes should be accepted and signed by the Chairman

4. YOUTH FORUM

No youngsters present

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Resident raised the following issues:
 - Wharrads Close : landscaping remained untidy
Distract Council to take this up with developers
 - Tree on B439 towards Tower Hill required attention
County Council to be advised
 - Orbit – work still not carried out at Jubilee Close
Parish Council to chase Orbit Housing
 - Dog bin on The Leys required emptying
Parish Council to advise District Council accordingly

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- Please with the Civic Service at St. Laurence Church, Bidford. Church was full and the school children had sung beautifully
- Message from Jonathan Simkins regarding the Parish Council's request for signage in the village: *County Council had done all it could in the 14 months since this issue was first drawn to their attention and there was nothing else that could be done*
The Clerk advised that the Parish Council was dissatisfied with the reply it had received from Mr. Simkins, and the issue was on the Agenda for discussion by members. She added that the Parish Council did not agree that everything possible had been done.
- Marsh Farm Quarry – the liaison committee had been dismissed and County Council was looking and how it should be run. It had appointed Cllr. Barnes as its representative.
The Parish Council stated that it had not been advised that the liaison committee had been “disbanded”.
- Cllr. Mrs. Keeley asked why County Council had cancelled the provision of funds that allowed Bidford children to attend higher education, including Swift courses? This would mean that in future the cost would be £470 per annum.
Cllr. Barnes replied that he agreed with her and had opposed the measure and suggested she approach the Portfolio Holder, Cllrs. Mrs. Seccombe.

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- There were a number of enforcement issues in Bidford currently taking place
- S106 funds had finally been awarded to the Parish Council
- Planning Application for the only bit of equipment requiring planning permission had been received and it was hoped **all** Ward Members would support it so it could be fast tracked

- Core Strategy – it was important that all residents reply to this
- Result from Local Community Fora – winter gritting was going to be reviewed and Bidford would be consulted on this issue.

Cllr. Barnes left the meeting

8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT (circulated)

This had been circulated to Councillors for their information, which it noted and is attached to these Minutes. The Chairman highlighted the grants that had been received for the refurbishment of the Big Meadow:

- Playbuilder £37,500 and
- S106 £35,991

9. TO RECEIVE/CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- **NALC** – update of Revised Code of Conduct (circulated)
Public Participation at meetings & Paragraph 12(2) of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (circulated)
Noted
- **CPRE** – Newsletters (circulated) *Noted*
- **CRICKET CLUB** – requesting consent to permanently place a portable steel net cage on the meadow for practice sessions
RESOLVED: to grant consent
- **BIDFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2000** requesting permission to hold the annual duck race on Sunday 27th June
RESOLVED: to give permission
- **ENERGY SAVING TRUST** - inviting the Parish Council to join Green Communities. It is free and it will give access to advice and support
RESOLVED to accept the invitation to join
- **LIMEBRIDGE RURAL SERVICES LTD.** - offering its services to grit and salt minor roads and pavements. It would be responsible for holding sufficient amounts of salt and grit to carry out the work.
RESOLVED to accept in principle subject to price and terms and conditions and the final approval of WCC
- **WYCHAVON DC** Notification and consultation Draft Residential Design Guide SPD – **Noted**

10. TO APPROVE THAT any budgeted sums unspent in the current year because of the lateness of the work be transferred to the Play Area Reserve to be spent in the future periods. This is expected to be in the region of £23,000 and is in addition to the £15,000 budgeted transfer

The Council was advised that there had been a delay to the start of the refurbishment of the Big Meadow due to bad weather. It was therefore proposed that the sums allocated should be transferred to the 2010/11 financial year.

RESOLVED the approve the transfer

11. TO ADOPT

- The Health and Safety Policy as adopted by Stratford on Avon DC
- The Child Protection Policy as adopted by Stratford on Avon DC

This was a requirement under the Play Builder Grant so it was proposed by the Chairman that they be adopted

RESOLVED to adopt both policies

12. TO CONSIDER UPDATE FROM WCC IN RESPECT OF STREET LIGHTING

The Council **noted** that with effect from 1st April 2010, the following streetlights would be transferred to WCC:

- Millers Bank, Broom
- Jacksons Meadow
- St. Laurence Way
- Lambourne Close
- Pippin Close
- Wadleys Close
- The Poplars
- Ebsdorf Close
- Blenheim Close
- Stepping Stones
- Roman Way

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE WHICH STREETLIGHTS TO BE REPLACED DURING 2001/11

An estimate was also supplied as to the cost of bringing streetlights on other roads up to the required standard.

It was proposed that, as per the replacement programme which allows for 5 street lights to be replaced every year, any dangerous ones be replaced and the Clerk given delegated powers to use the balance of the funds allocated to this programme to update the lights on a street to enable the Council to transfer it to WCC.

RESOLVED

- To replace any dangerous streetlights.
- To delegate to the Clerk the decision of which streetlights are to be brought up to standard to enable the transfer to WCC using the balance of the funds allocated for streetlights

13. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM WCC IN RESPECT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S REQUEST FOR SIGNAGE IN THE VILLAGE (circulated)

Members expressed concern at the contents of the letter, which appeared to ignore the issues raised by the Parish Council.

At the Chairman's request, Cllr. James advised that the Parish Council should write directly to the Jim Graham (Chief Executive) and Cllr. Saint, highlighting the reasons for the request, including the importance of directing visitors to such places as the:

- Big Meadow – brings business to the village
- Village Hall – brings business to the village and an important community centre to Bidford and surrounding area

- Library – important information ss=centre
- Parish Council Office

RESOLVED

- The Clerk to write to Cllr. Saint and Jim Graham, and copy Cllr. Barnes (as County Councillor for Bidford, to support the efforts of the Parish Council to encourage visitors to the village)
- Not to reply to the letter received

14. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT IN RESPECT OF

- **Planning & Regulations Committee Meeting of 15th March**
- **West Area Committee Meeting of 18th March**

Cllr. Keeley, who had attended both meetings with the Clerk, gave a verbal report which was **NOTED**.

15. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING GRANT REQUESTS.

- **M Smith** - £250 for the purchase of 1 Ton of coal for the Vintage Gathering
The Chairman proposed to grant this as it had proved to be a great success in past years

RESOLVED To give a grant of £250

- **Bidford Twinning Association** - £450-500 towards hosting a visit from Germany to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the signing of the charter.
Cllrs. Gerrard and Mrs. Kelley left the room

After a brief discussion regarding the work carried out by the Twinning Ass. it was proposed that a grant of £500 be given

RESOLVED by 6 votes in favour and 1 against to give the grant.

It was further proposed to invite the Twinning Ass. to write an article in the BIG Paper promoting their activities and inviting residents to become members

RESOLVED to invite the Twinning Ass. to write an article in the June issue of the BIG Paper.

16. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FLOODSAX (deferred from the February Parish Council meeting)

The Council were advised that there was a balance of £444.72 from the flood grant received following the 2007 floods, and it was proposed this money was used to purchase the sacs for the use of vulnerable householders in possible future floods.

RESOLVED to approve the use of these funds for the purchase of floodsax

17. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE the attendance of a Councillor to the NALC Leadership Academy programme at Warwick Conference Centre, Warwick in July or November 2010: Cost £799.50 inc. Accommodation, refreshments and meals for 3 days

Cllr. Gerrard, who attended last year, advised of the great benefits of attending this event. Having declared an interest he did not take part in the vote

RESOLVED to approve the cost of a councillor to attend the event if he/she was free on the dates.

18. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **10/00348/FUL Mr. Bruce Frizzell Farmington Farm, George Elms Road**
Part demolition of C20 steel framed barn, construction of one detached dwelling adj. to the listed cottage, Farmington Farm, restoration of cottage and conversion for use as ancillary accommodation to new main dwelling, New vehicular access drive
RESOLVED No representation
- **10/00349/LBC (applicant and address as above)**
Restoration of cottage and conversion for use as ancillary accommodation to new main dwelling.
RESOLVED No representation
- **10/00414/FUL Mr. P. Godding, Holloway House, 17 Cleeve Road Marlcliff**
Erection of glasshouse between house and stable block
RESOLVED No representation
- **10/00491/FUL Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council, Big Meadow, Honeybourne Road**
Installation of Netscape play equipment known as a “netscape”
Parish Council made no comments as it is its application

Due to the sensitive nature of the item, the Chairman proposed to exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings Act) 1960 s1(2).

19. TO CONSIDER RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS FOR

- Environment Officer
 - Salford Road Cemetery Guardian
- RESOLVED** to renewed the contracts for 2010/11

20. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTHS PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTS

A cheque for £500 for the Twinning Association, which was approved at this meeting, was raised and included in this month's payments

Purchases : £ 29,604.77
DDM 1,470.16
Wages: 2,392.13
Donations 600.00
Inland Rev. 1,970.63
Refund (grave) 135.00

Payments Received:

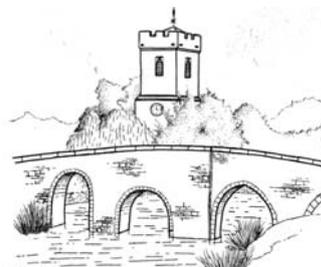
| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Moorings rights | 862.50 |
| Sundry sales | 513.62 |
| Meadow Rights | 235.00 |
| Cemetery | 390.00 |
| Allotments | 27.50 |
| Photocopies | 0.30 |

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts and that Cllrs. Mrs. Keeley and Langston sign the cheques.

The meeting closed at approx. 9.30 pm

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CLERKS REPORT - March 2010

- **MATTERS ARISING**

- The Clerk contacted WALC regarding any possible action the Parish Council could, or should take, regarding vandalism on the allotments, and was advised that this was a Police matter.
- The Clerk contact WCC with regards to the new culverts and was advised that the senior engineer will be visiting the site next time there is heavy or prolonged rain to assess the situation.
- Flower boxes by the War Memorial – the British Legion have agreed to maintain the boxes

- **BIG MEADOW PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT**

Work is due to start on Monday 29th March, which will also include tree work.

The Parish Council was able to secure the following grants towards this:

- Play Builder : £37,500
- 2 x S106 - £35,991

Consent has been obtained from the Environment Agency. No planning permission is required (General Permitted Development Order 1995), except for the netscape (the piece of equipment that received the largest number of votes during the consultation), and an application form has duly been sent to SDC.

- **YOUTH SHELTER SITE**

This was temporarily closed from 22nd February to allow reseeded. It has been rather interesting to note the amount of rubbish that is “thrown” into this area from outside: it does raise the question as to where the rubbish does come from when the site is open; from those using the area or from those walking along The Bank and using the car park.

- **CORE STRATEGY**

SDC held a drop in session of Monday 15th March which was fairly well attended. Please note that, due to the interest in this issue, the deadline to respond to the Core Strategy document has been extended to 22nd April. It is also important that as many residents as possible complete the Parish Council Survey available online – this is an update to the Parish Plan and a very important document for the Parish Council to plan the future of Bidford, including issues such as new development (Local Planning Framework: Core Strategy) and sand and gravel extraction (Local Minerals Framework : Core Strategy).

- **MEETINGS**

- Monday 12th April @ 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Monday 19th April @ 7.30 pm – Annual Parish Meetig
- Monday 26th April @ 7.30 pm – Parish Council Meeting

All the above meetings are held at the Parish Council Meeting room, Bramley Way unless otherwise specified