

4. YOUTH FORUM

No young people attended the meeting

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- **Accident at the Barton Crossroads in Dec. 2012**
 - Request that the Parish Council write to the coroner and supply him with any pertinent information
 - request for support to make this crossroads safe, especially with regards to speed and drainage
- **Bidford-on-Avon Primary School ;**
 - Request for funds to support the visit of European pupils to the school: the children have themselves raised funds towards this.
 - The EU does fund this project but it is not enough to cover all the activities
- **Parking on the High Street**
 - Vehicles are continuously double parking by the fish and chip shop, blocking the road.
Resident was advised to attend the Community Forum on March 12th which is dedicated to police matters.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- **Barton crossroads**
 - £10,000 have been allocated to improve the junction
 - WCC looking to lowering the speed to 50 mph on Honeybourne Road up to the Worcestershire border: this will be done in September 2013.
 - WCC is doing everything it can
The Clerk advised that Worcestershire County Council is carrying out a speed survey by Bickmarsh.
- **Community charge** will remain unchanged this year although services will continue to be cut
- **Mortgage assistance** - £4 million was being made available to the Borough/District Councils (£1 million each) to assist those that cannot afford a deposit on a house. However, SDC had not approved the scheme.
- **Fire Service** – there appears to have been a confidential report on the Fire Service joining with that of Northamptonshire. However, it appears this was stopped by the new Northamptonshire Police Commissioner.
It would appear this project was led by Graeme Smith, who is retiring
The Chairman remarked that the Parish Council would remain, as ever, vigilant, with regards to the future of Bidford Fire Station.

Cllr Barnes left the meeting

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- **Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS)** – will be looked at in detail and taken to Cabinet for consideration
- **Budget**
 - Tax to be frozen for the third year

- Extra support for CAB etc.
- Service levels to be maintained
- **Local Boundary Commission**
 - requires more information regarding the election review
 - planned for number of councillors to be reduced to 36 by 2015
 - wards will become single member
- **City Deal** – managed by Cllr. Howse Enterprise, Housing and Revenue Portfolio Holder
 - Stratford will be partners with Coventry & Warwickshire in the City Deal Bid which, if successful, will improved the skills in the engineering sector
- **Core Strategy** is proceeding and it envisaged that the submission consultation date will be mid July 2013
- **Planning application for Land to the north of Bramley Way** – is going to appeal

8. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

This had been circulated

RESOLVED to note the report

9. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- **Post Office** advising of the change of the branch to the new main style branch as part of a 3 year investment and support programme.
It was proposed the Council support not only the refurbishment but an increase the services that can be provided
RESOLVED to write to the Post Office giving support to the provision of all available post office services
- **Various charities** – thank you letters for the donations given by the Parish Council.
RESOLVED to note receipt of thank you letters from
 - Midlands Air Ambulance
 - CAB
 - Breakthrough Breast Cancer
- **CPRE** – newsletter (circulated) – **NOTED**

10. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REGARDING THE CORSSROADS OF HONEYBOURNE ROAD/WELFORD ROAD FOLLOWING THE FATAL ACCIDENT (copy correspondence and report circulated)

The following comments were made in relation to traffic on Honeybourne Road:

- Vehicles drive fast
- Vehicles overtake in dangerous situations
- Lorries stop on the road by the crossroads, reducing the visibility
- Signage on Welford Road could be improved
- Speed from the village edge (30 mph) to the junction could be reduced to 40 mph

RESOLVED the Clerk to write to WCC with the following proposals:

- Support the 50 mph speed limit on Honeybourne Road

- Installation of a high visibility “Give Way” signs on both Welford and Cleeve Roads
- Consider lowering the speed on Welford Road to 40 mph from the edge of the village of Barton to the junction with Honeybourne Road
- Clearing the ditches/.drains to minimise the run off of water onto the road
- Involvement of the Parish Council in all discussions regarding the safety measures to be taken to ensure local knowledge is fed into the various options

11. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REGARDING THE MARLCLIFF FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME (circulated)
NOTED

12. TO CONSIDER:

- updates on CCTV, including a key as requested (circulated)
TO NOTE the improvement with the provision of a key
- Payment for 2013/14. Cost remains unchanged at £1,926.00 for a 24 hour surveillance
RESOLVED to defer the decision until after a visit to the surveillance office (to be arranged by the Clerk)

13. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM WALC

- **Email** with details of
 - Community Right to Challenge (available on request)
NOTED
 - Community Right to Nominate and Bid for Assets of Community Value (available on request)
NOTED
- **LAIS 1347** – Community Infrastructure Levy (circulated)
NOTED though members commented that as there was no statutory obligation on the planning authority, things were unlikely to change from the present S106 system
- **LAIS 1348** – Planning Applications (circulated)
RESOLVED to reply to the consultation on the basis recommend by WALC
- **Newsletter** ADH/104/7/2013 (circulated)
NOTED

14. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT PROVIDED BY WCC (circulated)

Annual Cost : £1,245.82 based on 167 lights
RESOLVED to approve the quotation

15. TO CONSIDER THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AMENITIES WORKING GROUP (circulated)

Members had read and considered the report which had been circulated and **RESOLVED** as follows:

- **Big Meadow/Monie Meadow –**
 - **Proposed car parking area on Monie Meadow**

Cllr. Fleming requested his objection to the proposal of a car parking facility Monie Meadow be minuted: he expressed his concern as in past years this had been abused by the football club. This was recognised by the Amenities Group who, however, stressed that a solution was required to ensure visitors to the big Meadow were able to enter unhindered, as vehicles to and from the Sports Pavilion area interfere with cars entering the Big Meadow, creating traffic chaos which results in a loss of revenue to the Council.

To approve, by 9 votes in favour and 1 against, the erection of a three rail post and rail fence, to include a gate, to fence off the area as an intermediary solution. Approx. cost of materials £950. Requests for quotations for the installation to be posted on the website
 - **Recycling bins on the Big Meadow**

To approve, unanimous, the purchase and installation of 4 recycling bins on the Big Meadow at a cost of £2,584.66.
 - **Trees**

To approve, unanimous, the replanting of 4 x lime trees in the autumn at £230 each (total cost £920).

To note the Clerk had authorised the felling of a deceased chestnut and stump ground down at a cost of £590
 - **Dragons Teeth**

To approve, unanimous, the repair and re-installation at a cost of £900
- **Dugdale Avenue Sports Field**

To approve, unanimous, a car parking facility to the south of the gate at a cost of £1,132
- **Inspection of Play Areas**

To approve unanimous, that they continue to be inspected on a weekly basis
- **Grant Applications**

To approve unanimous, that

 - the Amenities Working Group be given delegated powers to consider all the received grant applications
 - it should meet at the beginning of July, October, January and March and report back to full council
 - The allocation of funds per quarter should be £5,000 – any funds that are not allocated at that meeting to be returned to the main pot.
- **Bidford Youth Club**

To approve unanimous, that

 - the Parish Council pay £1,100 every 6 months towards the cost of 2 x youth workers against a letter received from BYC stating number of hours worked in the 6 months

- the allocation of £600 for Senior Club activities subject to members of the senior club attending the Parish Council meeting and making the request
- **Amenity and Verge Mowing Contract 2013-14**
To approve, unanimous, the contract at a cost of £9,970.00

16. TO CONSIDER PARTICIPATORY BUDGET REQUESTS FROM

- **Barton**
 - Towards the purchase of chairs/tables etc. to use for events
 - New noticeboard
 - Bench by the weir**RESOLVED** all options acceptable, community to decide which one is the preferred option
- **Broom**
 - Extensive planting along Millers Bank inc. flower boxes at the entrance**RESOLVED** to approve the proposal
- **Marlcliff**
 - An extra pump to pump out the water building up ion the water table around the cottages**RESOLVED** to approve the proposal

17. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM BIDFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF £350.00 TO SUPPLEMENT COSTS OF TRANSPORT FOR THE VISIT OF CHILDREN FROM SWEDEN, BELGIUM, POLAND AND TURKEY UNDER THE COMENIUS PROJECT TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH EUROPEAN SCHOOLS

Cllr. Squires, who had declared an interest left

Some councillors expressed concern that a project funded by the EU should require further funds. However, others, who had experience of these type of projects, confirmed that the funds made available rarely covered all expenses.

RESOLVED to approve the grant of £350.00 but the school to be advised that more information as to what the funds would be used for, would be required in future.

18. TO CONSIDER THE RESPONSE TO THE PLANNING APPEAL BY TAYLOR WIMPEY TO THE PLANNING APPLICATION TO LAND TO THE NORTH OF BRAMLEY WAY

Members discussed the material considerations to oppose this application at an appeal hearing and it was **RESOLVED**

- To make a written objection to the Planning Inspectorate
- As there was no technical reason for objecting, as there had been for the application to Land to the North of Salford Road, the Council would not be appointing its own consultant but would support SDC in its objection.

19. TO CONSIDER MAKING A WRITTEN REPRESENTATION TO THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT REGARDING SEVERN TRENT

A report, highlighting the many issues with flooding, poor drainage, etc. had been circulated to members who **RESOLVED** to approve the proposal that written representation should be made to the Planning Dept. especially in view of the Core

Strategy consultation.

20. TO CONSIDER HIGH INTEREST DEPOSIT REINVESTMENT

a report showing the available options had been circulated. Members **RESOLVED** the preferred option was to invest in 6 tranches of approx. £75,000 (or as available) on 6-month deposit with one maturing each month: this option having the advantage of the better rates but also enough flexibility to cope with unexpected cash requirements.

21. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THIS MONTH'S PAYMENTS (circulated)

The Clerk advised that the bank had now approved all the new signatures and all councillors were now authorised to sign cheques.

Purchases	8,374.17
Grants	8,909.00
Wages	<u>2,477.28</u>
As per cheque list	19,760.45
DDM	<u>1,603.79</u>
Total payments	21,364.24

Payments received	
Repayment U. of Glos	186.00
VAT Refund	<u>12,512.31</u>
Total received	12,698.31

£7, 500 was transferred from the deposit to the current account to meet the above payments

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts and that Cllrs. Harvey and Mrs. Randell sign the cheque

The meeting closed at approx. 9.30 pm

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



CLERKS REPORT – February 2013

- **Bidford Participatory Budget 2012/13** – Bench in memory of Cllr. H. Langston has been ordered – including bronze plaque and was delivered on 19th Feb.
- **Barton Participatory Budget 2012/13**
Flagpole ordered and delivered.
- **Marlcliff portable pump** – waiting for list of volunteers to arrange a “rehearsal” with the Environment Agency to ensure residents are able to use it when required
- **Allotments** – meeting was held on Thursday 24th January with the Midlands Representative of the National Association of Allotment Holders. It was agreed that a Steering Group of 6 allotment tenants would meet on 28th Feb. to consider setting up a Committee to manage the allotments.
It was also agreed that all allotments would be measured and a fixed charge per sq.ft set.
- **Big Meadow opening 2013** – as Easter falls on 29th March, subject to the weather, the Big Meadow will open on Good Friday 29th March.