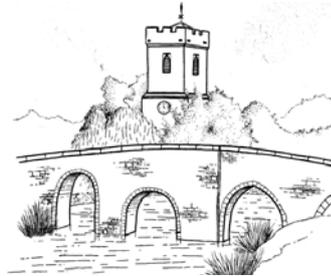


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 25th March 2013 @ 7.30 pm at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Gerrard

Cllrs. Atkins, Fleming, Harvey, Hiscocks, Mrs Keeley, Pound, Mrs Randell, Squires and Spiers

Also present: County Cllr. Barnes; District Councillors Howse and Pemberton
6 members of the public

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

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF 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 30th July 2012, 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.

Cllr. Mrs Keeley declared an interest in Planning Application 13/00468/FUL as the applicant is a co-worker.

Cllr. Gerrard declared an interest in the Payment Schedule as his wife is the Village Liaison Officer.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH FEBRUARY 2013

Cllr. Harvey proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate

RESOLVED that the Minutes should be approved and signed by the Chairman

4. YOUTH FORUM

No young people attended the meeting

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Resident expressed anger that a local newspaper had given the impression that the public was unconcerned that the Police Commissioner, Ron Ball, had not attended the Alcester/Bidford Community Forum: this was entirely incorrect and, therefore, unacceptable. Members of the public attending the forum were simply being polite to Mr Ball's deputy.
Both the Chairman of the Parish Council, who had attended the forum, and the Chairman of the forum agreed that people were unhappy and that it was wholly unacceptable.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- **Barton crossroads** - Cllr. Barnes advised he had been contacted by a number of people living on the Worcestershire side of the Honeybourne Road, stating they were keen for a 50 mph limit all the way to Honeybourne bridge. However, Worcestershire County Council do not appear to be as keen on this limit as Warwickshire County Council: there is support, however, from both the local County and District Councillors.
It would appear that part of the problem could be financial, and Cllr. Barnes requested the support of the Parish Council in writing to Worcestershire County Council supporting the WCC initiative of imposing a 50 mph limit on Honeybourne Road.
- **Fire Service** – the full Council met at it was proposed to have closer partnerships with other fire services to improve resilience and cut costs. At the same time it was recognised that Warwickshire Fire Services was one of the best in the country.
Cllr. Barnes recommended the Parish Council keep an eye on developments.
- **Health and Wellbeing Board** – WCC would be in charge of monitoring the 17 people board.
Cllr Barnes expressed concern that subsidies funding for the old, disabled and young was being cut.
Cllr. Harvey informed the Parish Council that he was involved in this process and would be happy to keep members advised .
- **Brown Signs** – Cllr. Barnes was asked if he had any further information on this. He was able to reply that advertiser pays for the signage, but not why the Parish Council had been advised that it could not have them installed.

Cllr Barnes left the meeting

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

All issues raised were relating to planning:

- **Doctor's surgery**- the sale is now completed and it is envisaged the new surgery will open in Spring 2014.
- **Land to the rear of 18 Salford Road** – Welbeck will be trying to reduce the speed limit along this site to 30mph, as this is essential for them to be able to develop the site.
WCC and the Police have repeatedly been against this as it is difficult to enforce. The Parish Council and the Local Community should be aware that Welbeck will be doing their best to ensure they are able to develop this site.
- **Taylor Wimpey** – Ward Members will be meeting with Taylor Wimpey with a view to ensure all the sites under their control are developed to the benefit of the residents
- **Friday Furlong** reserved matters should be finalised within the next 2 weeks or so
- **Geodis** – re-application for a smaller retail site will be forthcoming following SDC's own retail report.
- **Audit Commission** Cllr Spence had sent his apologies as he was attending this meeting. One of the main issues was to re-draw the boundaries between Planning Committee (West) and (East). (West), which covers Bidford-on-Avon, has many more applications to consider and it is hoped that re-drawing the boundary will help to better manage time.

8. TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

This had been circulated to Members just before the meeting, so the Chairman allowed a couple of minutes for Councillors to read through the report and raise any issues included therein. There were none and it was **RESOLVED** to note the report

9. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- **The Local Govt. Boundary Commission for England** Electoral Review of Stratford-on-Avon (report circulated)
Members were being asked whether they would like to respond as a council or as individuals. It was proposed the Council should not reply
RESOLVED not to reply as a Council and individuals members to reply should they so wish.
- **DCLG** – Supporting Communities in Neighbourhood Planning 2013-15 – opportunity to apply for a grant of up to £7,000 (circulated)
It was proposed the Council should apply for this grant that would assist in its preparation of its Parish Plan/Neighbourhood Plan
RESOLVED To apply for the Grant
- **Warwickshire Wildlife Trust** – update on the Wild Community Project (circulated)
Proposed to accept the brief outline as proposed by the Clerk
RESOLVED the Clerk to send the outline

- **Thank you** letters from
 - CAB
 - Bidford on Avon C of E Primary School**RESOLVED** to note the correspondence
- **SDC/Rural Housing Enabling Event** – invitation to attend this on 30th April 3.45-6.15 at Wilmcote Village Hall, Glebe Estate, Wilmcote CV37 9XL
The Parish Council has always attended these events and it was proposed Cllr Harvey, Hiscocks and Mrs Keeley attend
RESOLVED the members attend representing the council

10. TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF RESIDENT TO CREATE A HARD STANDING PATH AROUND THE BIG MEADOW FOR WALKERS

It was proposed this item should be considered by the Amenities WG at its next meeting

RESOLVED the Amenities WG to consider the request and report back to Council with its recommendation

11. TO RECEIVE CCTV ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 2013 (circulated)

RESOLVED to note the report

12. MATTERS ARISING – TO APPROVE THE CONTRIBUTION TO 24 HOUR CCTV COVER FOR THE YEAR 2013/14 (Ref PC Feb.2013/12)

Members had deferred this decision until a visit to the CCTV centre could be arranged. The visit had taken place on 12 March and was very successful.

It was proposed the Parish Council approve its contribution to continue 24 hour surveillance

RESOLVED to approve the payment of £1,926.00 for the year 2013/14

13. TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF MERCURY LAMPS FOR WHICH THE PARISH COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE INCLUDING COSTS

The total number of Mercury Lamps is 5 and the total costs £2,144.24,
One street light requires replacement as well as change of lamp at a cost of £1,036/79

Councillors were made aware that according to EU regulations Mercury Lamps must be changed no later than 1st April 2015.

It was proposed that in view of the number – 6 – it would be more cost effective to replace the whole streetlight under the existing annual replacement programme

RESOLVED all 6 streetlights to be replaced in the financial year 2014/15 under the council's replacement programme.

14. 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**
To approve the recommendation, by a majority vote of 9 in favour 1 against, of using this area as a fenced off car park under the 28 day rule
 - **Recycling waste**
to approve the recommendation to accept Grundon's quotation of a 8 cubic yard front loader at £32 per collection and £0.20 per day rental
 - **Inspection of benches on the Big Meadow**
 - **To approve** the quarterly inspection be carried out by Mark Smith
- **Grant Applications**
To approve the recommendation that a grant should not be prejudiced if it is retrospective, by the Council must be in a position to justify awarding a retrospective grant, which should remain the exception not the rule.
- **Bidford Youth Club**
To approve the recommendation to pay the grant amount of £1,100 in advance every 6 months to cover the costs of the senior club workers, subject to
 - A quarterly statement clearly showing what the funds have been used for
 - 6 months report on what benefits the club has received due to the employment of 2 x senior club workersIt should be noted a statement has been received and circulated, for the period Nov. 2012 – April 2013.

15. TO RECEIVE NALC'S LEGAL TOPIC NOTE LTN – 9 HANDLING COMPLAINTS, ENGLAND

RESOLVED to note the note

16. TO APPROVE THE PARISH COUNCIL'S COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE (circulated)

RESOLVED to approve the procedure

17. TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE PROPOSED COMMUTED SUM FOR TAKING OVER THE PUBLIC OPEN SPACES ON THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON LAND TO THE NORTH OF BRAMLEY WAY

Outline planning permission had been granted at the Planning Committee meeting of 20th March 2013.

The Parish Council had resolved to take over the maintenance of this open space at its Planning Committee meeting of 11th March 2013 and a 20 year calculation was circulated with a recommendation that the Council request a commuted sum of £55,000.

RESOLVED to request a commuted sum of £55,000 to cover the costs of maintaining the open space area of this development **excluding** the balancing ponds (SUDS)

18. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **13/00333/FUL – Mr. Ian Osborne 2 Westholme Road, B50 4AH**
Extension and alterations to existing bungalow (incorporating raising of the ridge to provide first floor accommodation) and erection of a new single detached dwelling (Amendment to 12/01111/FUL)
The Council was being asked to reconsider this application which was an amendment to another application to which it did not object.
The Chairman of the Planning Committee advised the applicant had contacted him regarding the council's response, and he had invited him to attend the meeting and make his comments during the public forum,. The Applicant did not attend the meeting.
RESOVLED to maintain its objection
- **13/00468/FUL Ms Sonia West, 5 Crawford Close, B50 4EJ**
Erection of single storey side extension
Cllr. Mrs Kelley, having declared an interest, did not participate in the discussion
RESOLVED No representation

(Due to the sensitive nature of this item, the Council may resolve to exclude the public (Public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings Act) 1960 s1(2))

RESOLVED to request members of the of the public to leave the room

19. TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS/BIDS, PUBLICISED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE FOLLOWING

- **Sole Catering Rights for the Big Meadow 2013 season**
RESOLVED to grant the rights to M. Dobson
- **Sole Ice Cream Rights to the Big Meadow Season 2013**
RESOLVED to grant the rights to G. Ford
- **Inflatable Rights to the Big Meadow 2013 season**
RESOLVED to grant the rights to M. Dobson
- **Erection of a fence on Monie Meadow**
RESOLVED To grant the contract to M. Smith

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

The Clerk advised that cheque No. 5743 for an amount of £716.38 to pay for the metal doors on the Sports Pavillion had been raised and signed on 4th March 2013.

Purchases	6,157.28
Grants	1,450.00
Wages	2,476.88
HMRC	<u>2,322.53</u>
As per cheque list	12,406.69
DDM	1,872.84
Transfer to HID	75,000.00
Cheque 5743	<u>718.38</u>
Total payments	£89,995.41

Payments received

Treasure Deposit	201,296.44
Pavillion donations	298.46
Burial fees	<u>450.00</u>
Total received	£202,044.93

£12, 500 was transferred from the deposit to the current account to meet the above payments

It was **RESOLVED**

- To note and approve the issue of cheque No. 5743
- to approve the accounts and that Cllrs. Harvey and Mrs. Randell sign the cheque.
When signing the cheques, it was noted that that we as a 2p difference in cheque No. 5759, (payable to Mrs. E, Uggerloese), which was duly corrected.
- that
 - £90,000 be deposited into a 3 month High Deposit Account and
 - £70,000 in a 6 months High Deposit Account

The meeting closed at approx. 8.45 pm

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CLERKS REPORT – March 2013

- **HONEYBOURNE CROSS ROADS**- as instructed, a letter was sent to WCC. A reply was sent on 8th March, but never reached me as it was sent to the incorrect email address. It was resent to the correct address when I chased a reply.
 - Some funding has been secured for safety improvements to take place in the area in the new financial year
 - The PC will be contacted to arrange a meeting where these issues can be discussed.

- **BIG MEADOW** – due to the recent wet weather, the grass is so wet at present that it opening the gates this week-end could result in
 - Vehicles getting stuck
 - Damage to the grass

In view of this, and on the advice of the Big Meadow Contractor, the opening date has been delayed until such time as it is safe to allow vehicles to drive onto the grass.

- **SIGNAGE** – 2 x signs have been ordered
 - Cemetery – advising users to dispose of all flower, wreathes etc. on the bins provided and **not** throw them on to the allotments.
Cost £204.28 (installed)
 - Big Meadow Winter Car Park – stating the parking is not allowed from early morning to evening from April-Oct. Quotation tba

- **SKATE RAMP** – Installer inspected the ramp on Thurs. 21st and advised that it is “generally, in good condition apart from what looks like a bit of vandalism on the back board”. The back board has been replaced and a small hole on the side platform has been patched up – it will need replacing. Overall, he found the ramp is in good condition and there is nothing to be concerned about

- **ALCESTER/BIDFORD COMMUNITY FORUM** – this was held at the Crawford Memorial Hall on 12th March and was a single issue forum dedicated to all matters Warwickshire Police, with presentations from the :
 - **Community Safety Officer** on how to prevent crime
 - **Community Pay Back** – how it works and its benefits to the community. Bidford was particularly singled out as a community where County Highways, Parish Council and Community Payback work together to clear and maintain footpaths etc in the village. Concerns were raised about some tree/hedge clippings that had been tipped on Wards Lane Car Park, and it was believed this could have been done by the ?Community Pay Back Team – although they normally liaise with both County Highway and SDC to have it collected. Other members of the community have also contacted other councillors as well as the office. I have looked into this with Dave Adams, of the Community Pay Back team, who has looked into this and advised it was **not** the Pay Back Team – we are still unaware of who has dumped it, but SDC have collected it.
 - **Policy Priorities** – there were voted by members of the public, online prior to the meeting and at the meeting itself. One of the priorities was **Anti Social Behaviour on the High Street and surroundings in Bidford**
 - **Dog Fouling** – The problem of dog fouling was raised by Elisabeth Uggerloese, Bidford's Parish Clerk; as a result we are in communication with Bidford Primary School and Elisabeth with a view to involving pupils in a poster competition to raise awareness and persuade dog owners to take responsibility for their pets and to "pick it up and take it home". George Stepney (Community Safety Officer) has offered to sponsor some metal signage to be placed in the most prominent places in the area.

- **MARLCLIFF** - a number of volunteers have agreed to train in taking the pump down to the sump to pump the surface water out. The EA person who will carry out the training came on Friday morning to familiarise himself with the situation and to advise regarding the length of hose required (40 yds). He also suggested some “wheels” to transport the pump from Cherry Hill Farm to the bottom of The Bank where the sum is, as it is quite heavy. Date and time for the training will now be arranged.
- **2011 CENSUS PROFILE** – details of the results of the 2011 Census in respect of Bidford on Avon have been collated by WCC’s Observatory and SDC and are now available on the Parish Council’s website.
- **PLANNING COMMITTEE (WEST) MEETING** – held on Wed. 20th March @ 6.15 pm The first item on the agenda was the proposed development of Land to the North of Bramley Way. The Parish Council, residents and Ward Members objected to the development which resulted in a long, and lively debate by the Committee. The vote was lost in the end by a split decision. One concern to be raised was the receipt by SDC of 79 letters of support, all of them 2 days prior to the meeting. Although they are still not showing online, the issues raised in support were sufficiently technical to raise suspicion that, in essence, they were not written by residents themselves, they were simply asked to sign them. There is, of course, nothing SDC can do about this as they are letters received by them and they have to treat all correspondence the same.