

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19TH AUGUST 2013

Cllr. Mrs Keeley proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate

RESOLVED the Minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman

4. YOUTH FORUM

The Parish Council expressed its delight at seeing a number of young people present, representing Bidford Youth Club's "Overs" section.

They thanked the Parish Council for its financial support which had gone to improve the facilities at youth club, including some software, and asked if there were any further funds to continue the improvement.

They also extended an invitation to the Parish Council to attend their Open Day on Saturday 28th September between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked the youngsters for attending and said how pleased the Parish Council was to see how the youth club had grown, and improved, in the last year, and its satisfaction at seeing the funds provided being put to good use and for the benefit of the village.

The Clerk advised that the Youth Shelter area would be opened as of 1st October – it has been closed due to health and safety reasons – and it will be up to the young users to ensure it is kept tidy and not interfere with the building work, otherwise it will be closed again.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- A resident raised concern about the proposed development of affordable housing on Grafton Lane: why had he not heard about it?

The Council replied that this has been an on-going situation. The land was being provided by Warwickshire County Council and being developed by Warwickshire Rural Community Council to address the need for affordable housing for local people as ascertained by the recent House Survey that was carried out.

There would be a consultation about the development in due course and before the planning application is submitted.

- Representatives of the community opposing the closure of certain departments at the Alexander Hospital asked if it would be possible to leave some leaflets to be distributed.
It was agreed the leaflets would be left in the library and posted on the website.

- A councillor raised the issue of parking on Monie Meadow: a footballer had asked for it to be opened last weekend.
It was made clear that no decision as to how this parking area is to be managed. It is to be an overspill when larger events take place on the Big Meadow and the council has to be advised in time for it to be able to make the necessary arrangements.
Amenities Group would be recommending proposals in due course.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Brain had sent his apologies and advised as follows:

- He is in support of the parking restriction being proposed by County Council for Bidford High Street
- Bidford Bridge – S106 monies to fund the weight restriction enforcement would be available soon and was seeking the views of the Parish Council
The Clerk advised she had asked for details to be able to present this to councillors at the next Planning Committee meeting

NOTED

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllrs. Howse and Spencer had sent their apologies. There were no Ward Members present.

A Councillor raised the issue of the £250,000 refurbishment of the play areas in Stratford upon Avon, which will be paid for by residents not living in Stratford and therefore having limited use of these facilities. He was particularly concerned that Bidford on Avon residents were subsidising this refurbishment, whilst Bidford on Avon Parish had to pay for its own refurbishment.

It was proposed that, as there were no Ward Members present, the Clerk should write to SDC expressing concern and asking for clarification as to why Bidford on Avon residents have to pay twice for play equipment: once for their own, which they use, and another for equipment in Stortford-upon -Avon Town, which they don't.

RESOLVED the Clerk to write to SDC and Ward Members

8. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE CLERK,

- As already stated, the Youth Shelter area would be opened on 1st October.
- Table Tennis Association representative had visited the Big Meadow with the Clerk to ascertain its suitability to install concrete table tennis facilities and has confirmed it is suitable.

Councillors considered the number of tables and sites and **RESOLVED** to apply for 4 x tennis tables to be sited as follows:

- 2 x on the Big Meadow
- 1 x Dugdale Sports Field
- 1 x Broom play area

9. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- **EDF (unmetered electricity suppliers)** letter advising of HMRC's decision that Climate Change Levy relief should not apply. This means the charge will increase from 9.2404 per KWH to 9.2946 per KWH from 1st Dec. 2013
This was **NOTED** but the Clerk was requested to advise the exact cost of this increase.

It was also **NOTED** that the Parish Council should be reviewing its accounts on a regular basis to ensure real income/expenditure were as per budget. The Clerk to ensure these were ready to be considered by Council at the meetings of:

- October 2013 (April-Sept.)
- January 2014 (Oct – Dec)
- April 2104 (Jan- March)

- **Easthorpe Joint Parish Council (Warwick District)** – it is interested in creating a Flooding Pressure Group as a way to influence the decisions of WCC in its Flood Alleviation Policy in view of the increased problems of flooding from rivers and flash flooding from highways etc.
The Clerk advised she was meeting various members of WCC and other councils regarding Pathfinder, which was in connection with flooding in the county and would report back at the October meeting.
RESOLVED decision to be deferred until October
- **Resident** requesting permission to stage fireworks on the Big Meadow (riverbank or winter parking area) on Sat. 30th Nov. between 8.30 – 9.00 pm for no more than 15 mins. as a wedding celebration.
Event will be managed and arranged by Celebration Fireworks of Evesham
RESOLVED to authorise it in principle, subject to satisfactorily completed Big Meadow Event application form.
- **Thank you letters** received from:
 - Acorns in Birmingham
 - Midlands Air Ambulance Service
 - Samaritans
 - Westholme Court Luncheon Club

10. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM RESIDENT ON THE HIGH STREET TO PLANT 2 TO 3 TREES ON THE PUBLIC LAND ALONG THE B439 TO REPLACE THOSE THAT HAVE DIED OVER TIME.

The Clerk had contacted WCC, the responsible authority, who advised it had no objection to trees being planted, and it was happy to quote £200 per tree, including planting. However, it would not fund the replanting

It was proposed that perhaps the Bidford Participatory Budget of £500 could be used for this. It was further proposed that a site visit would better enable Council to make a decision.

RESOLVED a site visit to take place on Thursday 26th at 2.00 pm

11. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE FROM WALC

- Training opportunity
 - Budget Setting 2014-15 for Local Councils on 15th Oct. 6.30 – 8.30 pm at Wootton Wawen led by Elisabeth Skinner who has 25 years experience in local council training and was a lecturer at the University of Gloucestershire until her retirement last year.
RESOLVED Cllr Gerrard and the Clerk to attend
- Invitation to attend WALC's AGM – Wed. 13th November @ 7.30, Shire Hall. Guest Speaker – Cllr Mrs Seccombe, Leader of WCC
RESOLVED Cllrs. Gerrard and Mrs Keeley and the Clerk to attend. Cllrs. Fleming and Hiscocks to see if they were available.
- Annual Report – some copies available
NOTED

12. TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE TELEPHONE QUOTATION FROM MAINSTREAM DIGITAL (circulated)

Although the Council considered it appropriate to consider other alternatives, it felt more information and comparisons would be necessary for it to be able to make a decision

RESOLVED to await more information and comparisons before a decision is made

13. TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF REFERENCE

- **Staffing Panel (circulated)**

Council considered these at length and agreed that they addressed the issue.

 - a couple of minor adjustments were made for clarification
 - it was proposed that the word reactive” be changed to “proactive”
RESOLVED to approve this by 7 votes in favour and 2 against
 - It was proposed that “Overview of Payroll” be included
RESOLVED not to include this by 8 votes against and 1 in favour.**RESOLVED** to approve the Terms of Reference subject to the agreed amendments
- **Performance Panel**
RESOLVED to approve the Terms of Reference

14. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING VERBAL REPORTS

- March Farm Liaison Committee
NOTED
- Accounts Quarterly Review
It was **NOTED** there were no issues to report

15. TO CONSIDER POSTPONING THE DECISION REGARDING SWITCHING OFF STREET LIGHTS FROM MIDNIGHT TO DAWN UNTIL AFTER WCC HAS CARRIED OUT ITS REVIEW IN NOVEMBER

RESOLVED to postpone the decision until after WCC's review

16. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATION

- **13/02327/TPO Mr L Vincent, 5 Old School Mead B50 4AW**
T1: Lime – crown lift lower growth of 4m, reduce branch by 1-2m
RESOLVED No representation

17. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTH'S PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS AND THE HIGH INTEREST DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

These had been circulated to councillors

Purchases	
Wages	£2,534.46
HMRC	2,308.71
As per cheque list	19,014.25
DDM	<u>1,243.00</u>
Total payments	£25,100.70
HID Investment	135,000.00

It was noted that cheque No. 5771 had been incorrectly written out for £850.24, when it should be £830.24. A new cheque for the correct amount was drawn and duly signed

Payments received	
Car Parking	1,435.00
Burial fees	1,070.00
Directory Advertisement	2,170.00
HID returns	<u>135,355.40</u>
Total Received	£140,030.40

RESOLVED

- To approve the accounts
- To approve payments
- That Cllrs. Fleming and Pound to sign the cheques
- That £15,000.00 be transferred from the deposit account to the current account.

The meeting closed at approx. 9.30 pm