

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 29th September 2014 at the Parish Council Meeting Rooms, Bramley Way, and Bidford on Avon, after the Annual Parish Council Meeting

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Harvey (Vice Chairman of the Council)

Cllrs. Hiscocks, Mrs Keeley, Knight, Pound, Mrs Randell and Spiers

Also present: 4 members of the public

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

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

Cllrs Atkins and Fleming had sent their apologies, which were accepted.

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 a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) they should leave the room
Cllr. Hiscocks advised he had been contacted by the neighbour of Mr Pritchard in connection with Planning Application No. 14/01869/FUL
- Written requests for Dispensations for DPI should be received by the Clerk no more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
Dispensations will be granted as appropriate
None required

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18TH AUGUST 2014

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

RESOLVED the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting be accepted as an accurate account, and signed by the Chairman

4. YOUTH FORUM

There were no young people present at the meeting – the Clerk advised there was a free session event at the club between 8.00 -10.0 pm

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Resident brought up the following issues:
 - Despite request for the bridge to be cleaned, this has not taken place and the weeds are taking over
(Clerk to chase again)
 - Parking by Bidford Juniors FC on weekend has to be sorted out before next year and it is chaos on weekends
 - Skate board – contractor needs chasing so that it can be completed as soon as possible
- Resident mentioned how great it had been to see the Big Meadow used by the camper club, who had left it beautifully tidy after their week end.
Clerk to write a thank you letter.
- Resident raised the issue of the continuous problems at the Medical Centre. Something has to be done.
Clerk advised that there was an update in her report.
Resident also mentioned the item on the agenda regarding the felling of a tree on the Jubilee Close play area – in her opinion it only requires cutting back and crown lifting.

6. COUNCILLOR FORUM

- Clerk was asked to obtain some stickers from the “Keep Britain Tidy” website which say “There is no such thing as the Dog Poo Fairy” to be used in the campaign against dog fouling in the village.
- The issue of “double taxation” was raised: Stratford-upon-Avon’s flower boxes and play areas are maintained and paid for by SDC, as are those at Lighthorne Heath and Studley, whereas in Bidford-on-Avon it is the Parish Council that does this. However, residents in Bidford-on-Avon Parish also pay for both, so can Ward Members explain this.
The Clerk advised that until some 7/ 8 years ago, SDC unilaterally scrapped S136, which took this anomaly into account and reimbursed parish and town councils up to 75% of their play area maintenance costs.
RESOLVED this to be an Agenda item at the next meeting and the Clerk to request a written reply from Ward Members,
- School was working on a poppy project – clay poppies being made by children that will then be used to produce a field of poppies. Councillors

invited to attend the sessions which are taking place on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school.

- Another school project was a WWI banner: this is taking longer than expected and will not be ready until 2015. The school will also be using a WWII bell and flag it had been donated and it was proposed that perhaps the plaques that had been removed from the war memorial could also be part of the project.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Brain had sent his apologies

8. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllrs Howse and Pemberton had sent their apologies

9. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk read the report which had not been circulated as many of the updates were received on Monday itself

The read report is attached to these Minutes of which it forms an integral part.

RESOLVED to note the report

10. TO CONSIDER

- Audit Report for the Year ending 31st March 2014
External Auditors report states that *"on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met"*
- Other matters raised by External Auditors
"Other matters not affecting our opinion...Box 11 on Section 1, the trust funds disclosure note, was left unanswered....The Council has confirmed that this box should read "NO"

RESOLVED to note External Auditors comments

11. TO CONSIDER THE ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WCC (DRAFT RECOMMENDATION CIRCULATED)

RESOLVED to note the recommendation

12. TO CONSIDER THE CCTV ANNUAL REVIEW AND APPROVE INVOICE (report circulated)

On the basis of the report that had been circulated, it was proposed the Review be accepted and the invoice approved

RESOLVED to approve the renewal of this agreement and the invoice

13. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM NALC/WALC

- **Newsletter ADH/113/3/2014** (circulated)
Councillors are requested to note the contents and bring to the attention of Council any issues they believe to be of concern or special importance. The Clerk circulated a report bringing attention to two issues in the newsletter:

- Buckingham County Council's proposed Parish Devolution Portal. WALC has made WCC aware of this and the recommendation is that the Council supports looking into this scheme and putting pressure of WCC to approve this concept.

RESOLVED to approve the recommendation

- Action Plans for Councils – the Chairman proposed that this be considered in conjunction with his Report from the NALC Conference (Item 14) as this issue, under the name "Visioning leading to a Business Plan" had been one of the items at the meeting. It involves ensuring a Parish Council is aware of what it is and what it can do and that, in consultation with its local community, it prepares a strategic vision of what it would like to improve and spend its resources on in the next 5/10 years.

It was proposed that this item be part of the next Agenda that should include the proposal for an Action Plan Working Group to be set up and its remit to be agreed

RESOLVED to approve the motion

14. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM CLLR HARVEY WHO ATTENDED THE NALC CONFERENCE AT BRISTOL

Cllr Harvey reported that he had been impressed with the new NALC Chief Executive.

He had attended two work shops, Vision leading to a Business Plan (already considered in the previous Agenda item) and Neighbourhood Plan, where he had learnt that the work that has been carried out by others during the last 5 years, has enabled Bidford to prepare its plan within the much shorter time of around 18 months –when it was taking in excess of 2 years in the past.

RESOLVED to note the verbal report

15. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WORKING GROUPS (if applicable)

There were no reports

16. TO APPROVE REMOVAL OF TREE ON THE JUBILEE CLOSE PLAY AREA AT A COST OF £300

The Council considered the comments made by the resident during the Public Forum and, in consultation with the contractor and Clerk, a motion was put forward that limbs be removed and the crown lifted. The contractor did mention this work could leave the tree not looking its best.

RESOLVED that remedial work be carried out instead of felling

17. TO CONSIDER PURCHASE OF POPPY WREATH

It was proposed that each councillor pay towards the purchase

RESOLVED to approve the proposal

18. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- **Mercia Canoe Club** permission for the Canoe Race on November 16th
RESOLVED to authorise the event

- **Bidford on Avon Primary School** thank you letter for the grant
 - **Bidford & District History Society** thank you letter for the grant
- RESOLVED** to note the thank you letters

19. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **14/01869/FUL Mr Owen Pritchard, Broom Acre, Kings Lane, Broom**
Two storey rear extension and new garage
RESOLVED no representation
- **14/02400/FUL Mr P Boyes, 21 Millers Bank Broom**
Retrospective outbuilding to rear
RESOLVED no representation

20. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THIS MONTH'S PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS

Full details had been circulated

- **High Interest Deposit account investment**
The RFO had recommended the following investments be made
 - £100,000 for 12 months immediately
 - £100,000 for 6 months when the next deposit matures on 6th October.
- RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation

Expenditure

Wages	£2,579.89
As per cheque list	26,121.51
DDM	1,376.66
HID Deposit	<u>200,000.00</u>
Total payments	£232,312.96

Income

Car parking	2,125.00
Room hire	60.00
Cemetery charges	920.00
Cancelled cheque	300.00
HID deposit	100,403.29
Precept	97,650.00
Council Tax Support grant	<u>10,360.00</u>
Total	211,818.29

RESOLVED

- To approve the accounts
To note the stop of cheque No.6097, for an amount of £300 payable to Avon Planning, as it was mislaid in the post. It was replaced by cheque No. 6113, for an amount of £720.00 which includes the latest invoice.
- That Cllrs. Hiscocks and Mrs Keeley sign the cheques
- That £30,000 be transferred from the deposit to the current account to cover payments.

The meeting closed at approx. 8.25 pm