

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2003, 7.30p.m. in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon.**

**PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor F.J.Hiscocks  
Councillors: Mrs.Getgood, Mrs.Hodgetts, Mrs.Irving,  
Mrs. Keeley, Langston, Mrs. Owen, Smith  
and Spiers.  
Councillor Moore (arrived late)  
District Councillors: James and Pemberton  
County Councillor: Barnes (arrived late)

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Christine Getgood to her first Parish Council Meeting after being elected as a Councillor on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2003.

**1 APOLOGIES** District Councillor Slaughter

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Every Councillor present declared an interest in the Adopted District Local Plan and the First Deposit Draft (January 2002) and the Revised Deposit draft (January 2003) of the Stratford-on-Avon Local Plan Review 1996-2011.

Councillor Mrs. Getgood:

Jolly Teapot

Councillor Hiscocks:

Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee

Councillor Mrs. Hodgetts:

School Governor Bidford-on-Avon School and Alcester High School

Broom Village Hall

Councillor Mrs. Irving:

Bidford Community Group

Councillor Mrs. Keeley:

Bidford Christmas Lights and Bidford Luncheon Club

Councillor Langston:

Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee & Bidford Christmas Lights

Councillor Moore:

Bidford Christmas Lights, Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee, Broom Village Hall and Friday Furlong.

Councillor Mrs. Owen

Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee.

Councillor Smith:

Big Meadow, M.G.S. Garden Services and Bidford Car Boot Sale

Councillor Spiers:

Bidford Christmas Lights

### **3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mrs. Jill Houghton asked if Cllr. Mrs. Hodgetts was aware that none of the school children used the pedestrian crossing in Waterloo Road? There had been a near miss near The Leys/Marleigh Road. Cllr. Hodgetts replied that she was not aware of this and would raise it at a meeting to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs.Houghton offered in her capacity as a Special Constable to give a talk at the School on road safety.

**CMH**

Mrs. Lewis, Victoria Road, raised the question regarding the rabbit nuisance on the allotments, Cemetery and river bank. Agreed to look at putting up chicken wire to try to deter them.

**MGS/HSL**

Mr. R.S.Slaughter, Broom, requested that the Parish Council consider holding a Meeting in Broom. It was agreed that the meeting to be held on 24 November 2003 should be in Broom Village Hall.

### **4 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr. Mrs.Owen                      Puddles in High Street  
Canada Geese

Cllr. Mrs.Getgood                Mobility Scooter access  
Old School House  
Dog Bins Westholme Road  
Refuse – High Street  
Pavements

### **5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2003 were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record.  
(Prop. Cllr. Mrs.Keeley. Sec. Cllr. Mrs.Owen)

### **6 POLICE MATTERS**

P.C.P.Gateley reported that it had been an unexceptional month. No burglaries from either houses or sheds; 1 vehicle theft; 2 thefts from vehicles; 9 criminal damage (5 to cars); 2 incidents of hedge fires (patrols have been increased and enquiries are ongoing); 2 damaged windows; no violent crimes. There had also been 5 “nuisance youth” reports throwing eggs and flour. A similar problem has been reported in Evesham and local shops have been contacted to prevent the sale of eggs to minors.

Cllr.Smith reported that Budgens had been asked not to put eggs past the sell buy date in the rubbish skip for disposal.

P.C.Gateley reported that the Automatic Number Plate Recognition Van had been positioned on Marriage Hill and had produced some good results but this did not pick up speeding offences. Cllr.Owen stated her concern over the speed of traffic along Salford Road especially as it had been witnessed more than once drivers overtaking on the wrong side of the bollards. P.C.Gateley stated that he would need more information and that he only had access to the hand held speed gun one day a month. Unless it is an accident “black spot” the

Road Traffic Police leave matters to the local Constabulary and permanent signs are only erected in such places.

It is hoped to arrange for Community Support Officers to patrol on certain evenings and P.C.Gateley considered that they would be a very valuable asset as well as S.P.C.Houghton.

## 7 03/255 PLANNING

### DECISION CONTRARY TO RECOMMENDATION

03/02196/FUL

Sharon Summers

Marleigh Road

Bidford-on-Avon

Two- storey extension with conservatory

P.C.Support D.C.Refusal

03/02744/FUL

Mr. G.Arundale

Poachers Cottage, Dorsington

Vehicular access.

P.C.Support "provided that the County Highways Dept. is happy with the access".

D.C. Refusal

### APPLICATIONS

03/02634/OUT

Cranbrook Homes Ltd

Friday Furlong, Bidford on Avon.

Demolition of existing structures; erection of 120 dwellings, a nursing home and a shop; creation of public open space with ponds; construction of estate roads and ancillary infrastructure.

At a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2003 following a Public Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October the following representations were raised in connection with the above Outline Planning Application:

- There to be a **maximum** of 120 dwelling to include:
  1. Shared ownership dwellings.
  2. Two bedroom dwellings.
  3. Affordable Housing.
  4. Social Housing.
- Concerns were expressed relating to problems that already exist and the effect that extra housing would have:
  1. Sewerage problems particularly around the Steppes Piece/Victoria Road area.
  2. Existing flooding problems/depth of proposed new ponds from flooding aspect and safety for children.
  3. Water pressure problems in the whole of surrounding area.
  4. Electricity supply problems for the whole village.
- Traffic and Road safety issues:
  1. Access to new estate from Waterloo Road.

2. Need for a proper roundabout at entrance to Waterloo Road Industrial Estate.
  3. Safety for school children crossing the road with potentially 120 plus extra vehicles on the roads.
  4. Safety for school children boarding and dismounting from School buses.
- Play Areas. The Parish Council would like to see play facilities for the under 12's incorporated within the proposed development.

03/02948/FUL

Bidford on Avon Bowling Club

Bidford Bowling Club, Salford Road, Bidford on Avon

Extension to provide replacement changing rooms, toilet facilities and storage.

SUPPORT

03/02903/FUL

Mr & Mrs D Saville

Avon Side Cottage, Grange Road, Bidford on Avon

Demolition of existing outbuildings. Alterations to main house, new French windows to kitchen and new kitchen terrace. Construction of new garage block. Construction of new home working office. Construct new tennis court.

SUPPORT

03/03101/FUL

Mr & Mrs Pyle

9 Jacksons Meadow, Bidford on Avon

Two story rear extension. Relocation of existing conservatory.

SUPPORT

03/03105/FUL

Mr G Silcock

Riverside, Kings Lane, Broom

Proposed extension to previously approved garage to provide store

SUPPORT

03/03175/FUL

Mr & Mrs W White

Summer Hill Farm, Grafton Lane, Bidford on Avon

Single storey side extensions and alterations

SUPPORT

03/03136/FUL

Mr M Gould & Miss L Jones

40 Grafton Lane, Bidford on Avon.

Two storey side extension

(NB Previous planning application 03/01661/FUL

received in June 2003 – 2 storey extension with

hipped roof and conservatory to rear- was

subsequently withdrawn after Parish Council

representation “We would like all the windows to

the front elevation to match”.

SUPPORT

03/03251/FUL  
Mr & Mrs G M A Crane  
Bankside Cottage, The Bank, Marlcliff  
Proposed replacement garage  
SUPPORT

03/03203/FUL  
Bidford Grange Hotel and Golf  
Bidford Grange Golf Club  
Bidford Grange  
Bidford-on-Avon  
Erection of extensions to existing building to comprise  
70 additional hotel bedrooms, 2 function rooms, bar, swimming  
pool and leisure facilities. Creation of new lake within the golf course.  
SUPPORT

#### AMENDMENT

03/00991/FUL  
Mr & Mrs B Nicholls  
Marriage Hill House, Bidford on Avon  
Rearrangement of fenestration  
For information only.

## **8 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **03/256 BIDFORD BRIDGE**

(Min.03/213 refers.)

English Heritage has expressed a preference for the weight restriction in force on Bidford bridge to be supported by a width restriction. The layout of the road on the approaches to the bridge can be used to prevent wider, heavier vehicles being able to access the bridge. Mr.Ian K.George, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, is happy to raise these issues with the County Council and shall be in touch again in due course. A site meeting may be appropriate when he has had a response from the County Council.

### **03/257 ADOPTION OF MILLERS BANK**

(Min.03/236 refers)

Confirmation received from WCC that their records indicate that the entrance to Millers Bank formed part of an existing highway. Under the Highways Act 198-- Section 184 Agreement The entrance was modified and from July 1997 the Highway Authority resumed maintenance responsibility of the highway works including the entrance.

### **03/258 TRIAL LIGHTING OF BIDFORD BRIDGE**

(Min 03/250 refers)

Several Cllrs. and members of the public attended the trial lighting on 1<sup>st</sup> October and seemed quite pleased with the effect. Awaiting a report and costings from Andrew Savage of WCC.

## 03/259 ANNUAL RETURN 2003/2003

The external auditor requires the following to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council as per their letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2003 giving an unqualified audit opinion.

1. The Return as originally submitted included a schedule analysing variances to Budget. While this is of some assistance to us we also need an analysis of variances between years. I should be grateful if the RFO could include these in subsequent years.
2. The checklist on the front of the Annual Return had not been completed. Although this is not a statutory page we would recommend that it is completed as it is a useful overall check – for example, it requests an explanation of variances between years (See point 1).
3. You are to forward a copy of the Financial Regs. when they have been finalised.
4. The Return was incorrectly completed in that it was not signed by the Chairman and the figures for the current year were in the comparatives column and vice versa.

## 03/260 SCHOOL BUS STOP, WATERLOO ROAD, BIDFORD-ON-AVON

Letters in support of a “pull-in” received from Alcester High School, Alcester Grammar School, St.Faith’s Junior School & St.Benedict’s. Agreed to pursue matter with WCC

## 9 CORRESPONDENCE

### 03/261 BIDFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Letter received from Forest Fireworks (copied to all) enclosing an Invoice. Agreed to make a donation of £35.00 towards the cost of the fireworks and request that Forest Fireworks re-invoice the Lights Committee.

### 03/262 WARWICKSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Letter received from Rural Housing Enabler (copied to all) advising of the services he offered.

### 03/263 THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR WARWICKSHIRE

A letter had been received from WCC enclosing a draft Community Transport Strategy document.

Cllr. Smith queried the anomalies regarding the "to and from" bus fares between Stratford and Evesham. D.C.James suggested that Cllr Smith should bring this up at the Bus Users Meeting to be held in November.

It was agreed that the letter and draft document may be of interest to Mr. M.Gerrard and should be forwarded to him.

### 03/264 STRATFORD-ON-AVON DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

A copy of the relevant pages of the review had been circulated to all Councillors.

### 03/265 WARWICKSHIRE TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

A letter had been received and circulated to all Councillors regarding briefing sessions for Councillors and Clerks. “The role of the Chairman, meeting procedure and Parish and Town Councils’ employment responsibilities” on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2003 and “How to respond to Planning Applications” on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2003. Cllr.Irving expressed an interest. JMW requested that a decision be made before the next Council Meeting as the closing date for bookings is Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2003.

## **10 03/266 ACCOUNTS**

The following receipts were noted:

Mark Smith	184.48
David Baker	65.00
Geo. Clifford & Sons	55.00
Bidford-on-Avon Angling Club	1,217.00
David Baker	125.00
Bidford-on-Avon Sports Association	1,050.00

As the RFO was on holiday there were no cheques to be signed. He would produce these immediately upon his return. (29.10.03)

## **11 03/ 267 PROPOSED YOUTH MEETING POINTS**

(Min.03/254 & 03/232 refer)

The Council are finalising which shelter best meets the needs of the youth of the Parish. There is no need for planning Permission as they are allowed under permitted development provided they are no more than 4metres high x 200 cubic metres in capacity. To be considered whether a shelter could be sited next to Broom Village Hall instead of on Kings Lane play area.

D.C.James passed out photostat copies of an advert. from Rekk who manufacture solar powered youth shelters. Agreed full brochure should be obtained.

**JMW**

## **12 03/268 BIG MEADOW**

JMW reported a telephone conversation with Marianne Ashman from A.G.D Playground Contractors who is awaiting instructions regarding the positioning of the swing. Agreed to arrange a meeting.

**REI/HSL/MS**

## **13 PARISH PLAN**

Mr. Gerrard was not at the meeting. No comments were made.

## **14 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

D.C.Slaughter had sent his apologies.

D.C.Pemberton reported on the CCTV cameras. Still awaiting for the BT line to be installed it was anticipated this would be mid November and the system should be up and running by the end of the year. Still awaiting a report on the yew tree adjacent Bidford Saddlery.

D.C.James reported that he had met Cllr.Mrs.Keeley and they had looked at the District Council's responsibilities regarding trees, verges, footpaths etc. The sign in Saxon Fields car park regarding garden rubbish collection was not what he had ordered and the matter would be rectified. As Bidford produces the most green waste it was a shame that they missed out on the first tranche of Green Wheelie bins. Hopefully this would be rectified next year. As part of Open Democracy Week the District Councillors had taken part in "I'm A Councillor. Get me out of here" which had proved an interesting experience unfortunately only Alcester High School took part.

A public meeting has been arranged for 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2003 at 7.30 in The Memorial Hall Salford Priors. The Managing Director of Aquila (Mr. Kenton Bradbury) will be there to answer questions regarding the electricity supply.

Two letters had been received from Scouts re Broom improvements.

Complaints had been received from bereaved relatives of South Warwickshire Housing tenants, saying that they had only been given two weeks to clear the properties and were being charged full rent for the period which had caused additional stress to the families.

Noted that an incorrect Notice had been put on Broom Notice Board. JMW apologised for her error which had been rectified within 12 hours.

## **15 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr. Barnes stated regarding Grafton Lane that he was waiting for the next meeting to take place.

Helena Toogood Liaison Officer is moving from District Council.

Cllr. Barnes had noticed that wood bark had been delivered at the School. He was informed that the bark and planting had been carried out by parents not the Council.

At a full C.C. Meeting was to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November a question would be raised regarding the remark made by the Chief Constable about members of the public assisting the Police – Citizens arrests etc.

Waterloo Road and Welford Road Barton to be top dressed.

Jill Houghton raised her concerns regarding Grafton Lane. One lady had been injured because of the state of the footpath and disabled access is not viable.

## **16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr. Mrs. Owen had raised the question of the number of Canada Geese which she considered a health hazard and queried the affect they had on the Swan population.

D.C. James commented that there were approx. 250 pairs on the gravel pit lake at Salford.

Agreed to seek the advice of the Royal Swan Keeper Mr. Cyril Bennis.

**JMW**

Puddles in High Street. Agreed to ask County Highways to investigate whether anything can be done to rectify the situation.

**JMW**

Mobility Scooter access. Cllr. Mrs. Getgood had received complaints that some of the kerbs were too steep for the wheels to cope with and users were using the public highway to negotiate around the Parish which is not safe. Agreed to contact Anne Catchpole at the County Council to investigate and report.

**JMW**

Mr. Rawlings raised concern regarding the Old School House, was it, as part of the sale, to be demolished or refurbished. As neither the House nor School are listed buildings the future is an open situation. It was requested that the Parish Council emphasise to the District Council the strong feeling of the village to retain the building. The German Oak tree on the site should also be preserved as this was a gift from Ebsdorf – could a TPO be considered? **JMW**

Rubbish/Dog bins requested for Westholme Road and by the School entrance. Additional and replacement bins to be investigated. D.C. Pemberton reported that one bin by the bridge had been set on fire.



Refuse - High Street. The black rubbish bags when collected together in heaps for disposal impeded pavement access for prams/pushchairs/wheelchairs. Cllr.James to ask if they could be piled more effectively and safely. **KAJ**

Various pavements including the High Street and the roundabout area had not had any weed treatment and was to be raised with District Council. **KAJ**

Cllr Smith stated that he would be tidying the War Memorial in advance of the Remembrance Day Parade. **MGS**

RESOLVED, that the Council go into Committee, to discuss confidential matters.  
(Prop.Cllr. Hiscocks, Sec. Cllr. Mrs. Hodgetts)

Following discussion of the matters recorded in the confidential minutes, the meeting closed at approximately 10.45 p.m.