

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 28th June 2004, 7.30p.m. in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon.**

**PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor F.J.Hiscocks  
Councillors: Ms. Deacon, Mrs.Irving, Mrs. Keeley, Gerrard, Langston,  
Moore, Sandle and Spiers.

District Councillors: Slaughter, James and Pemberton

County Councillor: Barnes

The Chairman opened the Meeting by welcoming everyone present and in particular Inspector T. Bailey who was invited to give an update on Policing Matters.

Insp. Bailey reported as follows:

- Following previous Parish Council Meetings and meetings with District Council, Mrs. J.Dill Russell to discuss antisocial behaviour there had been an increased Police presence in the village from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June to target areas of concern.
- There had been 10 reported incidents including 1 assault, 1 theft from a vehicle overnight and two fires on the old School site. Westbury Homes and the County Council had been contacted with regard to security.
- Theft from vehicles was a growing trend in general and Insp. Bailey advised that nothing should be kept in vehicles overnight including in the boot.
- Public Houses and Off Licences had been visited with regard to underage drinking and are working with officials from Trading Standards.
- The CCTV cameras are operational although they need “tweaking”.
- Anti-Social behaviour will continue to be tackled although Bidford is considered no worse than any other village.
- Newsletter from P.C.Gateley to be produced.
- There is an initiative with the Police and WCC called PAYP (positive about young people). The Parish Council must work with this initiative and must provide more facilities for the young people of the Parish. Cllr Hiscocks stated that Basketball equipment was being priced.
- A basic look at trends for March, April and May had produced the following statistics: 2002 -24 crimes, 2003 – 7 crimes, 2004 – 27 crimes. Insp. Bailey had no explanation of these trends but pointed out that methods of reporting crimes had changed.
- Insp. Bailey to let the Clerk have a copy of the new Policing Structure.

Questions from the floor were invited:

Cllr. Gerrard enquired if the additional Police presence had concentrated on the west end of High Street and was informed that although a lot of antisocial behaviour had been reported at previous meetings there had not been a lot witnessed during the last 2 weeks.

Cllr. Mrs. Keeley remarked that in her opinion 10 reported incidents was a lot and Cllr. Spiers pointed out that an assault could be a touch.

Cllr. Moore said it was pleasing that there had been a reduction in antisocial behaviour and enquired that if there was an increase in the trend would additional Police presence be available again. Insp. Bailey agreed that everything possible would be done but again encouraged the Parish Council to work with all the Youth Services who were to be complimented.

S.D.Cllr. Slaughter thanked Insp. Bailey who promised that his team would keep in touch.

Inspector Bailey left the meeting.

## **1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Mrs. Getgood and P.C.P. Gateley.

## **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All members of the Council are respectfully reminded that in order to comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2002 if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have Declared an Interest which could be personal or prejudicial they should do so and leave the room.

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

Mr. J. Wilkes requested that following a recent incident a Notice be put up requesting that dog walkers should not allow their dogs to swim in the river when fishing contests were in progress. Price to be obtained.

Mr. J. Wilkes also raised a questioned the fact that Cllr. Mrs. Keeley should declare an interest with regard to Friday Furlong as she is an employee of Home Farm Trust. Cllr. Moore left the room. Cllr. Mrs. Keeley remarked that she considered Mr. Wilkes was out of order as she would have no financial gain and also HFT is not an immediate neighbour as the Greenacres site is in between. S.D.Cllr. Slaughter pointed out that Mr. Wilkes was an interested party and should not discuss the issue. Cllr. Moore rejoined the Meeting.

Mr. D. Walker enquired regarding the MRW site visit and was informed by W.C.Cllr.Barnes that the visit by the Inspectorate had taken place that morning from 11a.m. to 4p.m. but could not say how long it would be before any decision would be advised.

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

The Clerk was informed that items 4 and 15 should have been deleted from the Agenda some years ago and the whole Agenda amended.

The Clerk requested permission the mention the following as they did not appear on the Agenda and needed discussing:

1. Pole 8 Marleigh Road has been left permanently on by an engineer as it is not repairable. Cost of £180 for a replacement lantern to be queried with WCC.
2. Mrs. Honeybunn, Headteacher Bidford Primary has requested a Meeting with the Parish Council possibly at the start of the next School year in September.
3. Trees – High Street. Mr. Jason Tombs from WCC would like to arrange a meeting on site with interested parties to discuss what is happening to the trees by the wall. Agreed the Clerk should arrange the Meeting for 10.00 a.m. Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June.
4. Cheque signatories. The Clerk expressed concern that the signatories at present were 2 Councillors plus the Clerk. Two Councillors are usually available but should the Clerk be indisposed or on holiday no cheques could be issued. Agreed that the RFO should be a standby third signatory. Mandate to be amended accordingly.

## **5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2004 were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record.  
(Prop. Cllr. Langston. Sec. Cllr. Spiers)

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2004 were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record.  
(Prop. Cllr.Langston .Sec Cllr.Spiers)

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2004 to discuss the situation with regard to the land being offered to Warwickshire Rural Housing Association for a small-scale housing scheme for local people were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record.  
(Prop. Cllr.Langston. Sec. Cllr. Moore.)

## **6 POLICE MATTERS**

Apologies had been received from P.C.P.Gateley. Please refer to page 1 and Insp. Baileys remarks.

## **7 WORKING GROUPS**

The Chairman, Cllr. Hiscocks is a member of every Working Group

### **Planning**

All Members of the Council. No decisions to be taken unless there is a full Quorum (four)

### **Allotments, Burials and Churchyard**

Cllrs. Ms. Deacon, Cllr. Gerrard, Cllr. Langston, Cllr. Moore, Cllr.Spiers

### **Emergency**

Cllrs. Ms. Deacon, Mrs. Getgood, Cllr. Sandle, Cllr. Spiers

### **Amenities/Play Areas**

Cllr Mrs. Getgood, Cllr. Mrs. Irving, Cllr. Mrs. Keeley, Cllr. Gerrard, Cllr. Sandle.

### **Strategy**

All Members of the Council.

Working Group Leaders, terms of reference and delegated powers to be resolved at the first Group Meetings.

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

Clerk advised that in future these should be for information only or items on the Agenda.

1. Weeds/debris Waterloo Road. WCC cleared footpath, waiting for SWHA to clear the top of the wall.
2. The football boots hanging from the BT wire in Victoria Road are not the responsibility of BT to remove but the person who put them up there! BT will only remove if they are causing a fault on the line.
3. No replies received from Budgens or Texaco re. request for financial assistance for CCTV cameras.
4. Home composting initiative – 9 people attended.
5. Warwickshire Rural Community Council. The draft questionnaire received from Mr. Barlow had been distributed to all members of the Council for consideration. Cllr. Gerrard commented that as it had been two and a half years since a survey had been done it was an excellent idea and should be supported. The District Councillors reported that as SDC were looking at its own landholdings Mr. Barlow should be advised to contact Mr. Rob Weeks. It was agreed that the Survey should be carried out.

## **9 CORRESPONDENCE**

Available to interested members:

Trading Standards Service Open Day  
(Open Day on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> July at the Service Headquarters in Old Bud Brooke Road, Warwick. 10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m.)  
Arden Newsletter  
Countryside Voice CPRE  
Fieldwork

1. Mrs. Hammersley wrote requesting that the Cemetery gates be painted. Cllr. Langston to see Mr. H. Bennett.
2. Public Open Space Audit of the Main Rural Centres from SDC. Map to be inspected.
3. The Countryside Agency. Letter advising that a final grant payment for the Parish Plan of £1,098 will be paid shortly.
4. Local Network Fund. Details had been circulated to all local Youth Groups as this workshop regarding funding had taken place on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004.
5. Independent Inspection of Play Area(s). The Clerk had replied requesting the inspections as the form had to be returned to SDC by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2004.
6. Dog Waste bin in the pathway by the School. Letter of support received. The bin has been removed and re-sited in Glebe Close to replace the one burnt out. Only one complaint had been received with regard to its previous position by the School.
7. Notification of Change of Licence at One Stop, High Street.
8. The Shakespeare Hospice. Letter received regarding the Summer Fete to be held on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2004. at the NFU Mutual Sports Grounds in Tiddington.
9. Stratford Renal Unit. Summer Luncheon invitation for Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2004 to be held in Blythe House, Grange Road, Bidford-on-Avon.

10. The Countryside Agency. Countryside and Rights of Way ACT 2000. Request to put on public display an extract of the provisional map that covers the parish's administrative area.
11. WCC. Best value review of traffic management. Cllr. Gerrard had completed the questionnaire as it was due back before the meeting.
12. Highways Agency re: A46/M5/M50/A40 Route Management Strategy. Letter re. public consultations being held in various locations between 28<sup>th</sup> June 2004 and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2004. Map on display by Parish Office and leaflets available.
13. Ms. K.Jones from Barton raising concerns with regard to heavy goods vehicles, speed limits and signage in Barton. Ms. Jones to be advised that matters would be investigated in due course.
14. Bidford Youth Club. Notification of the AGM to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2004. It was agreed that members of the Council should attend to ascertain how the Parish Council could help the Management Committee.
15. WCC re Operation Ragwort 12<sup>th</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2004. Letter requesting assistance in raising public awareness regarding this poisonous plant. Leaflet on display by Parish Office and available for interested parties.
16. Breakthrough Breast Cancer. "Cover Britain in Crocuses". Agreed the Council should again support this campaign and send a donation of £38.00 for 1000 crocus bulbs to be given to the School or the Marleigh Road group.

## 10 ACCOUNTS

The following receipts were noted:

Perry Hatwell	£400.00
Campion & New	£145.00
David Baker	£145.00
Ms. E.J.Westcott	£135.00
Philip Tomlins Ltd.	£160.00

The following accounts were approved for payment.

Resolved that Cllr. Moore and Cllr. Mrs. Irving sign the cheques.  
(Prop. Cllr. Hiscocks. Sec. Cllr. Mrs. Keeley)

Please see the last page of these minutes for details of the accounts paid.

## 11 PROPOSED YOUTH MEETING POINTS

Saxonfields Residents Association had asked the Clerk to mention that they are against the siting of a Youth Shelter on the Stratford-on-Avon District Council car park. As seven houses are now going to be built 10 yards away from the proposed site this makes it even more unsuitable. £5,000 of damage to cars was done up High Street earlier this year and concern is expressed that similar damage would happen to cars parked in the car park. If it is proposed to site the shelter there contact should be made with the developers to advise them as it would possibly have an adverse effect on sales of the properties.

Meeting to be arranged with all relevant parties to discuss the siting of the Youth Shelter.

## **12 BIG MEADOW**

Mr. M. Smith had reported the following to the office:

1. One of the trees by the Play Area had been snapped off.
2. The Ladies toilet door has been kicked in again.
3. The drain from the Gents had been blocked up again. Mr. Smith had unfortunately had to pay two visits to Redditch Hospital following an accident unblocking the drain with his chimney rods and requested permission to purchase a set of proper drain rods from Bidford Hardware. This had been agreed by the Clerk and Cllr. Langston who was in the office when Mr. Smith made the request.
4. Mr. Smith also requested if new bins for Big Meadow could be considered as the fittings were not suitable. Cllr. Langston commented that he was not aware of anything that would be better.

Cllr. Gerrard had asked the Clerk to find out the correct address for Cheltenham Surfacing who had undertaken work at Salford Priors and the Greig Centre with a view to asking them to quote for the proposed Basketball Surface. Details as follows: Cheltenham Surfacing Co. Ltd. Myers Road, off Horton Road, Gloucester GL1 3PX. Tel: 01452 521108.

Mr. A. Smith, SMP Playgrounds, had contacted the Parish Office requesting a meeting with either Cllr. Mrs. Irving or Cllr. Hiscocks to discuss his quotation. Cllr. Mrs. Irving to contact.

Radar Key for the Disabled Toilet has been ordered.

## **13 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

The District Councillors reported as follows:

- The Bank. Some limited works are to be undertaken to improve the area although it is not in Public Ownership and there some legal issues to be addresses.
- High 5 and other initiatives for young people during the summer holidays. The Clerk had not received any information regarding High 5 but should contact S.D.Cllr. Pemberton. Cllr. Mrs. Irving advised that children and parents would be aware of all the initiatives available as leaflets etc. had been distributed via the Schools.
- D.Cllr. James mentioned the possibility of Bidford joining with Salford Priors for free transport to Stratford Swimming Pool.
- D.Cllr. Slaughter stated that the three District Councillors worked as a team which helped to achieve things.
- D.Cllr James raised the issue of Millers Bank/Kings Lane, Broom. The Parish Council agreed that a Meeting should be held on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> July (after the Youth Club AGM) in Broom to discuss the matter.

## **14 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

W.C.Cllr Barnes reported as follows:

- Following a complaint from Cllr. Mrs. Keeley he had visited High Street with Mr. R. Elbourne to inspect the drains which would be rodded and cleaned within the month. After talking to the Butcher it was understood that SDC workers swept debris into the drains.
- Barton speeding issue and weight limitations to be investigated and discussed.
- Following a conversation with the Clerk regarding the rubbish behind the Fire Station he had visited the site and arranged for the fence to be put back up to avoid any further abuse.
- Broom – there were to be two new traffic counts. One by the Post Office and the other by the bridge.
- There are a number of roads that need to be discussed.

Cllr. Mrs. Keeley brought to the attention of Cllr. Barnes the state of the hedges in the Parish. Cllr. Barnes requested that Cllr. Mrs. Keeley produce a list to be given to the Clerk who could advise him the following day and he could investigate who the offending hedges belonged to and rectify the matter.

## **15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Please see Item 4.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at approximately 10.00p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.

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