



opportunities, to which, disappointingly, not many youngsters had turned up. The Chairman added that the Youth Club has a number of activities going on and were prepared to allow their premises to be used more during the week, subject to supervision. However, this could only be done if there were sufficient numbers to justify this..

- There was also mention that the entrance to the Youth Club is dangerous due to its proximity to the Garage and Petrol Station and the Crawford Hall and it was agreed that clearer signs should be considered to ensure drivers are aware of the difference between the entrance to the petrol station and that of the Crawford Hall.
- The possibility of a cycle way was also brought up. The Chairman commented that this issue has been raised in the past and that perhaps the time had come for it to be raised again.

#### **REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

- Cllrs. Barnes had recently met Helene Toogood who has advised him that there are some grants available. The Youth Club has recently benefited from these, part of which has paid for the CCTV
- Review of the B439 – there will be a Public Meeting regarding this and issues regarding Salford Priors will be incorporated. Some schemes that have been put in place have been successful showing a reduction in the speeds.
- Cllr. Barnes advised that Alcester Police will be undergoing some refurbishments during which time there will be a policeman permanently stationed at Bidford who will also take care of Clifford Chambers and Welford
- The Energy Efficiency Advisory Centre at Wellesbourne can be contacted for information on improvement grants – Tel No. 0800 512012.
- WCC Planning officers have now visited the proposed sand and gravel site.
- It is now confirmed that the site behind the Fire Station will not be used for the proposed new surgery.
- Potholes on Victoria Rd. were being inspected and work would be carried out.

#### **REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

- Plastic recycling was being implemented; this would be phase din throughout the district. Currently SDC are looking for an appropriate site within the village and Cllrs. will be meeting with SDC officers to find an area that will be kept tidy and be well managed – the current site at the Anglo Saxon Car Park is a disgrace – badly managed and always untidy. It is also being used to dump normal refuse and green refuse, both of which are collected from residents' premises. It had also been noticed that refuse that could only come from either a pub or restaurant had been dumped. It was agreed that members of the Parish Council should be invited to attend the meeting between Cllrs. and SDC officers.
- Section 136 – Committee has sent a recommendation that further scrutiny be given to this at full Council.
- Planning Enforcement – Parish Councils' opinion is being sought and appropriate letter will soon be received to this effect

- Unauthorised signage on highways – there appears to be some doubt as to whose responsibility it is to remove this. In view of this both County and District will be looking into this.
- Overhanging trees – this matter has been passed on to the tree officer at SDC
- The Chairman requested SDC Cllrs. to ask for the ditch to be cleaned again.

The Chairman then opened the Parish Council Meeting

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Smith was unwell.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

All members of the Council are 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 prejudicial, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to improperly influence a decision about that matter.

- None
- All members confirmed there had been no changes in their declared interests since they took office in May 2004

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2005**

Proposed by Cllr. Sandle as being accurate and signed by the Chairman.

**4. REPORT OF MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- a) Dugdale Avenue – Clerk has chased WCC regarding the contract. Nothing received to date.  
The Clerk was advised to write to Peter Ridley at WCC regarding this.
- b) Museum – the clerk has responded to their letter and will continue correspondence  
It was resolved that the Clerk should request the Museum to produce two panels as suggested, at a cost of £300. The panels will take approx. 6 months to produce and will be the property of the Parish Council.
- c) Consulting and Involving young peoples in parishes in Warwickshire – sent to Youth Club for their information
- d) United Carriers site – SDC reported that the site had been secured. However, Members of the Council dispute this and instructed the Clerk to write to SDC advising that the site was still insecure, with access at the rear and that there was a hole in the area of the roller shutter.
- e) Section 136 – The clerk had written to SDC and had her letters acknowledged but has received no concrete reply. As reported above, the Ward Members have asked for the Full Council to review this.
- f) Broom traffic calming – The Clerk completed the Community Action on Traffic Speed Form (CATS) and will now wait for its assessment. In the meantime, she has requested more CATS packs for distribution within Broom.
- g) Warwickshire Rural Housing – it was agreed that Warwickshire Rural Community Council should issue a press release regarding Meeting the Housing Challenge in Bidford-on-Avon (full details of the report carried out by WRCC are available at the Parish Office and on the website : [www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk))

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE

### Correspondence

- a) SDC – Planning and Community Safety – Draft Planning Advice Note – circulated  
Community Sports Development Officer – Mobile Climbing Wall will be visiting Bidford on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August in the afternoon.  
Grass cutting – *the clerk to send details*  
Meeting Housing Needs – *documents being studied by a member of the Council*
- b) WALC – Newsletter May 2005 - circulated
- c) John Maples MP – Offering his support and assistance  
*The clerk was instructed to thank him and advise that he will be kept appropriately informed*
- d) DEFRA Re Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005
- e) David Wilson – Architectural and Surveying Services
- f) Ms. Karen Varga re –
  - i) Cycle racks in village – *money has been put aside by the Council for this. Suitable site to be agreed – to be discussed by the Amenities Group*
  - ii) overgrown footpaths – *WCC has been advised of the areas*
  - iii) litter - *the proposal was for a Litter Picking Day be organised in conjunction with the school. The Council advised this had been tried before to no avail. The Council does employ a person to collect litter – if there is any particular area that requires attention, the Clerk should be advised.*
  - iv) illegal Parking – *Regrettably since the decriminalization of parking the Police will not take action making it difficult to enforce.*
- g) The Royal British Legion – Annual Service and Parade on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July  
*The clerk was instructed to request 6/8 further places*
- h) Bidford Community Group – thanking the council for the donation
- i) Mrs. Kingston-Davis requesting a No Ball Games notice to be erected.  
*As the children playing ball games on the street is not illegal, there is nothing the Council can do. However, the clerk has been instructed to liaise with the Police to keep an eye on the situation.*
- j) 24 Grafton Lane would like to put a 2 ft picket fence on front garden and slabs in rear garden. SWHA had advised that they require PC authorization.  
*Subject to no legal impediments, the Council has no objections to this. The Clerk to advise SWHA accordingly.*

## 6. AVAILABLE FOR INTERESTED MEMBERS

- a) West Midland Regional Assembly – Speaking Out magazine
- b) CPRE – Countryside Voice, Fieldwork and Outlook magazines  
Annual Review 2004/5
- c) PIE Reports Quarter 4
- d) The Arden Newsletter Summer 2005
- e) Age Partnership Group – Be Ready magazine

## 7. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Chairman of the Finance Committee proposed the approval of the accounts. He mentioned there had been an alteration to the first draft presented – namely the inclusion of the Parish Meeting Room. He also mentioned that the large sums that

appear on the accounts relate to the refurbishment of the Crawford Hall and Bowling Club. He added that the recommended the capital reserve should be reinstated.

The Council approved the accounts.

#### **8. REVIEW OF THE ASSETS REGISTER**

It was resolved that 3 Members of the Council and the Clerk should carry out an accurate list of the Council's assets and make an Assets Register.

The Council also resolved to make an insurance assessment based on the Assets Register and on the basis of Best Value.

#### **9. RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Council resolved to authorize the Clerk to make a format for implementation of Risk Assessment

#### **10. ST. LAURENCE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

It was omitted in the Minutes referring to the Parish Council Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> March 2005, that the Council resolved to accept the quotation of £2,500 per annum from Limebridge Rural Services for the maintenance of St. Laurence Churchyard

#### **11. ADVERTISING BOARDS ON BRIDGE**

Members agreed that the number of boards on the corner of the bridge was excessive and created difficulties for pedestrians with buggies, wheelchairs etc. However, it was also accepted that it was essential for the shops of that part of the High St. to advertise as, otherwise, visitors to the Big Meadow remain unaware of their existence! The Clerk was instructed to find out the possibility and cost of putting up "brown signs". Once this information was obtained, the Clerk to write to the businesses and offer them this alternative.

#### **12. VILLAGE SPEED REVIEW – B439**

WCC is carrying out a review of all village roads that do not have 30 mph restriction. The B439 is the first to be reviewed and an exhibition/consultation takes place at the Crawford Hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June between 2.30 and 8.00 pm. Details were delivered to all properties in Bidford-on-Avon and posted on the website

#### **13. BIG MEADOW**

- a) Dumping – the clerk received a number of reports of dumping in the Big Meadow over the last month. One of the "dumps" included asbestos – a substance that requires special and safe disposal at a cost.
- b) Monie Meadow has now been registered in the Land Registry
- c) Bins – it was resolved that a further 5 bins should be ordered as reserve as some have been stolen/burnt etc. at a cost of £482.50 + VAT
- d) August Bank Holiday – as no positive response had been received from the various sports associations following the letter sent by the Council earlier in the year for a "Fitness Festival" event, it was resolved to abandon the scheme as unfeasible.
- e) Two letters had been received expressing concern regarding paracarting. The Clerk was instructed to look into the matter.

#### **14. BROOM TIP**

Following the meeting of Members of the Council, SDC Cllrs. and SDC the Parish Council is awaiting a proposal from SDC regarding terms and conditions. The Council has sent all the requested information to SDC.

Members of Broom Community have carried out a survey amongst the young of the

village to see what they would like installed on the play area. Once it has been collated, they will advise the Council.

#### **15. STREET LIGHTS**

The Council authorized the replacement of 8 The Leys.

The Council now awaits a list from WCC in respect of any further damaged street lights. Mention of Church Street was made.

A request for the street light at 18 Marleigh St. to be re-sited was considered; the Council will not object as long as the resident pays the cost of this.

#### **16. GRANTS**

3 letters had been received

a) Mark Smith – requested £100 towards the Vintage Weekend. This was authorized as the Council feels any event that encourages visitors to the Big Meadow should be encouraged

b) Twinning Ass. – Request for £500. The clerk was instructed to seek a meeting to establish the exact requirements.

c) Bidford Youth Club – Request for assistance toward new expansion project  
The Clerk was instructed to seek a meeting to discuss the requirements

#### **17. ACCOUNTS**

Purchases :	£14,382.36
Donations	750.00
Wages	1,692.50

Payments Received

Cemetery sales	£ 255.00
Interest	371.70
Car Parking	1,330.00
Allotment rents	22.40
Legal fees refund	170.00
Rates refund	386.10

It was resolved that Cllr. Gerrard and Sandle sign the cheques

Due to the sensitive nature of the next two items, members of the public and press were requested to leave.

#### **18. TENDERS FOR THE BUS SHELTER**

The Council resolved to accept the quotation of Mr. Mark Smith of £500 for clearing both bus shelters. The clerk to advise him accordingly.

#### **19. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

The Council resolved to offer the vacancy to Ms. Karen Varga and the clerk was instructed to write to her accordingly.

The Meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.