

4. YOUTH FORUM

There were no youngsters present

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Requests were made by residents from Broom and Marlcliff that householders who suffered from last year's flood be considered for the flood relief grant.
- A resident from Old Bridge Inn raised an issue regarding the Willow Tree, which has a Tree Preservation Order on it. He advised that it was dangerous and he wanted assistance in obtaining authorization to pollard it. The Chairman explained the Parish Council was not the Planning Authority, and that he should approach District Council, and suggested he talk to Cllr. James who was present at the meeting.
- A resident advised the Council that the two new flood culverts by the bridge – the construction of which had caused the bridge to be closed for 4 weeks – were, in his opinion a waste of money, as the pipes were some 3 ins. Lower than Monie Meadow field and would, therefore, not perform their job.

The Clerk agreed to contact WCC and have a site visit to discuss the issue.

6. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Barnes had sent his apologies.

7. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- At the Cabinet meeting held earlier that afternoon, it had been agreed NOT to impose charges in the car parks of Market Towns and Villages. Members expressed their delight that their objections had been noted and acted upon and thanked the Ward Members for their support.
- Details of a scam concerning the wheelie bins were given – hot off the press. It was stressed that SDC were NOT imposing fines on any resident and that this was a scam.
- From December 2009 a new housing system will come into operation. The current waiting list will be replaced by a points system – gold, silver, bronze plus and bronze – and you will only be able to apply for those in your colour scheme or below. This is being carried out in partnership with Worcester County Council and is already being used in other parts of the country.
Members expressed their doubts and concerns regarding this scheme.

The Chairman proposed a change in the order of the Agenda so that the first item under Point 15 – Planning Applications, be considered. This was unanimously carried.

15 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS -

To consider plans for 59 Westholme Road

Developers requested the Parish Council approve the new plans prior to sending them to the Planning Department at SDC. Members noted that their main concerns i.e. the height of the building, had been lowered and that the new plans were more in keeping with the current street scene

8. CLERK'S REPORT

This was read out for information purposes. Copy, which form part of the minutes, is attached hereto.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- **WCC**
 - Confirmation of a £500 grant towards the BIG newsletter – *noted*
 - Confirmation of a £465 grant towards picnic benches – *the Clerk advised this would be paid against invoices and that she would proceed to make the order for the picnic benches.*
- **SDC** – Confirmation of the Flooding Relief Grant - £3,200 (max. granted) As the amount of the grant was approx. 20% of the requested figure and would, therefore, not cover the expense of the agreed purchases, the Chairman proposed a meeting of the Emergency Working Group and representatives of Bidford, Broom and Marlcliff to discuss how to distribute the grant. This was carried and a meeting was arranged for Wednesday 26th November.
- **WALC**
 - Quality Status Parish Certificate - *noted*
 - Briefing letter on Banking Crisis – *noted as it did not apply*
 - Consultation on: Communities in control: Real people, real power, Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees: A consultation (circulated) Response required by 24th Dec. 2008 *Members agreed that they were satisfied with the contents of the Code of Conduct recently adopted in August 2007. It was proposed that no alterations were required. This was carried unanimously.*
- **Trustees of Alice, Duchess Dudley** – revised 5 year rent agreement (this follows a recent meeting with the Parish Council) *The agreement reached was to leave the rent for the next two years at the current figure of £9,390 per annum and then charge £10,000 per annum for the last three years, with the Parish Council having the opportunity of negotiating a further delay of one year should the adverse weather conditions remain. It was proposed this be accepted and this was carried.*

- **The Jennifer Trust** (Spinal Muscular Atrophy) To consider a request for financial assistance either by buying its Christmas Cards or donation (as agreed at the Sept. PC meeting)

The Clerk was instructed to request further details from this trust to establish its benefit to the local community.

10. CALENDAR ACTION – REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

These had been circulated to members who proposed just one change:

- 3.4 – the limit of the expenditure the Clerk may incur on behalf of the Council was increased from £500 to £1,000 net of VAT – to take into account the increase in costs since the regulations were adopted in 2004.

11. REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES, PLAY AREAS, YOUTH SHELTERS AND ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

- **To consider expenditure for new play equipment for Marleigh Park**

The Chairman of the Working Group advised that it had taken into account all the comments made by residents who attended the drop in session on 13th September and proposed:

- that the area should remain for under 11s
- 2 pieces of new equipment be added to freshen up the area namely
 - ✓ A Cone climber and
 - ✓ A Dragonfly reclined see-saw fitted with non bump mechanisms, suitable for special needs
- That a bench be installed to allow accompanying adults to sit whilst the children are playing.

The total cost of the play equipment, which included repairs to some existing pieces, was £8,638.00, a figure he proposed the council accept. The motion was carried.

- **To report on inspection of Kings Lane play area in Broom**

Some comments had been made which required a reply from the manufacturers/installers – ALL of them low risk. The Chairman of the Working Group advised it was satisfied and proposed the Council accept its report. This was carried.

12. BROOM TRAFFIC SURVEY

To consider the results of the recent speed survey details of which had been circulated to members.

As indicated by Traffic Projects, who carried out the survey, the Parish Council agreed interpretation of the results can be misleading. The Chairman proposed a meeting with Traffic Projects and Cllr. Barnes to discuss the figures and proposals that could be put forward to the Broom residents at the Parish Surgery, which was taking place in Broom on Saturday 22nd November, and the Parish Council Meeting also taking place in Broom, on 24th November.

The Clerk was instructed to arrange the meeting for 19th November @ 6.30 pm

13. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO REINSTATE A BUS SERVICE FROM BIDFORD TO MORETON INMARCH ONMARKET DAY

This service, used by some 12 residents, has recently been suspended. The Clerk advised that there would be no financial assistance from either Moreton in Marsh town Council or the Market organizers. The cost per trip would amount to £125. Members agreed this expense could not be justified in view of the very small number of residents that would benefit from it and the motion was not carried.

14. TO CONSIDER PUBLICATION OF GUIDANCE NOTES TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

A draft had been circulated to members the contents of which were approved.

15. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To consider plans for 59 Westholme Road submitted by developer -

This item had been moved to the beginning of the meeting

- **08/02331/FUL Mrs. Carolyn Cox Farmington Farm Georges Elm Lane**

The construction of a new general purpose building for use as a cereal store/housing livestock to replace existing unsound farm buildings

No representation

- **08/02573/TREE – Bidford on Avon Parish Council, Millers Bank Broom**

2 no. grey willow – coppice. 3 no. cracked willow : coppice

Applicant is the Parish Council

- **08/02620/LBC Mr. John Putman, 46 Tower Hill, B50 4DY**
Erection of three car garages and relocation of vehicular access
Subject to approval by the Conservation Department

- **08/02706/FUL Mr. Ernie Arkell, Avon Nest,, High Street**
Formation of first floor extension to the rear and side of dwelling changing the roof design to this area. Provision of balcony to front of house and external stairs to rear of house

No representation

- **For information – 07/03346/FUL M. Smith The Pony Meadow Honeybourne Road** – a appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate which will be dealt with at an Informal Hearing – date to be advised.

It was agreed the Parish Council would support the applicant

16. TO CONSIDER CLERK'S CONTRACT – due to the confidential nature of this item, members of the public may be requested to leave the room.

There were no members of the public. The Clerk left the room

The following was proposed and agreed:

- In accordance with the existing Contract, having obtained the Certificate in Local Council Administration there should be a one SCPoint increase to LC29
- As per the National Interim Salary Award for Local Council Clerks, both the Clerk and RFO's salary should be increased by 2.45% effective from 1st April 2008.

17.ACCOUNTS

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Councillors the list of DDM paid and noted

The Clerk advised that, following the approval of the Inspection Report of the Kings Lane play area, payment, which had been withheld, would now be settled

Purchases :	9,011.71
DDM	1,556.55
Wages:	2,064.61
Donation	25.00

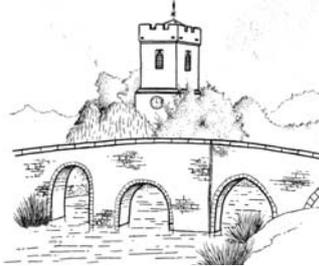
Payments Received	
Allotments	444.00

It was resolved Cllrs. Ms. Deacon and Hill sign the cheques

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



CLERKS REPORT OCTOBER 2008

- **MATTERS ARISING (for information only)**

- Off Street Parking – as instructed I have written to SDC with the Parish Council's comments opposing charges
- Ditch by the Anglo Saxon car park has been cleared of vegetation. It was found to have a lot of litter and I have requested a quotation to have this removed.

I have also requested a general tidy up ie. removal of weeds by the War Memorial, along the B439 pavement, along The Bank.etc.

- Streetlights – I understand the two streetlights installed to improve CCTV are in the process of being connected.
- As instructed, arrangements have been put in place for a temporary green waste recycling service. This will take place between the hours of 9.00 – 11.00 am at the Wards Lane Car Park (a.k.a as Court Way Car Park) off Bramley Way, on the following dates:

- Saturday 8th and 22nd November
- Saturday 17th January
- Saturday 7th and 21st March

Please note that the green waste will only be removed during these times and DO NOT LEAVE IN THE CAR PARK, as this will result in the IMMEDIATE suspension of this service.

- "This is an Alcohol Free Area" were ordered and collected to be installed, as resolved by the Parish Council in the play areas of:
 - Jubilee Close
 - Marleigh Park
 - Rear of the Fire Station

- **Local Community Forum** – the next meeting of the Alcester/Bidford Community Forum is on Tuesday November 18th at The Greig Hall, Alcester @ 6.00 pm. This will be preceded by a Safer Neighbourhood Safety Team (Police) Surgery at 5.00 pm
- **PHILLIS** – the next session, which is taking place on Saturday 15th November between 10.00 am – 12.00 noon at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way, is BASIC FIRST AID
- **Parish Council Surgery** – the next surgery is being held in Broom Village Hall on Saturday 22nd November between 10.00 -11.30 am.