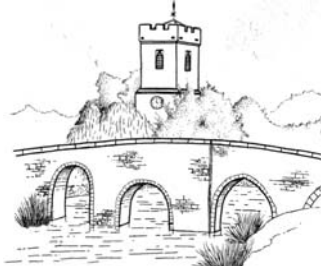


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL
In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2009 @ 7.30pm at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way.

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Mrs. Keeley
Cllrs. Ms. Deacon, Gerrard, Hendey, Hiscocks, Langston,
 Sandle, Spiers and Williams

Also present. County Cllr. Barnes,
 District Cllrs. James and Slaughter
 1 members of the public

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

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. Hill

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION TO INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

All members of the Council are respectfully reminded that in order to comply with the Code of conducted adopted by the Parish Council on 20th August 2007 if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have Declared an Interest which could be personal or prejudicial they should declare so and leave the room.

Cllr. Williams declared an interest in item 12 (payment of allotment fees)

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH JANUARY 2009

Cllr. Ms. Deacon proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate and they were signed by the Chairman.

4. YOUTH FORUM

There were no youngsters present

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- A resident from Broom drew the Council's attention to the amount of litter.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- The Clerk to liaise with Street Scene
- The Clerk should write to the nursery

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- Budget meeting took place on 3rd February
- There will be no fire station closures up to 2012, when it will be reviewed
- Most of the 50 mph signs along the B439 have been installed. It is hoped this will reduce the number of accidents as have been proved in other areas where this measure has been implemented.

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- Budget – after lengthy discussions and various proposals, an increase of 3.5% has been agreed
- There has been a freeze on councilors allowance for the forthcoming year
- A single planning committee has been agreed – working group is being set up to consider the arrangements
- Despite press statements, there will be no charge for the two green recycling bins this year. Charges will be made for a third bin.

8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

This had been circulated to councilors for their information and is attached to these Minutes

9. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- WCC – The "Right to Roam" in Warwickshire leaflets – **Noted**
- WALC – Legal Briefing on The Power to promote Well Being (circulated) ***The clerk advised she had raised some questions and was awaiting a reply from WALC. She advised it would be better to have this information before discussing the issue further.***
- Broom Action Group – thank you letter. **Noted**

10. TO REVIEW AND RE APPOINT THE INTERNAL AUDITOR

The council agreed that the internal auditor was:

- Competent (she is an accountant as well as a councilor of her local parish council)
- Independent – she has no connection with any councilor, nor with the Clerk or RFO

- Thorough – her reports and recommendations show she has carried out a detailed audit.

The Chairman of the Finance and Strategy Committee proposed the internal auditor be reappointed

The Council was unanimous in supporting the proposal and it was **RESOLVED** to reappoint the internal auditor.

11. TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A PARISH COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION CRITERIA AND FORM (CIRCULATED)

Councillors approved the criteria and application form and it was **RESOLVED** to adopt them.

12. TO CONSIDER CHANGING ALLOTMENT PAYMENT SYSTEM FROM *IN ARREARS TO IN ADVANCE*

Cllr. Williams, who had declared an interest, did not participate in the discussions.

It was **RESOLVED** to change the payment system as proposed.

13. TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF A FINANCIAL WORKING GROUP TO REGULARLY REVIEW THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

The Chairman proposed this be carried out as she felt it was a good internal control mechanism.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs. Gerrard (Chairman of the Finance and Strategy Committee); Hiscocks (Vice Chairman of the Council) and Mrs. Keeley (Chairman of the Council)

14. TO CONSIDER QUOTATION FOR ARBORICULTURAL WORKS AT MILLERS BANK - £1,850

The quotation was for the felling of 3 willows and coppicing of 4 willows – some work to be carried out close to some power lines. Authorization from Stratford District Council had been granted.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the quotation

15. TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR THE PLAY AREA IN MILLERS BANK

The area becomes very slippery when it floods – some 7 times a year.

Councillors took into consideration the fact that a flood defence is being erected later this year and its effects should be looked at before any major expense in the area be considered.

It was **RESOLVED** that an appropriate warning sign be erected and the issue reconsidered once the flood defence and any work Severn Trent may carry out in the area be completed.

16. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL GRANTS:

- **Warwickshire Police** – for the purchase of a bicycle for the use of the PCSOs in Bidford – cost £805 -900

After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** not to give the grant (2 voted for the grant 7 against)

- **Sport Association** – grant of £46.05 to purchase material to repair the fence.

It was **RESOLVED** to give this grant

17. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTH'S PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS

Purchases : £9,181.75

DDM 3,333.57

Wages: 3,116.18

Payments Received

Allotments £ 10.00

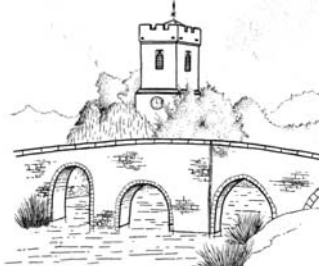
Cemetery: 115.00

It was **RESOLVED** Cllrs. Ms. Deacon and Langstone sign the cheques

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

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CLERKS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2009

- **MATTERS ARISING (for information only)**
 - Grit bin purchased –
 - Precept sent to SDC
 - Agreement of Street lighting maintenance contract advised

- **BROOM FLOOD DEFENCE**

Following the issue raised at the Alcester/Bidford Local Community Forum and by the Broom Action Group, I have requested both County and District Council to look into the issue of “ponding” at the bottom of Mill Lane and to the responsibility of Severn Trent in the area.

- **BROOM TRAFFIC CALMING**

Stratford on Avon Area Transport Capital Seminar approved the scheme at a cost of £4,120.00 as presented by WCC. This will now have to be endorsed by the Area Committee Meeting in March and by Cabinet in April.
Work will only be allowed to start once the final approval is granted.

- **ALCESTER AND BIDFORD COMMUNITY FORUM**

The meeting on Tuesday 10th February at 6.00 pm at the Crawford Memorial Hall was quite lively, especially concerning the issue of flooding and how all parties should work together to create a more holistic approach. The importance of the current consultation of the Core Strategy Framework was raised, as it was felt that greater importance should be given to the planning authorities to ensure the risks of flooding are minimized when granting permission, especially in the case of larger developments which can not only affect the area close by, but have consequences in other areas.

It was also interesting to note the reduction in the anti-social behaviour offences in the area by almost 50%.

- **REFUSE AND RECYCLING APRIL 2009**

SDC organized a Road Show at Budgens on Saturdays 21st February wher officers were available to give advise as to how the new system, effective from 6th April 12009, will operate. Details are available on the website: www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk/notices.htm#n080 and will also be given in the next issue of The Connection which is delivered to all households in the parish

- **MEETINGS ;**

- **Planning Committee Meeting** is on Monday 9th March 2009 @ 7.30pm
- **Parish Council Meeting** is on Monday 30th March 2009 @ 7.30 pm
- **Parish Council Surgery** – Saturday 21st March 2009 – 10.00 – 11.30 am

All the above held at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way