



#### **4. YOUTH FORUM**

- They had looked at the skate park proposals, which were being exhibited together with proposals to update the Big Meadow Play Area, and had made their comments: they would prefer a half pipe with a spike
- Requested a single goal post for the playing fields at the rear of Dugdale Avenue: portable or fixed.

*The Chairman replied that the Council would look at this request and report back at the next Parish Council meeting in November.*

The youngsters thanked the Council and decided to stay a little longer

#### **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

- Resident campaigning for a pedestrian south of Bidford Bridge wished to know how much the Parish Council would be prepared to pay towards the cost of its installation.

The Council reconfirmed its decision taken at the September Parish Council Meeting that this was an County Highways issue; if it deemed there was a requirement for a pedestrian crossing, then it should pay for it, not the Parish Council.

Cllr. Pemberton advised that County Cllr. Barnes was putting in a request for a 50% contribution from WCC at its meeting in February 2010.

- Residents involved in the Bidford Fire Station campaign advised they were planning a march in Bidford for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November, starting at 10.30 am at the Fire Station.

They were also considering sending a petition; although they are aware that petitions are less forceful than letters, they felt many of the elderly may not have the opportunity to complete a form and it is hoped a petition will have some impact

#### **6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr. Barnes had sent in his apologies.

#### **7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

- Cllr. James, referring to the Fire and Rescue Service consultation, advised that:
  - Chief Fire Officer Smith is listening, so it is important to reply to the consultation.
  - There may be some changes to the consultation document
  - The Motion put forward at the SDC Council meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in respect of the Fire and Rescue Service Consultation, and asking SDC to debate the issue and make representation had been successful, and a representation opposing the closures was sent. It was noted that the county councillors abstained.
  - There will be a special West Area Committee meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30 at St. Benedicts, Alcester where the issue will be discussed – this will be after the One Issue Local Community Forum held in Bidford on 10<sup>th</sup> November @ 7.00 pm at the Crawford Memorial Hall

- The Planning meeting to discuss the development of Long Marston was cancelled at 3.03 pm (all members were already in the coach!) due to procedural reasons: it appears two neighbouring councils had not been consulted and the Ward Members had raised this as an issue. The other big development to be brought before the Planning Committee will be Tesco at Southam.

#### **8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

This had been circulated to Councillors for their information, which it noted and is attached to these Minutes.

Of special note was the cost of the damaged streetlights on Wards Lane Car Park. It was proposed that if the Police were able to identify the culprits, they should be asked to contribute to the cost of the emergency calls and the replacement lanterns (£235 each).

**RESOLVED** to liaise with the Police

#### **9. TO RECEIVE/CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- **WCC** - Winter Maintenance in Warwickshire 2009/10 – Primary Gritting Routes.  
**NOTED** – to be displayed for residents
- **SDC** – Independent Inspection of Play Areas – confirmation this will take place during the second week of November  
**NOTED**
- **Age Concern** – various leaflets and an offer to attend any meeting which the Council would feel would benefit from a talk or presentation on the services.  
**NOTED** given to the chairman of SCAN
- **CPRE** – October Newsletter (circulated)  
**NOTED**
- Letter from resident regarding various issues (circulated with draft response)  
Proposed draft reply approved. **RESOLVED** the Clerk to send the reply
- Thank you letter received from WRVS/Westholme Court Luncheon Club  
**NOTED**

#### **10. BIDFORD FIRE STATION; TO RECEIVE/CONSIDER**

Response from WCC to the various requests raised by the Parish Council following the September Parish Council meeting (circulated)

Members noted the response received and were disappointed that the issues raised had not been addressed.

It was proposed and **RESOLVED** the response would be posted on the website

#### **11. TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT THE GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF COMMUNITY COMPUTERS**

A draft, which had been drawn up in consultation with WCC, had been circulated. It was proposed and **RESOLVED** the Guideline be adopted.

**12. TO REVIEW THE CLOSING OF THE GATE TO THE YOUTH SHELTER SITE**

Currently the gate is closed at 10.00 pm the clerk had consulted with the Police who suggest the time not be changed.

**RESOLVED** to continue with the present times and review the issue again in April 2010

**13. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT REGARDING A VISIT TO BIDFORD-ON-AVON BY A JAPANESE DELEGATION FROM AKITA**

The verbal report was made by Cllr. Gerrard, who had hosted the meeting together with Cllrs. Mrs. Keeley and Langston and the Village Liaison Officer, Heather Gerrard. They believe the Delegation left very satisfied with the meeting. The Report was **NOTED**

**14. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- **09/01971/FUL – Mr and Mrs. Johnson Field Gate, Tower Hill,**  
Single storey extension to front. Replacement single storey conservatory/sun room extension to rear  
*No representation*
- **09/02053/FUL – Sylvia Developments Ltd, Barton Moorings, Welford Road, Barton**  
Replacement dwelling for marina manager, new toilet block/bat roost and proposed footpath link  
*No representation*

**15. TO CONSIDER FILLING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY – BIDFORD WARD**

Due to the sensitive nature of this item, the Chairman proposed to exclude members of the public.

**RESOLVED** to exclude members of the public

**RESOLVED** to invite Mrs. Christine Getgood to become a Parish Councillor

**16. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTHS PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Council that cheque No. 4845 to Bidford Sports Club for £46.05. dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, had not been presented and had therefore run out of time.

**RESOLVED** : to reissue the cheque to be signed at the next Parish Council meeting in November.

The Clerk advised the Council that there had been an improvement in the takings at the Big Meadow which had increased by some 46% on last year (which had, of course, been a VERY bad year)

<b>Purchases :</b>	£ 5,130.11
DDM	922.37
Wages:	2,262.63
Donation	250.00

**Payments Received:**

Big Meadow fees	£1,220.00
Grant from WALC	500.00
Cemetery charges	255.00
Allotment rent	22.00
Photocopying	1.50

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts and that Cllrs. Mrs. Keeley and Langston sign the cheques.

The meeting closed at approx. 8.40 pm

# BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

## In the County of Warwickshire



### CLERKS REPORT - OCTOBER 2009

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

- A site, called Save our Fire Station, has been set up within the Parish Council's website where all the information regarding this campaign can be found.
- WALC has been advised that the Parish Council would like the Clerk to continue to represent it at the County Council Committee
- Information regarding Local Councils and Youth Provision has been downloaded from the NALC website. It is entitled "Whatever, yeah". Copies are available.
- Sustainable Communities Act – a question asking District Council (SDC) to reconsider adopting the Act in the interests of the parishes and communities of the District as a method on engagement and enhancing democracy to the benefit of both tiers of government and the many they represent.  
SDC replied that Cabinet had considered opting-in to the Act but considered the Council did not have the capacity to support the opt-ion process. The Parish Council was not satisfied with this reply as it does not believe SDC is fulfilling its duties as a Best Value Council under trhe LGA 1999 regarding its duty to involve, and asked for assurances that SDC would give serious consideration to reviewing this. On behalf of SDC, Cllr. Mike Brain gave his assurances that this would be done.  
I should like to thank my colleague, the Clerk to Wixford Parish Council, for her assistance in this.
- Pedestrian Crossing at Bidford Bridge – reply receied from WCC that the timing of the traffic lights is in accordance with the relevant design standards.

- **STREET LIGHTING – WARDS LANE CAR PARK**

Two street lights on this car park have been vandalised, causing the lanterns to “hang” free from the poles. This is considered dangerous and requires emergency call out at a cost of approx. £92.42 each time, which I have had to authorise both times.

- **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

As power to the Christmas lights is obtained from streetlights for which the Parish Council is responsible, an inventory of the amount of unmetered electricity consumed by these lights has had to be made and given to Central Networks who have raised the appropriate Certificate for Unmetered Electricity Supply. The cost will be approx. £165 in total and should be invoiced separately.

- **MEETINGS**

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009 @ 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting (Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way)
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 @ 7.00 pm Local Community Forum – Single Issue: Fire and Rescue Service. Cllr. Hobbs will be attending (Crawford Memorial Hall)
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2009 10.00 – 11.30 am Parish Council Surgery (Broom Village Hall)
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009 @ 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting (Broom Village Hall)