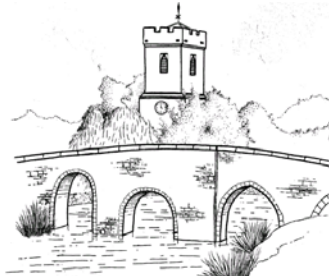


# BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

## In the County of Warwickshire



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way @ 7.30 pm**

### **PRESENT**

Chairman Cllr. Hiscocks  
Cllrs. Gerrard, Mrs. Getgood, Hendey, Mrs. Keeley, Langston, Sandle and Spiers

Also present. County Cllr. Barnes  
District Cllr. Slaughter (Cllr. James had sent his apologies)  
4 members of the public and 1 member of the press

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

Before the start of the meeting, the Chairman extended his thanks to the Bidford Support Group for the excellent campaign "Save our Fire Station" which had resulted in Bidford Fire Station remaining open

### **1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES**

*Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs. Hill and Williams*

### **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 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
*None declared*

### **3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

Cllr. Mrs. Keeley proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate

**RESOLVED** that Minutes should be approved and signed by the Chairman

### **4. YOUTH FORUM**

There were no youngsters present

### **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

- The rubbish on Jubilee Close car park, which had first been reported in February, had still not been removed.  
The Clerk advised she had contacted Orbit on a number of occasions regarding this, obviously to no avail. It would be reported once again.
- The state of various sites along the Waterloo Road were a disgrace to the village, namely:
  - Old Geodis site
  - Friday Furlong
  - Wharrad Close
- Would the Parish Council consider installing an all weather football pitch?  
The Chairman replied that there were no funds for this year as they had all been used for the Big Meadow refurbishment, as budgeted. However residents were welcome to put forward their requests at the preliminary Budget Meeting that would take place in October/November, and the Parish Council would take these into consideration when setting the precept for 2011/12.

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

- Fire Station – it had been a good result and thanks were given to the Bidford Support Group. Cllr. Barnes added that he had concentrated on the flood aspect during his speech at the County Council Meeting, as it was clear that Chief Fire Officer Smith had not been aware of its extent until pointed out to him during a meeting.  
He had proposed that Option C be put forward, as this would have possibly saved Studley, but the Councillor for Studley would not second it
- Stagecoach – Cllr. Barnes had attended an event to launch the new fleet of buses, together with the Chairman of Bidford Parish Council and the Vice Chairman of Salford Priors PC.  
There had been a 67% increase in the use of the number 28 bus since it increased to one every 30 minutes
- Due to financial pressure within County Council the care homes within the county would be sold over the next 3 years.

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

- Discussions were continuing regarding senior members sharing duties with colleagues of other councils
- There are funds available for small shops in rural areas to apply for grants of up to £500 to assist purchases which will improve and add value to the business.

Cllr. Barnes left the meeting

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

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

The Chairman read out the item regarding Bidford Fire Station, and the Clerk added the message that had since been received from Mr. N. Zahawi MP.

The Clerk pointed out the issue of speeding and that residents with speeding issues should attend the Local Community Forums and bring these up.

**RESOLVED** to note the contents of the Clerk's report

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

- **WCC** Changes to Social Care – consultation dates and venues  
**RESOLVED** the Clerk to post these on the notice boards and other places frequented by elderly residents.
- **SDC** Letter from Liam Nevin re the Standards and Ethics Committee decision regarding Parish Council nominations  
**RESOLVED** to note the contents
- **WALC** Update from NALC regarding political developments within the sector (circulated)  
**RESOLVED** to note the contents
- **CPRE** June newsletter (circulated)  
**RESOLVED** to note the contents
- **Bidford and District History Society** Thank you letter  
**RESOLVED** to note the contents
- **Resident** – Bidford Fire Station – As requested by the resident this was read out and the contents were **NOTED**

## **10. TO CONSIDER UPDATE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REGARDING MARLCLIFF ALLEVIATION PROJECT**

This was read out and it was **NOTED** that it was following the same structures in Broom, with consultations with landowners followed by consultations and drop in sessions with residents.

## **11. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE EXTENDING THE FREE ADVERTISING TO ALL BUSINESSES IN BIDFORD AND REMOVE THE THREE MONTH TRIAL PERIOD**

The Chairman advised that following the meeting the Parish Council had held with some shop owners, when the development of the website was one of the objectives, he would propose to offer the free advertising to all businesses with Bidford.

**RESOLVED** to extend the offer to all businesses and remove the trial period.

**12. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM YOUNGSTERS TO LEVEL THE GROUND OF THE SITE ON THE LEYS SO THAT THEY CAN PLAY "PROPER" FOOTBALL**

This request had been brought to the attention of the Bidford Youth Action Group by the Outreach Workers.

**RESOLVED** the Clerk to obtain quotations for this work

**13. TO APPROVE EXPENDITURE TO COVER THE COSTS OF AN EVENT TO THANK THE PEOPLE OF BIDFORD FOR THE SUCCESSFUL "SAVE OUR FIRE STATION" CAMPAIGN**

The Chairman of the Finance and Strategy Committee proposed an expenditure of £250 under the LGA 1972 S145

This was considered to be on the low side by another member of the Council who proposed an amendment increasing the amount to £400.

**RESOLVED** the amendment was approved by a majority of 7

It was also **RESOLVED** to liaise with the Bidford Support Group to make the necessary arrangements

**14. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE COST OF HIRING A PLANNING CONSULTANT TO ASSIST THE PARISH COUNCIL IN ITS DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THE CORE STRATEGY (PLANNING) @ £60 AN HOUR**

Members discussed the advantages of having a person with considerable knowledge of planning, especially in the Stratford District Council Area at a time when planning laws are fluctuating and the issue in question is the increased development within Bidford, which most residents oppose.

In view of this, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the consultant fees.

**15. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE COST OF SOME CARDS FOR THE CLERK (APPROX. COST OF £50 FOR 200)**

The Clerk explained that it would be a good idea to be able to distribute cards to members of the local community and to other visitors as a way of increasing communication.

**RESOLVED** to approve the expense.

**16. TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL REGULAR DONATIONS TO BE PAID IN AUGUST (details circulated)**

The Chairman of the Finance and Strategy Committee proposed an increase in the contribution to the Citizen's Advice Bureau, which was receiving many more referrals in the current economic climate, to £200. It was also proposed that the donation to the Renal Unit cease following receipt of their letter stating that, although they appreciated the donations, there was no longer a need and others may benefit more.

**RESOLVED:**

- To increase the donation to CAB to £200
- To cease the £100 donation to the Renal Unit
- All other contributions to remain the same, including WRVS as Darby and Joan are affiliated.

**17. TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT FROM THE CLERK RE THE TOURIST EVENT IN STRATFORD RACECOURSE ON 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**  
**NOTED**

**18. TO RECEIVE FINAL REPORT OF THE BIG MEADOW RECREATIONAL AREA (circulated)**

**RESOLVED** to note the report. It was also noted that the refurbishment had been a great success and had received many compliments.

**19. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SKATEPARK**

It was **NOTED** that the consent application form and all enclosures had been sent to the Environment Agency and everything is ready to start when this is received.

It was suggested the top soil that will be removed when the ground work is carried out be used for The Leys.

**20. TO CONSIDER HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE JOINT APPROACH TO ENFORCEMENT FOLLOWING MEETING IN TANWORTH (circulated)**

Some of the issues mentioned had already been raised by the Parish Council in its recent letter to Paul Lankester (CEO at SDC). It was proposed that a further letter be sent as it was clear there was a problem with the Planning/Enforcement dept. at District Council and the more letters received, the better the chance of something being done.

**RESOLVED** The Clerk to send a letter, with copies to appropriate MPs and Ward Members, pointing out the issues that concern the Council in respect of Planning/Enforcement.

**21. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- **10/01208/VARY – Daniel Broadhurst, Bidford Grange golf Club, Bidford Grange, Stratford Road**

variation of condition 3 on S88/02423 to allow use as serviced apartments (change from Holiday Let)

After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** to submit No representation

- **10/01246/FUL – P. Scully, Avon Farm, Welford Road, Barton**  
Replacement dwelling

**RESOLVED** to submit the same response as on the previous occasion:

- The Parish Council has no objection to the replacement dwelling; It strongly believes a condition should be imposed with regards to the boundary hedge, to ensure the character of the hamlet is maintained. The hedge **MUST** be maintained and laid: no other type of boundary to be permitted.

- **SDC/10CC039 Warwickshire County Council, Broom Farm, Land off Georges Elm Lane, B50 4JR**

The construction of a general purpose building on Broom Farm using materials salvaged from a dismantled covered cattle yard.

**RESOLVED** to submit No representation

## 22. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTHS PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTS

The Clerk pointed out the following:

- Payment of £190 for the hiring of a coach to take local residents to Shire Hall to attend the Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July was being paid under the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 S31
- Due to a problem with the matting installed on the Big Meadow, it had lifted in the dry weather and, although it has been repaired a retention of approx. £5,000 was recommended and agreed, until the Council is fully satisfied it would not occur again.

Purchases :	£20,357.00
Wages:	2,369.61
Grant	<u>500.00</u>
(as per cheque list)	£23,226.61
DDM	<u>709.28</u>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£23,935.89</b>

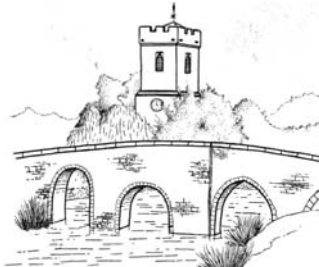
Payments Received	
Grant (Play Build)	£37,500.00
Allotments	16.50
Burial fees	<u>655.00</u>
<b>Total received</b>	<b>£38,171.50</b>

Amount transferred from the current account to the investment account £15,000

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

**a BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**In the County of Warwickshire**



**CLERKS REPORT - JULY 2010**

• **BIDFORD FIRE STATION**

31 residents, including Parish Councillors and members of the Bidford Support Group, went to Shire Hall on the morning of 20<sup>th</sup> July to attend the County Council Meeting to hear the fate of Bidford Fire Station.

There were three available options, all of which fulfilled the requirements of the Chief Fire Officer for a “fitter and stronger fire and rescue service”

- **Option A**, which appeared to be the CFO’s preferred option, would close Bidford, Brinklow, Studley and Warwick
- **Option B**, which was the one recommended by the Cabinet, would close Brinklow, Studley and Warwick; but Bidford would be saved
- **Option C**, which was in effect the Bidford Local Solution, would close Brinklow and Warwick; and save both Bidford and Studley.

Much was said during the meeting about the fact that the Cabinet was recommending Option B when it Option A was the CFO’s preferred option: it would appear that the reason for this was that the Cabinet was impressed by the extremely well run Bidford Campaign, the excellent presentation made by the Bidford Support Group and by the impressive response of the local community. And, of course, the support of our MP, Mr. Zahawi, represented by his researcher Simon McIntyre, and our County Councillor Peter Barnes. So, thanks to all for saving Bidford Fire Station, its retained fire fighters and its Young Fire Fighters, and let us hope it is many years before we have to go through that again! And thanks to those residents who made the effort to be at the Crawford Memorial Hall car park at 8.00 am to go to Shire Hall: you made Bidford proud sitting, as you were, in prime position in the gallery where County Councillors could not but see you!!

- **BIDFORD YOUTH ACTION GROUP (BYA)** – at its meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July, it was advised that there will be a Mobile Youth Bus coming to Bidford following a recent visit by Youth Outreach Workers.
- **HIGH STREET BUSINESSES** – The Parish Council met with some representatives of the High street shops to discuss how to work together to increase the footfall on the High Street and help increase their business. It was agreed to concentrate on 3 things:
  - Signs alerting visitors to the High Street and it what it has to offer
  - Tourist map showing the High Street and shops advertising to be erected on the Big Meadow and the car park
  - Invite ALL business to advertise on the Parish Council’s website free of charge to make it a more prominent, **Commercial Bidford Site**
 It was noted that the Big Meadow refurbishment, together with the good weather, had made an improvement.
- **SPEEDAWARE** – the Parish Council is receiving an increasing number of requests for speeds to be checked along certain roads.
  - Cleeve Road, Marlcliff – results show average speed are 40.4 mph which shows on the whole drivers are complying with speed limit
  - Salford Road (40 mph) – results show speeds of traffic heading NE are 40.5 mph and SW 45 mph indicating possible problems in SW direction. In view of this a full survey has been requested.
  - The Leys – no results to date
 In view of the numbers of request, SpeedAware suggest that anyone concerned about possible speeding along a certain road, attend the Local Community Forums and raise the issue as there is a scheme called Community SpeedWatch run by volunteers supported by Warwickshire Police.  
 Another options is the stickers on the wheelie bins.
- **MEETINGS**
  - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2010 @ 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
  - Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2010 @ 7.30 pm – Parish Council meeting

All the above meetings are held at the Parish Council Meeting room, Bramley Way unless otherwise specified