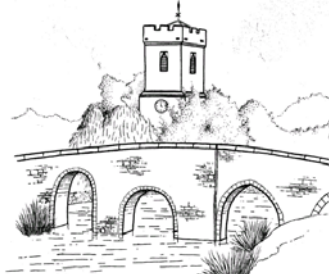


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27th September 2010 at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way @ 7.30 pm

PRESENT

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

Also present: District Cllrs. James and Slaughter (Apologies sent by Cllr. Pemberton
1 member of the public

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

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

None

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. Mrs. Getgood declared an interest in Planning Application 10/101763/FUL as she is a neighbour of the applicant*
- *Cllr. Gerrard declared and interest in Planning Application 10/01962/TREE as he is also affected by the trees in question*

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 23RD AUGUST 2010

Cllr. Langston 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

Resident raised concern about an article in the Stratford Herald where the Chief Fire Officer, upon being asked if Bidford Fire Station was now safe, had replied that "there can be no absolute guarantees"

The Clerk advised that the issue of the Fire stations had been raised at the last Community Forum, and Cllr. Hobbs had advised that the implementation of the agreed plan was being discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and he would report back on these at the Community Forum taking place on 7th December. At no stage did he say that there were any changes to the agreed plan

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Barnes was not present

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- **Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service** – the West Area Committee was inviting the Chief Fire Officer to attend as there were still concerns, especially from Studley who are still campaigning to save its fire station, and have raised the comments made by Hereford & Worcs. FRS as reason to rethink as its plans include the closure of Redditch Fire Station, which would leave Studley with little or no cover.
- **Alcester/Bidford Community Forum**
 - a request was made to vary the conditions of S106 of the Long Marston Agreement, to enable the installation of weight restriction enforcement cameras on Bidford and Welford Bridges, cost of £50,000. This has been agreed subject to approval by the Planning Committee
 - Three policing priorities are:
 - ✓ Speeding in Luddington
 - ✓ Speeding in Welford
 - ✓ Anti Social Behaviour whilst driving (bad language or gestures, cutting in, driving with loud music etc.). There is no requirement for tickets etc. vehicles can be confiscated immediately
- Local Development Framework (LDF) group has been re-established and will hold its first meeting later in the week.
 - It will need to establish an interim housing requirement figure to 2025 which will be approx. 5,000
 - Gypsy and Travellers Policy will also be discussed, but it will be separate from the LDF so as not to slow down the progress of the latter.

- Planning Enforcement is being seriously looked at to see how it can improve and a series of road shows will start shortly.
There are 600/700 complaints a year and 62% of these are persistent offenders. SDC is working together with Coventry City Council to reduce this persistent offending by using the Crime and Disorder Act as it appears that fines of £20,000 do not appear to be effective.

8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

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

The Chairman of the Finance and Strategy Committee drew attention to the reply made by the Parish Council to the consultation on the Council Tax Referendum. He proposed that members should come with their "wish list" for the meeting of 11th October, when a date for the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting could be arranged.

RESOLVED : Members noted the reply made on the consultation and agreed to bring their "wish lists" to the meeting of 11th October and then set a date for the Finance & Strategy committee meeting.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the Clerk's report

9. TO RECEIVE/CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- **WCC** -
 - Concessionary Travel Consultation (this has been posted on the Parish Council's website)
the issue was raised that although WCC had carried out the consultation in law, in no way could it be considered a consultation in spirit. The way it was advertised ensured only a minority of users of concessionary travel would be aware of the consultation and even fewer be able to reply to it.
RESOLVED: to note that although WCC had carried out a consultation, it could in no way be considered one that has given the opportunity to those who most use concessionary travel.
The Chairman would reply to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council
 - Reply re ghost island at junction of B439/Victoria Road
WCC
Traffic Projects have advised that the budget for minor traffic management schemes is fully committed for this financial year and the Parish Council's request had been recorded and will be further investigated at a later date when funding becomes available.
RESOLVED to note the reply
- **SDC** - Litter Bin and Dog Waste Bin protocol (circulated)
NOTED
- **WALC** :
 - Local (Parish & Town) Council elections 2011- reply from NALC (circulated)
NOTED

- Employment Briefing – Local Government Pay 2010/11 and 2011/12 (circulated)

NOTED

- Legal Briefing (The independence of Parish Councils' Internal Audit) (circulated)

The Chairman of the Finance and Strategy (F & S) Committee advised the Council that

- ✓ He was fully satisfied with the independence of the Internal Auditor;
- ✓ He believed she carried out her work diligently
- ✓ It was good discipline for the Parish Council to have an annual internal audit

RESOLVED to note the briefing and accept the comments made by the Chairman of the F& S Committee

- Policy consultation – Changes to Big Lottery Funding (circulated)

NOTED

- Invitation to a Free Regional Seminar for Quality Status Councils Mon. 4th Oct. 9.30 am – 3.00 pm St. Philip's Place, B'ham
the Clerk advised this had now been cancelled and postponed to February 2011.

NOTED

- **Environment Agency** – update on Marlcliff

NOTED

- **CPRE-** newsletters (circulated)

NOTED

- **Letter from resident** expressing concern about the lack of civic pride in Bidford and what can be done to improve the look of the village.

NOTED

- **Thank you letters** from various charities for the donations made by the Parish Council

NOTED the Chairman added it was appreciated when thank you letters were received.

10. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM EXTERNAL AUDITORS RE ANNUAL REPORT

An unqualified audit opinion had been received following satisfactory reply to the questions raised.

RESOLVED to note the report.

11. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE ROAD SAFETY UNIT REGARDING SPEEDS ON SALFORD ROAD

Speed surveys had been carried out in the 40 mph area and it was found that the average speed was 50 mph. IN view of this a request to the Police to enforce the speed limit had been requested.

RESOLVED to note this

12. TO RECEIVE REPORT IN A PUBLIC SECTOR AUSTERITY SEMINAR

This seminar had been organised by Frank Knight and the Rural Service Network free of charge. It took place in Cheltenham and was attended by Cllr. Gerrard and the Clerk, as well as councillors/officers from councils in the South West.

Cllr. Gerrard gave a verbal report and advised there was some interesting literature available from the seminar.

RESOLVED to note the report

13. TO APPROVE REVISED STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, AS REVIEWED AT THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 23RD AUGUST 2010

A proposal to change the name from Ethics to Performance Committee (to avoid confusion with a similar committee at SDC) was unanimously approved

RESOLVED

- To approve the revised Standing Orders subject to the above change
- To approve the reviewed Financial Regulations

14. TO CONSIDER/APPROVE

- **Cost of High Street Business signage:** the quotes received were very similar, although the aspect of one was preferred.

It was proposed to set up a meeting with the businesses to further this project

RESOLVED to invite the businesses to attend a meeting on Monday 18th Oct. @ 7.00 pm

- **Tourist Map:** due to sickness there was a delay in the production of this which was not available for the meeting
- **Buy in Bidford** event at the Crawford Memorial Hall on Sat. 13th Nov. The Council supported the event. It was proposed the Council pay for the hire of the Crawford Memorial Hall at a cost of approx. £80

RESOLVED: the proposal was approved by 8 in favour to 2 against.
to further discuss this at the meeting of 18th October.

15. TO CONSIDER

- **Cost** of adding bracket to the streetlight by The Bull's Head (cost £153.52)
RESOLVED The cost was approved by 7 in favour and 3 against
- **Cost** of Emergency call out for the Big Meadow septic tank services
Regrettably the quote had not been received. The Clerk believed the cost would be £25 pa and suggested the Council approve the expense to a limit of £50.

RESOLVED to approve the cost to a limit of no more than £50 p.a.

16. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **10/01763/FUL Mrs. Hilary Leather, Rose Cottage, 102-104 High Street**
Erection of single storey conservatory
RESOLVED : no representation
- **10/00921/FUL Mr. and Mrs. Wells Avonview, Stratford Road**
Proposed change of use of stable block to office.
RESOLVED no representation

- **10/01913/TREE Mrs. Kath Robinson, 2 Mill Cottages, Mill Lane, Broom**
T1 Golden Robinia: 25% crown reduction
RESOLVED concern was expressed regarding the size of the crown reduction and the Council would ask the arboriculture department to consider if it was necessary before approving.
- **10/01962/TREE Mr. and Mrs. Tilly, Riverside House, 4 The Pleck**
 - T1 copper beech : shorten back canopy away from neighbouring dwelling by 2.0m.
 - T2 hazel : reduce by 50%.
 - T3 damson : reduce by 50%.
 - T4 birch : fell.
 - T5 Lawson cypress: fell.**RESOLVED** The Parish Council understand the arboriculture department has visited the site and recommended the work to be carried out and it will therefore support the application.

17. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTHS PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Clerk advised she had authorised the cost of removing a dangerous split branch from a willow on the Big Meadow at a cost of £60.00

RESOLVED to note this expense

Purchases :	£27,527.08
Wages:	2,369.21
In. Revenue	<u>2,322.19</u>
(as per cheque list)	£32,218.48

DDM	<u>994.46</u>
Total payments	£33,,212.94

Payments Received	
Big Meadow takings	£1,606.00
Burial fees	265.00
Precept	<u>99,750.00</u>
Total received	£101,621.00

Amount transferred from the current account to the deposit account £87,500

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts and that Cllrs. Gerrard and Hendey sign the cheques.

The meeting closed at approx. 9.15 pm

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CLERKS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2010

- **MATTERS ARISING**

- Reply sent to WCC regarding the Winter Gritting as per instructions
- Letter sent to Mr. Simms regarding Parish Council meeting with school children
- Reply to consultation regarding precept levels made on 9th Sept. 2010
- Reply to WCC Localities Review 2010 made as per instructions
- Bench by HFT installed after receiving authorisation from Highway

- **SKATE PARK**

Regrettably, there have been further delays to this installation due to circumstances outside our control! Namely the ramp blew up when it was being galvanised! However, it is still hoped it will be fully installed by the end of the month.

- **BIG MEADOW PLAY AREA**

The new equipments, installed in Maya this year has been very popular and widely used. However, a minority of users are not respecting the equipment and are causing unnecessary damage by incorrect use. May I request **all users of the play equipment** to use it responsibly: it has cost the community a lot of money and is to be used for many years to come..

- **THE LEYS**

The area has now been levelled and re seeded. Until such time as it is ready for use, may I ask you not to go inside the area as any damage will make it unusable in the future.

May I also remind residents that this is a **play area and dogs are not allowed on it!**

- **MEETINGS**

- Monday 11th October @ 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Monday 25th October @ 7.30 pm – Parish Council meeting

All the above meetings are held at the Parish Council Meeting room, Bramley