

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Resident raised the issue of poor state of the landscaping around Wharrad Close. The Parish Council requested District Councillors to take note. It also advised that it would be meeting with the Chief Executive and Chief Planning Officer on 1st November, when it would raise this issue
- Resident asked what the Parish Council was going to do this year regarding the Budget in view of the rise in precept this year, and taking into account the fact that all public bodies are being asked to save monies. Parish Council replied that it would be holding a “drop in” consultation to allow residents to discuss their views and respond to the proposals being put forward by the Parish Council. Another resident pointed out that this year’s rise had amounted to approx. 44p per week and that cutting costs could also result in the village looking unattractive, an issue that had been raised by another residents in a written communication at the last parish Council meeting.

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- There were proposed changes to how S106 would be spent, with the funds being used for items relevant to the development itself.
- Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service – timescale is now published. There are doubts as to whether there is enough capital to carry out the improvements to Alcester Fire Station – funds from the sale of Studley Fire Station may be used for this purpose.
- Bidford/Welford Bridge : the proposed weight pads have been approved for use. However, installation will have to wait for the S106 funds to be made available and this will appear to be after the first dwelling is occupied.
- WCC are having to make 25% savings in the next 4 years; most will come from staff

7. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- The Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) has outlined an average reduction in local authority budgets of 7.1% in each of the next 4 years
- The coalition government has suggested that those authorities that freeze Council Tax in each of the next 2 years will receive a further grant payment equivalent to a rise of 2.5% in Council Tax
- The exact figures and mechanism for the further grant are unlikely to be known until the new year. It is also possible that the funding formula itself may change
- The Chief Executive has indicated that the result is that SDC will need to achieve savings of around £3.6m in the next 4 years. To put this in context SDC’s budget is around £14.5m but of that almost £8m is tied up in long term contracts such as waste collection (which themselves are subject to annual RPI increases!) So the savings will need to come from the balance of £5.5m
- Significant job losses are inevitable and, today, the Council Cabinet approved a management re-structure that will see the 2 Strategic Director posts go and move to a chief executive and 6 heads of service as a starting point. It was noted that the positions of Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer are

required by law and, therefore, cannot be abolished.

- Council has also decided to start work on a review of wards and Councillors. The current establishment is 53 Councillors and it is likely this will fall to, say 35, with the introduction of new boundaries and single member wards only. There is also likely to be a move to a cycle of 4 yearly 'all up' elections where the whole Council stands for election. If the task group recommends this there will need to be a vote at full council and thereafter the boundary commission will need to sanction the changes; however this may not happen before 2012-2013
- West Planning Committee approved, on the Chairman's casting vote, a scheme for a new Waitrose store at the head of Seven Meadows Road. This includes provision for a southern Park & Ride facility of 127 spaces
- The Bidford application was withdrawn
- There is a member group working on the replacement for the local plan arising from the demise of the RSS. Cllr. James is a member and work has just started with a 3rd meeting due tomorrow looking at housing numbers for the district. The Parish Council's letter to Paul Harris about development has been noted as part of this process.
- Officers continue to press the owners of the Geodis site to tidy the appearance of the building. The remaining glass has now been removed from the roof

8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT

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

RESOLVED to note the contents of the Clerk's report

9. TO RECEIVE/CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- **WALC:**
 - Oct. Newsletter (circulated)
 - Training events schedule to March 2011 (circulated)
 - NALC Briefing on Local Authority Publications Code of Practice (circulated)
 - Local Authority Publications Code of Practice – consultation document
 - Update on important issues concerning parish councils (circulated)

RESOLVED to note the above correspondence

- **CPRE** – October Newsletter (circulated)
NOTED
- **Environment Agency** Notice of intended entry into land (Millers Bank, Broom)
The Clerk advised that a further letter had been received clarifying that no substantive work would be carried out until planning permission had been granted. Entry would be for the purposes of preparatory maintenance, ecology surveys and clearance.
NOTED
- **Worcs. CC** – Waste Core Strategy: first draft submission consultation
NOTED

- **Wychavon DC** – Notification of adoption of the Residential Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document
NOTED
- Thank you letters from various charities for the donations made by the Parish Council
Clerk added that a thank you letter had been received from a resident of Home Farm Trust following the installation of the bench by the entrance to HFT.
NOTED

10. TO APPOINTE MEMBERS TO THE PERFORMACE COMMITTEE

It was proposed that Cllrs. Hiscocks, Mrs. Keeley and Sandle be appointed. There being no other candidates it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs. Hiscocks, Mrs Keeley and Sandle to the committee.

11. TO APPROVE DONATION OF £50 TO THE BRITISH LEGION (LGA 1972 S137) **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure

12. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING GRANT REQUESTS

- **Bidford Christmas Lights:** £1,000 (LGA 1972 S144) This request had been withdrawn for the time being.
NOTED
- **St. Laurence Church** - £2,850.00 for repairs to the church clock (Parish Councils Act 1957 S2)
The church clock is an important feature of the centre of the village and the Parish Council had given a grant for the purchase of the automatic winding system.
It was proposed the Council give the grant subject to the church taking out the maintenance service contract offered.
Unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the grant £2,850 to the repairs of the clock subject to the church taking out a long time maintenance service contract.
- **Bidford-on-Avon Cricket Club** - £600 for a permanent set of nets. (LGA 1972 s145)
Members agreed that these grants should, as far as possible, be match funded by the associations and it was proposed to give a grant of £300
RESOLVED to approve a grant of £300
- **Bidford Community Group** £500 for the publication of the Bidford-on-Avon Directory 2011 (LGA 1972 S144)
The Parish Council supports the publication of this bi annual directory which is made available to all householders and to the local estate agents who give one to all newcomers who come to live in Bidford Parish.
It was proposed that as the total cost was £1,450.00 a grant for £500 be given.
RESOLVED to approve the grant of £500

**13. TO CONSIDER THE INDEPENDENT INSPECTION REPORT RE SKATE PARK
(circulated)**

It was noted that the report suggested a daily inspection of the ramp, which was considered too onerous as the Parish Council does not have the staff to carry this out; and it was agreed that this item should be added to the weekly inspection of the play equipment.

RESOLVED to note the report and to add the skate ramp to the items inspected weekly.

**14. TO CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNTRYWIDE NATIONAL FLOOD EXERCISE CALLED EXERCISE WATERMARK, TAKING PLACE IN MARCH 2011
(some information circulated)**

Disappointment was expressed that no residents from areas that had been flooded were present at the meeting.

Members agreed it would be beneficial to participate Council to discuss its participation in the event.

15. TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT FROM THE MARSH FARM LIAISON GROUP

Verbal report was **NOTED**

16. TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT REGARDING 2 X AVAILABLE S106 FUNDS

- **Old School Mead** – to be spent on the Village Hall (£6,500) – costs for the much needed refurbishment of the Crawford Memorial Hall kitchen have been presented
- **Wharrad Close** – 50% on open space and 50% on open space maintenance (£6, 111,38). As the open space projects have now been completed with the exception of the tree planting on the Big Meadow, these funds have been allocated to the planting and maintenance of trees .

RESOLVED to note the above

17. TO AGREE DATE FOR A FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING

It was proposed that the meeting follow the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 8th November 2010 and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to hold the meeting on 8th November after the planning committee meeting.

17. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **10/01994/FUL Bidford Motor Company, Bidford Motor Garages Ltd., 95 High Street**

Use of land for the storage of vehicles in association with garage

RESOLVED that the following condition be imposed to ensure the safety of the neighbouring sites:

- A 2 metre high close boarded fence be erected to the south and west of the site.

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

RESOLVED to authorise the payment by CHAPS for an amount of £35,778.75 to Flo Skate Parks. The charge has been deducted from the invoice.

Purchases :	£20,405.28
Wages:	2,369.61
Donations	<u>50.00</u>
(as per cheque list)	£22,824.89

DDM	581.78
CHAPS	<u>35,778.75</u>
Total payments	£59,185.42

Payments Received	
Big Meadow takings	£ 338.00
Rate refund	182.65
Photocopy charge	<u>0.10</u>
Total received	£ 520.75

Amount transferred from the deposit account to the current account £57,500

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

The meeting closed at approx. 8.40 pm

BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



CLERKS REPORT - OCTOBER 2010

- **MATTERS ARISING**

- Emergency Call Out for Big Meadow septic Tank taken out at a cost of £18 per annum
- Request for bracket to be installed on street light in village centre sent
- Buy in Bidford Event – it was agreed at the meeting with the High Street Shops that this would be a great local community event as well as offering them an opportunity of meeting residents and show them what they have to offer, especially, though not solely, over the Christmas period.

It was agreed the event should run from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. and entrance is free.

- **MEETING WITH HIGH STREET SHOPS**

continuing its project to raise the profile of Bidford-on-Avon, the Parish Council met with High Street shops to discuss:

- Signs : it was agreed that these should be placed
 - On the grass verge by the Anglo Saxon car park (double sided)
 - By the traffic lights – permission from WCC has been granted subject to all the current boards being withdrawn and replaced by the signs.

It was agreed that advertising on the slats would cost between £50/75

- Tourist map – this was approved and it was agreed that it should be sited on
 - Anglo Saxon car park
 - Big Meadow
 - Budgens car park – after obtaining permission
 - Centre of village

It was also agreed that the cost of an advertisement would be £50 and there are 17 available spaces

It is hoped the full cost will be generated by businesses advertising. However should there be a shortfall, the Parish Council will consider covering it.

- **EXPENSES**

- **Dog Bin** – request for a dog bin to be installed in Grange Road where it meets footpaths received and a bin has been ordered (cost £267.00)
- **Tree**– branches of a willow tree on land owned by the Parish Council in Broom (King's Lane riverbank) has been identified and instructions for the work to be carried out at a cost of £400 has been given. It could be that when the work is carried out more damage is identified and the tree may have to be felled, in which case a further quotation will be sent for approval.

- **MEETINGS**

- Monday 8th November @ 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Monday 29th November @ 7.30 pm – Parish Council Meeting, Broom Village Hall, High Street, Broom

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