

# BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

## In the County of Warwickshire



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2012@ 7.30 pm at the Parish Council Meeting Room, Bramley Way.**

### **PRESENT**

Chairman                      Cllr. Gerrard  
Cllrs.                              Atkins, Fleming, Hill, Hiscocks, Mrs. Keeley, Sandle, Spiers  
and Williams

Also present:                  County Cllr. Barnes had sent his apologies  
District Cllrs. Howse, James and Pemberton  
4 members of the press and 1 member of the public

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

Before the start of the meeting, the Chairman wished all those present a Happy New Year!

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

*There were no apologies*

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

All members of the Council are respectfully reminded that in order to comply with the Code of conduct 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  
*Cllr. Atkins declared an interest in Item 9/CPRE as Hon. Treasurer of the Warwickshire Branch of this organisation*

### **3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011**

Cllr. Sandle proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate. However, a change was required to the date of Cllr. Langston's death which occurred on 13<sup>th</sup> December, not November. The Chairman duly made and initialled the amendment  
**RESOLVED** that Minutes should be approved and signed by the Chairman

#### 4. YOUTH FORUM

No young people attended the meeting

#### 5. PUBLIC FORUM

Those attending did not wish to speak.

#### 6. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Although he was unable to attend, Cllr. Barnes had requested the Clerk advise the Parish Council that the first Friday of CAB's Outreach programme in the library had been a success as it had been fully booked.

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

- **Council Tax** – it will be reduced by 1%. This means a Band D property's tax will be £128.05. It is the lowest in the county
- **Public Toilets** – it has been resolved that they shall all remain open. This will be covered by a 20p charge for using the three main public toilets in Stratford-upon-Avon.
- **Destination Stratford Steering Group** – had successfully being launched and is now aiming to secure a tourism strategy for the whole of Stratford District, which has been endorsed by SDC.
- **Core Strategy** – consultation for this third, and final, part will be launched in two weeks.
- **Planning Hearing:** Cllr. James wished to express his thanks to Cllr, Fleming and the Clerk for attending a full day Planning Hearing at Elizabeth House regarding a gypsy and traveller site in Temple Grafton. The main defence of Temple Grafton was to send the applicants to the tolerated site on Friday Furlong, and this has hopefully been avoided by the presence of Bidford Parish Council at the meeting.

#### 8. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE CLERK

This had been circulated and forms an integral part of these Minutes

An issue that required consideration was the correspondence between the Parish Council and SDC regarding enforcement of the conditions on this site.

It was

- **RESOLVED** to instruct the Clerk to advise SDC that members believed sufficient time had been given to comply with the conditions and that, as there were still 14 caravans, not 12 as per the planning application, on the site on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan. full enforcement measures should now be taken.
- **RESOLVED** to note the rest of the contents.

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

- **SDC** – consultation period for 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the Core Strategy. It is anticipated the consultation will commence the week of 13<sup>h</sup> Feb. and run for 6 weeks. Any response from the Parish Council will have to be made within that period as no extensions will be given.

**NOTED**

- **WALC**

- NALC Legal Topic Note LTN79 : Retirement Payments (circulated)

**NOTED**

- Nominations for Royal Garden Party 2012

**RESOLVED** To nominate Cllr. Mrs. Kelley and spouse

- Invitation to the WALC Annual Briefing Day – Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2012 at Myton School (9.45 am – 3.00 pm) theme is “Localism and Local Councils”.

Cost: £39.00 per councillor. £15 for Clerk as County Committee Member

**RESOLVED** Cllrs. Gerrard and Mrs. Keeley to attend. Cllr. Atkins would attend subject to availability. The Clerk to attend

- **CPRE** – newsletter (circulated)

**NOTED**

- **Thank you letters from**

- Stop! Listen...Play – thank you letter for the £300 grant
- Bidford-on-Avon Cricket Club for the £500 grant

**NOTED** The Chairman added that it was always pleasant to receive a sign of gratitude.

**10. TO NOMINATE REPLACEMENT FOR CLLR. LANGSTON ON:**

- Emergency Working Group  
**RESOLVED** that Cllr. Hiscocks become a member
- Allotments and Burial Working Group  
**RESOLVED** that Cllr. Mrs. Keeley become a member
- Marsh Farm Liaison Group – recommendation that the representative for Broom Ward, Cllr. Williams be nominated.  
**RESOLVED** to nominate Cllr. Williams

**11. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM SDC SETTING OUT CHARGES OF PARICH COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MAY 2012 AND BY ELECTIONS**

- **BIDFORD WARD**

- Uncontested £ 100.00
- Contested 1,326.00
- By-election 2,204.72

- **BROOM WARD**

- Uncontested £ 100.00
- Contested 566.80
- By-election 954.02

**NOTED** the costs and that provision had been made in the budget

**12. TO CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE POSITION OF DESTINATION MANAGER FOR THE DESTINATION STRATFORD FORUM (report circulated)**

The issues of what the Destination Manager could do for tourism in Bidford was considered and it was agreed that contributing towards the cost should ensure better leverage, especially since the Clerk was a member of the Destination Steering Group’s Visitor Attraction & Visitor Experience Working Group  
It was proposed to agree in principle to a contribution.

**RESOLVED** to agree in principle to a contribution. The amount to be considered at the February meeting after the Clerk had looked at the amounts being contributed by other, smaller, members of the Destination Steering Group

**13. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM WARWICKSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL (WRCC) REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

WRCC wrote to advise the Parish Council that Homes & Communities Agency had not provided any funds for affordable housing in Stratford District.

Furthermore, the Housing Needs Survey is now over 5 years old, which means it is out of date and a new one will be required. This can be carried out by WRCC at no cost to the Parish Council

Members expressed their great disappointment in the news, especially in respect of the site in Broom which the Parish Council has been working with for a number of years.

**RESOLVED** to request WRCC to carry out a House Survey. Once the results have been collated the Parish Council to meet with WRCC to consider how to best implement the findings.

WRCC to be made aware of the Council's disappointment at the news of a further delay in this much needed development.

**14. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE FROM BARTON RESIDENTS REGARDING THEIR PREFERRED OPTION FOR THE PARTICIPATORY BUDGET SCHEME 2012/13**

After consulting with the local community via a leaflet setting out the various options, the vote had gone to a flagpole on the village green.

Members expressed their pleasure at the way in which this scheme had been carried out by the Barton Community.

**RESOLVED** The local community would be responsible for choosing the flagpole and its installation, the Parish Council would process the order.

**15. TO RECEIVE REPORT OF A MEETING WITH CLLR. HOBBS AND CHIEF FIRE OFFICER SMITH (circulated)**

Having read the report, Members agreed a meeting with the current fire-fighters, especially with the new leader Tony Kent, was essential.

**RESOLVED**

- To note the Report
- To set up a meeting

**16. TO RECEIVE NEWS OF A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION FROM SPORTS ENGLAND FOR £50,000 UNDER THEIR *INSPIRED FACILITIES AWARD***

The news were noted, as was the fact that there is a press/publicity embargo for the time being.

**RESOLVED** to thank Cllr. Hill for his excellent work in finding and obtaining this grant.

**17. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE OF THE PROGRESS OF WORK ON THE BIG MEADOW AWARDS FOR ALL GRANT**

Steve Roberts, who is doing the panels, met with the Clerk and Mr. Simms to discuss the work to be done by the school children on the Welcome panel.

He also left some indications of the panels which would come under the headings of:

- Welcome ( to be done by Primary school children)
- Along the river and round about
- Into the village
- Crossing the river
- Wildlife around Bidford

**NOTED**

- that there was good progress,
- that the school children were involved and
- That the scheme should be finalised for the Big Meadow opening date of 1<sup>st</sup> April and within the time stipulated by Awards for All.

**18. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON BIDFORD COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

The Chairman gave a brief update on the current situation:

- Social Enterprise Company was being set up: Bidford Community Library Ltd.
- 2 meetings with volunteers had been organised for Tues. 24<sup>th</sup> Jan in the evening and Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. in the morning

**NOTED**

**19. TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT ON THE PLANNING HEARING FOR THE GYPSY SITE AT TEMPLE GRAFTON**

Cllr. Fleming agreed with Cllr. James' earlier report that it had been important for Bidford to be present and highlight the fact that Friday Furlong was no longer an available site as it had received outline planning permission and its development was supported by the Parish Council and the local community as indicated in the adopted Parish Plan B50.

**NOTED**

**20. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATION**

- **11/02817/FUL – Persimmon Homes Ltd, Land East of Waterloo Road,** Demolition of existing structures and erection of 48 dwellings and associated works on land to the rear of 34 Waterloo Road  
Having considered the application in detail, the Parish Council **RESOLVED** to object for the following reasons:
  - Highways :
    - i. Too close to the entrance to Friday Furlong (on the opposite side of Waterloo Road) which already has outline planning permission for 125 dwellings and a medical centre
    - ii. Too close to the mini roundabout to the entrance of the Waterloo Industrial Estate
    - iii. Traffic intensity on an already over used main road, which has 2 industrial estate

- Water/drainage infrastructure
  - i. Drainage
  - ii. Insufficient water pressure
  - iii. Sewage system already reached capacity
- There has been no public consultation, which is being encouraged at Government level for this size of development
- It is prejudicial to the development of the Core Strategy
- It is prejudicial to the development of Bidford's Neighbourhood Plan

**21. TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL  
(Due to the sensitive nature of this item, the Council may resolve to exclude the public (public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings Act) 1960 s1 (2))**

The Council was pleased to note that it had received 3 applications and **RESOLVED** to meet with each one on Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> before the Planning Committee Meeting. The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements allocating 20 minutes to each candidate.

**22. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MONTHS'S PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTS**

These had been circulated to councillors.

Purchases:	5,253.70
Wages:	<u>2,395.75</u>
(As per cheque list)	7,649.45
DDM	<u>1,049.43</u>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£8,698.88</b>

Payments Received

Allotment rent	17.50
Cemetery sales	695.00
Pitch hire (BSA)	<u>1,276.00</u>
<b>Total received</b>	<b>£1,988.50</b>

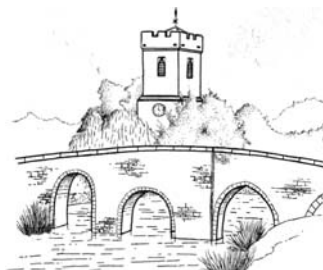
£5,000 was transferred from the deposit to the current account to meet the above payments.

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

The meeting closed at approx. 9.10 pm

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### CLERKS REPORT - JANUARY 2012

- **MATTERS ARISING**
  - **Land to the rear of 18 Salford Road** – Parish Council attended a meeting with the planning officer and ward members when issues regarding highway and other traffic issues were raised. A report of this meeting was made at the Planning Committee Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January.
  - **Neighbourhood Planning** – Cllr. Fleming is taking the lead on this and a newsletter is being enclosed in The February edition of The Connection Magazine to be distributed to all households in the parish.
  - **Precept** – As required by SDC, request has been sent before their deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012
  - **Greenacres** – letter was sent to Paul Lankester. He replied advising that the matter would be dealt with by Robert Weeks who has also replied. Both communications have been circulated.
  
- **EXPENDITURE**
  - The following repair work to damage caused by vandalism were approved:
    - Signage by the traffic lights by the new Saxon Pub : **£120.00**
    - Flower box on Tower Hill **£75.00**
  - Purchase of 3 x litter bins (2 to be installed on the Big Meadow and in the footpath by the school) : **£432.77 delivered**
  
- **DOG FOULING** – this continues to be a problem in the village. However, I can advise that SDC has successfully prosecuted a local resident under the Dog Control Order (Stratford District Council) 2009 and fined £60 plus £150 towards costs. It also means a criminal record. Full details can be seen on SDC's website  
<http://www.stratford.gov.uk/news/news.cfm/current/1/item/1092>

- **BROADBAND DELIVERY** – SDC is working hard with Coventry University to improve Broadband delivery across the district. Support is required from parish/town councils as well as local residents in the form of letters. This item will be included in the next BIG Paper edition which will include a template of the letter to be sent to SDC.  
Balvinder Heran, the very capable Head of Customer Access has been invited to come to talk about this item at the Annual Parish Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012.  
Power Point Presentation made by Balvinder at a workshop on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January is available.
  
- **LIGHTING** – Street light replacement programme for 2012/13. WCC have confirmed that there are no damaged streetlights that need replacing, therefore the Parish Council can continue its plan to replace the streetlights and return the responsibility of them to WCC.  
For 2012/13, the following will be replaced
  - Trafalgar Court x 2 : Jct. With Court Way and O/s 2/3 (completes this street)
  - Wilkes Way x 2 : Jct. Bramley Way and O/s 12/14 (completes this street)
  - Court Way x 1 : Jct. Bramley Way (starts this street to complete next year)