



Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council

IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICKSHIRE

Postal address only:

c/o Bidford-on-Avon Post Office

30 High Street, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire B50 4AA

Tel/Fax. No. (01789) 778653: Mob. 07718 628925

Website: www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk

Mrs. E. Uggerløse – Clerk to the Parish Council

e-mail – info@bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Bidford on Avon Parish Council aims to serve the community of Bidford-on Avon by working for and with it to ensure a good quality of life.

- **Inform** the local community of the work it carries out and the services it provides
- **Consult** with the local community and seek its views
- **Involve** the local community by inviting it to participate in local government
- **Collaborate** with its local government partners, local community groups and associations and individuals,
- **Empower** the local community by encouraging it to be involved and take ownership

THE COMMUNITY

Bidford-on-Avon parish includes the village of Bidford-on-Avon itself, as well as Broom and the hamlets of Barton and Marlcliff.

It has a population of approx. 5,447

- Under 15 1,054
- 16 – 65 3,415
- Over 65 978

There are a number of community groups and associations within the parish which work with people of different ages and interests and all of these are supported by the Parish Council.

The Parish Office is situated in Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon, B50 4QG
and is open to members of the public 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
and from 1.30-4.30 pm on Thursdays

If you are unable to attend during these times, please call for an appointment.

The Parish Council is particularly keen to engage and support the younger members of the community to compensate for the lack facilities available to other villages with a High School.

PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITY

- The Parish Council Office, which is situated in Bramley Way, is open to the public daily:
 - 10.00am – 1.00 pm – Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday and Friday
 - 1.30 – 4.30 pm on Thursdays
 - If members of the public are unable to attend at these times, they can contact the clerk and arrange a mutually convenient time
- A list of all councillors, and their contact details, is available on the Parish Council's website and on all notice boards
- The Parish Council's Minutes and Procedure are all available online and in the Parish Council Office
- A monthly news letter is included in the monthly local magazine The Connection, which is distributed to all households in Bidford and surrounding villages.
- The Parish Council also edits and publishes a quarterly, community magazine called The BIG Paper

PROVISION OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- The Parish Council actively encourages members of the local community to attend its council meetings and sets aside 15 minutes at each meeting for a public forum and a further 15 minutes for a youth forum.
- It also holds quarterly Saturday morning surgeries at the local supermarket in Bidford and the village hall in Broom
- It holds pre budget drop in sessions to invite comments from the local community with regards to the expenditure programme for the next financial year
- Actively invites local community involvement with the Alcester/Bidford Local Community Forum

INVOLVEMENT IN PARTNERSHIPS

The Parish Council is active in its collaboration with

- Its partners at County and District Council
- Alcester/Bidford Local Community Forum
- Warwickshire Police
- Local Business – Buy in Bidford Group
- Bidford on Avon Primary School
- Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee

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ROLE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Bidford on Avon Parish Council consists of 10 councillors, one of whom represents the Broom Ward. They are elected by the local community every 4 years and are responsible for actively representing and working for the electorate.

Bidford on Avon Parish Council is apolitical.

Current legislation recognises the importance of locally elected councillors and seeks to devolve power to the local government tier closest to the grass roots.

The Parish Council employs a full time Clerk, who is the Proper Officer to the Council. The Clerk is independent and is responsible for managing the council and executing the decisions made by councillors at its meetings.

The Parish Council also employs a part time Responsible Financial Officer.

SPECIFIC AREAS FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Parish Council will always consult on all proposed major developments in the parish and will respond to planning applications accordingly.

It is also committed to respond to any major change to local services or infrastructure, such as:

- Extension of mineral extraction within the Village boundary
- Closure of Bidford Fire Station
- Closure of Bidford Library

July 2012.



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