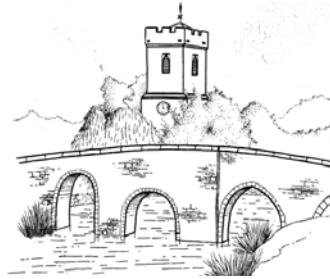


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 28th September 2015 @ 7.30 pm
at the Parish Council Meeting Rooms, Bramley Way, B50 4QG

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Fleming - Chairman of the Council

Cllrs. Atkins, Ms Deacon, Mrs Keeley, Knight and Pound

Also present: District Cllrs. Cargill and Pemberton and 5 members of the public

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

1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Harvey, Hiscocks, Mrs Randell and Mrs Taylor

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 30th July 2012, if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have declared a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) they should leave the room.
None declared
- Written requests for Dispensations for DPI should be received by the Clerk no more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
Dispensations will be granted as appropriate.
None required

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24TH AUGUST 2015

Cllr Mrs Keeley proposed the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting be accepted as being accurate.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be accepted as an accurate account, and signed by the Chairman.

4. YOUTH FORUM

None present.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Resident raised concern about the coping stones being used for the bridge repair asking why were they not reusing the old stones.

The Clerk was able to advise that they were using the old stones, but that they were not sufficient. It was accepted the new stones were bright yellow, but they had been approved by Historic England and they will weather down in time.

- It was also understood that further works were necessary to the bridge and that these would take place next year: would this mean the bridge closing again?

The Clerk was able to confirm that the investigation carried out at the time of the accident, had shown other parts of the bridge in need of repair. The intention is to carry out this work in the next financial year and to do it from the river, so the bridge will not be closed.

- Bidford Chamber of Trade and Commerce are planning a bonfire on the Big Meadow for Sunday 1st November, and asked the Parish Council to give its permission (the item is on the agenda).

The Clerk advised that, as the Parish Council would be extending its Public Liability to cover the event, it would require full details to pass on to its insurers who required this due to the nature of the event.

- Resident requested that copies of the agendas be made available at the meetings.
- Would it be possible to let the local community know that they were able to get a flu jab at the pharmacy? Many found it difficult to travel all the way to the surgery so this would be a better solution.

The Clerk said she would look into what could be done by the Parish Council in conjunction with the pharmacy and the surgery.

- Resident advised that rubbish had been tipped on the junction of Wixford Road and George Elms Road

Clerk advised she had seen and photographed it and would advise the appropriate authorities

- A unit within the Industrial Estate is being painted a rather unattractive blue – are there any restrictions regarding this?

Cllr Pemberton said he would look into this and report back.

6. COUNCILLOR FORUM

- **Staffing Panel** – had it met? Had an appraisal being carried out?
The Clerk advised that an appraisal meeting had been arranged for 28th October.
- **Report from Working Groups** – Council had resolved that this should be a permanent agenda item but had been omitted this month.
Clerk apologised for the omission and said she would endeavour to include it as a permanent agenda item in the future

7. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Brain had sent his apologies

8. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- The main issue at present is the on-going debate as to whether or not to become part of the West Midlands Combined Authority. The decision at present is to shadow the authority and make a final decision in Spring 2016. This decision must be based taking the best interest of residents.
- **Core Strategy** – Approval of the modified Core Strategy is expected at the Council meeting of 19th October: it will then be sent to the Planning Inspector. However, based on the experience of other authorities, a troubled 18 months or so can be expected.
- **Greenacres** an enforcement report had been sent and this would be forwarded to the Parish Council for its comments.

9. CLERK'S REPORT

The Report was read out and **NOTED**. It forms an integral part of these Minutes.

10. TO CONSIDER

- Audit Report for the Year ending 31st March 2015
It was **NOTED** that the Council had been given an unqualified report
- Other matters raised by the External Auditors
A report had been circulated and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation that the comments raised should be noted, but that it considered the systems in place to be adequate.

11. TO CONSIDER INVITATION FROM WALC TO ATTEND ITS AGM ON WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER @ 7.30PM AT SHIRE HALL, WARWICK

RESOLVED: that Councillors Mrs Keeley and Knight, together with the Clerk, attend.

12. TO APPROVE CONTRIBUTION FROM COUNCILLORS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A POPPY WREATH FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ON 8TH NOVEMBER

It was proposed that, as last year, Councillors contribute personally for the purchase.

RESOLVED to approve the motion. Contributions to be given to the Clerk.

13. TO CONSIDER THE SDC GYPSY AND TRAVELLER LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION RUNNING FROM 10TH SEPTEMBER TO 30TH OCTOBER 2015

The Clerk asked Council whether it wished to reply as a Council or individually and, when asked which carried more weight, replied that the Council should make a response but that each individual Councillor should also consider responding. She proposed drafting a reply to be considered and approved at the October Consultative Planning Committee meeting of 12th October.

RESOLVED to request the Clerk to draft a response for consideration at the next Consultative Planning Committee meeting.

14. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE

- **PCC** – thank you letter for the grant of £1,000 towards the repairs to the church tower
- **Alcester resident** – praising the marked improvement in the maintenance of Salford Road Cemetery

15. TO CONSIDER REQUEST TO ORGANISE A BONFIRE FOR SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER AT THE BIG MEADOW

After a short discussion during which it was noted that the bridge was likely to be closed thus reducing the number of vehicles, it was **RESOLVED** to allow the event to take place subject to the Clerk being satisfied with the arrangements and the risk assessment.

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) for Item 16 of the Agenda

16. TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS

- Maintenance and Gate Keeping duties of the Big Meadow
One quotation had been received which was acceptable to the Council
RESOLVED to give the contract to MGS Services
- Maintenance of Public Open Space and Play areas
One quotation had been received which was acceptable to the Council
RESOLVED to give the contract to MGS Services
- Maintenance of Salford Road Cemetery
One quotation had been received. However, before making a final decision Council wished clarification
RESOLVED to seek clarification of the amount quoted.

17. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THIS MONTH'S ACCOUNTS

Full details had been circulated

RESOLVED to approve the Accounts for the month of August 2015 as presented

Expenditure

Wages	£2,447.68
As per cheque list	18,339.48
DDM	3,657.30
Grants	<u>750.00</u>
Total payments	25,194.46

Income

Car parking fees	380.00
Burials	1,795.00
Precept	<u>110,865.00</u>
Total	£113,040.00

RESOLVED

- To approve the accounts payable
- That Cllrs Fleming and Knight sign the cheques
- That £55,000 be invested in a 3 month HID account
- That £120,000 be invested in a 6 month HID account with effect from 1st October

The meeting closed at approx. 8.30 pm.



BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



CLERKS REPORT - September 2015

1. BIDFORD BRIDGE UPDATE

Contrary to reports in the press, work is continuing to schedule and is still expected to be finalised end October, as per the recent article in the BIG Paper. There will be a continued presence into November basically to clear and finish up after 4 months work.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank and praise WCC, especially the Project Manager Richard Roberts and his temporary replacement Shane: they have both worked tirelessly to ensure the repairs were completed as soon as possible and with as little disruption. Of course there has been disruption, but this was unavoidable in view of the monumental task they had to deal with – and I can only commend their efforts. They have been approachable, have answered all questions and have tried to assist whenever possible.

Update

Additional work is planned to take place whilst the bridge is closed. This includes:

- Clearing of vegetation under two arches by the Navigational Trust
- Clearing of fallen branch, boulders and some dredging under the southernmost arch.

- Placing bollards to the sides of the bridge to emphasise its width as a prevention measure to minimise the risk of a further accident.
- An inspection that took place when the accident occurred has highlighted other issues and these repairs are planned for the next financial year. It is anticipated the work will be done from the river avoiding having to close the bridge for any length of time. WCC will consult with the Parish Council.

Due to the above extra work, the closure of the bridge could extend to November. WCC will consider the possibility of temporarily opening the bridge for the weekend of 31/01: however, this may not be feasible in which case they will allow Richard Smith to drive over with the straw etc. to enable to bonfire but access to the event will be pedestrian only.

2. BIDFORD BASH

Organisers are to be congratulated on the excellent turn out for a well thought out street party event. It is hoped that this will have raised awareness of what the village has to offer and encourage residents to shop locally.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Pre-submission Draft Policy statutory 6 week consultation began on 24th September and will run until 6th November.

Notices have been published in the local press and all statutory bodies (as advised by SDC) have been sent the notice by email.

The consultation is online with some hard copies available at the library and Parish Council Office.

Posters have also been posted on notice boards and other strategic places and banners will be erected on the roundabout and on the fence opposite Waterloo Road.

4. BENCHMARKING

Process has started. The survey to capture those businesses running from home is online on the Parish Council's website and was advertised via social media on 16th September