

The Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Bampton Town Council Held on Tuesday 3rd March 2015.

7pm Cllr Tanner apologised to the public and councillors for the late start of the meeting due to the absence of the Chair.

The meeting commenced at 7.05pm with the Public Forum.

Dr Mills informed the meeting that following a recent reunion of the Toze family in Bampton, they believed that the name of one of their forebears was missing from the War Memorial. The family has offered to pay for the name to be added if appropriate.

He continued with news that a volunteer group had begun to clear the brambles from the motte and bailey site.

Mrs Hicks spoke regarding the Local Plan.

Mr Lawrence informed the meeting that he had received a letter advising that there is a new proposal to build on the two fields on the corner of Morebath Road and Frog Lane.

Miss Crabtree read a letter about the Bampton Library Action Group (BLAG) that she had sent to the Chair on February 20th, to which she had not received a reply. Clerk requested a copy and promised to respond.

The Chair advised the meeting that this and future council meetings would be audio-recorded.

Mr Woolley had attended the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) meeting at MDDC. The meeting had been well attended and the group was happy with the general management of the fair. More work is to be done regarding the recruitment and training of stewards.

Mrs Fagg offered information regarding the use of volunteers to support the work done in the town by the flood/snow and ice/P3 and Millennium Green groups, also the new motte and bailey group. The P3 group receives guidelines from DCC regarding working in public places and the Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) has similar policies. There is an induction meeting for volunteers, all proposed work must undergo a risk assessment, some tools can only be used by those who have had certified training.

Mr Hartley on behalf of BLAG said that the locum clerk at the January meeting had promised to attach the BLAG report to the minutes but that this had not happened.

The meeting of Bampton Town Council commenced at 7.35pm.

1. Members present; Cllrs Pope, Tanner, Baker, Weston, North and Stoner. Cllrs Colthorpe and Stanley also attended.

The Chair, Cllr Pope, opened the meeting by apologising to the three members of the public who had believed themselves to be co-opted at the last meeting. She had not carried out the co-option procedure correctly and the three people concerned cannot be considered to be councilors.

The Chair then suspended the meeting to allow Mr Woolley to speak; he said he was sorry not to be able to serve on the council but would be available to help if ever required. The meeting was opened again.

2. Cllr Pope declared an interest regarding the correspondence from the Scout group.

3. The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Local Plan documents were available in the library and that she held a copy of the full plan for Mid-Devon. Responses required by 30th March 2015 at MDDC.

5. Cllr Colthorpe told the meeting that local authorities had been concentrating on budgets and Scrutiny committees. DCC has raised the council tax by 1.99% (the maximum allowed) to help with costs during the further funding cuts which are proposed over the next two years. The Beacon Bus contract for the 398 route is being terminated by the bus company from 18th April 2015. It is the intention of DCC to replace the service and the contract is currently out to tender. Cllr Pope thanked Cllr Colthorpe for all she had done for Bampton over the years.

Cllr Stanley said that MDDC was effectively 'closing down' in anticipation of the elections. Although MDDC will not be increasing its percentage of the council tax next year both the fire and police services will. He also wished to clarify the situation regarding the interest in Tiverton from Premier Inns. Although there is interest in the town from the hotel group, the multi-story car park will not be demolished to create a site for a hotel, as had been reported in the Mid Devon Gazette. MDDC are buying Market Walk in order to make improvements in that part of the town.

There will be some areas of free parking in Tiverton whilst road works take place in the town centre. He advised that a parking ticket would still be required even though no payment has to be made.

Cllr Stanley concluded by asking Bampton Town Council about the future of Station Road toilets. MDDC need to know the council's intentions regarding taking responsibility for the costs of running the toilets in the future and its plans for modernisation of the same.

The Shillingford play area will be decommissioned during the week commencing 9th March 2015.

6. Financial report.

Cllr Baker advised that the amount collected from the car park was £558. A cheque for £50 had also been received.

It was agreed to employ South and West Internal Auditors to undertake an internal audit of BTC.

The cheque to Mr Rice to secure the future of Shillingford play park is to be returned for cancellation leaving BTC to pay £420 solicitor's costs.

The council was advised that it may be able to make a claim against its Fidelity Insurance sec 3 regarding Public Loss, in respect of the cost of the report by Wheeler's Accountants. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Following payments due:

17 th February '15	D/d Clerk's phone bill	16.68
3 rd March	MDDC Clerk's salary and costs	718.94
	Nash & Co Solicitor's cost	420.00
	M.Morgan Toilet cleaning	280.00
	SLCC subscription	118.00
	EDF electricity Pump House	67.97

All bank statements @ 22nd February 2015.

Monies received

5 th February '15	TAP Fund for cricket nets and equipment	2486.40
15 th February	Car park cash	558.00
15 th February	Cheque received from Bampton resident.	50.00

Cheques not cashed.

11 th February	Chq 102056	MDDC	729.53
7 th October 2014	Chq 102023	Mr Rice	960.00

Bank statements.

HSBC £49,624.64 cr Scottish Widows £36,710.40 cr

7. Ongoing business.

A. Cllr Pope suggested that the adoption of the Standing Orders be left to the incoming council. All in favour.

b. Cllr Pope suggested that the amendments to the Code of Conduct, as recommended by the Localism Act 2011, be left to the incoming council. Five in favour, one abstained.

c. Grant aid rules and application form. It was not thought necessary to apply these rules to the Tolls of Fair money. It would apply to the money available through the Free Resource Funds. To be discussed at next month's meeting.

d. A quote to be requested from Visionict in Exeter. Registration with the Information Commissioner's Office will cost £23.00, this was agreed.

e. A quote for the repainting of the lettering on the War Memorial had been received with a second awaited. A letter of thanks to be sent to Mrs Christie informing her of the refurbishment work. A bouquet also to be sent Proposed Cllr Pope and seconded by Cllr Stoner.

f. The repairs to the roof of the disused building on the bridge are to take place soon. The Conservation Officer has visited and said the building is not listed although the bridge is. Three quotes would be required from architects for the work to reinstate the building. Cllr North suggested that the residents of Bampton could be surveyed as to the possible uses and that there may be an alternative to it being another toilet. Cllr Tanner felt it should be another toilet and proposed that there be two toilets in the building, seconded by Cllr Weston with all in favour.

g. It was suggested that a skip be sited in the Station Road car park for public use. The dates of 28 – 29th March from 10am – 4pm were decided upon.

h. The meeting was advised of the requirements of the BTC insurance policy with regard to volunteers working as sub-groups. These were very much in line with the information supplied by Mrs Fagg through her work with the P3 Group and ENPA. All Health and Safety procedures must be followed and specific work proposed with the details of volunteers taking part recorded and training having been provided.

The meeting was suspended to discuss the situation at the motte and bailey. BTC thanked Dr Mills for arranging the volunteer group. The meeting was brought to order.

i. Cllrs Stoner, Tanner, North and Weston with Dr Mills agreed to become the Motte and Bailey sub-committee. The sub-committee is to meet before the next meeting of BTC to suggest the Terms of Reference and propose proper procedures regarding risk assessments, a work schedule and working practices, a list of volunteers and an account of volunteer training as well as the care of the monument site. Proposed by Cllr Pope and seconded by Cllr Baker with all in favour. The Clerk requested a copy of all the documentation created.

Correspondence.

A letter had been received from the Bampton Scout Group for funds for their new mini-bus. Cllr Pope advised that they wished to withdraw this request as funding had been received from Rotary and money can only be donated from one of the fair funds.

Cllr Pope then went on to introduce another letter, a non-agenda item, against the advice of the Clerk, which she then read to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

The date of the next meeting will be 7th April 2015.