

Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council, held on Wednesday 6th March 2019, 7pm in the LARC building, Bampton.

Present: Cllr. Hicks (Chairman); Cllr. Edwards; Cllr. Baker; Cllr. Tanner; Cllr. A. Mares; Penny Clapham (Clerk); 5 members of the public; Lewis Clarke (Press); District Councillor Stanley.

- 1) **Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:** County Cllr. Colthorpe. District Cllr. Moore. Cllr. C. Mares. Cllr. Leach. Cllr. Weston.
- 2) **Declarations Of Interest:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at Mid Devon District Council within 28 days of the change. Cllr. Hicks agenda item 12 (ii) and (iii).
- 3) **Public Discussion** – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting, or issues they wish to bring before Council for possible future discussion. **The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. Standing Order 3 (e,f) refers.**

Parishioner with an idea about sport for the community. Petanque, which is a game of boules, similar to bowls. Anyone of any age can play; it is very social. There is a possible pitch area at the Millennium Green which would need some renovation. April agenda.

Janice Caunter – suggested the walls are levelled at the toilets in order to prevent those vandals using the toilets, being hidden from view. The doors appear to be sticking in this damp weather and not closing properly. April agenda. Councillors to look at this situation.

29 & 27 Frog Street – rats seem to be around: parishioners can contact Mid Devon DC Environmental Officer. Cllr. Stanley will follow this up.

Herbie Caunter – dog mess. Informed Council that in Cornwall, there are fines available if dogs make a mess and the owners do not pick up. As a town council we do not have dog control orders, so could not implement this idea. More laminated signs regarding pick up after your dogs could be put up.

Parishioner read a letter from Derek Webster (flood warden), and others regarding planning applications 12 (ii) and (iii).

This letter of objection has been sent to the Planning Authority. Parishioner added, that these applications are outside the building line for Bampton, and 12 (iii) is unsuitable as a holiday home; there is no street lighting; there are serious flood issues in the area.

- 4) **Chairman's Report** (for information only) – read by the Chairman and attached to these minutes.

5) County & District Councillor reports:-

District Cllr. Stanley – Elections are looming. Developments in the market and main street in Tiverton are now being started. There is S106 money available for a council project in Bampton, and Morebath. Weed spraying can be done by MDDC – identify the sites and let him know. Cllr. Hicks to progress.

- 6) **Minutes – the Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th February 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.**

- 7) **ENF/19/00065/URBAN Ashleigh Park, Bampton** – possible breach of planning control, bank deterioration and stability: case being reviewed: information if available at the meeting. Not yet available.

8) Shed – to consider a shed for housing both the town flood equipment and the gritting machine. To consider putting a shed on the council car park. Cllr. Mares will look at ideas for siting. April agenda.

9) Bampton Fair – thanks received for the Fair grants from LARCS, Well-Being Group, Morebath Cricket Club, Bampton Heritage Centre,

9a) To consider the offer received from Rowland Devey for the fairground x 3 years. The offer of £1894.00 for 2019 with 2% increases for 2020 and 2021 was accepted. Proposed by Cllr. Baker, seconded by Cllr. Tanner, all in favour by show of hands..

9b) To consider the date of the Fair (31st October). This is after the half-term school holiday in Devon, but not in Somerset. The Fair Working Group have held their first meeting of the year and consider there should be no date change – instead to have a Halloween themed fair. The Working Group meeting minutes will be published in future.

10) Tiverton & District Community Transport Association – from February minutes. To consider a grant to this group towards costs, as currently they have 14 members using the voluntary car service from Bampton. Cllr. Hicks proposed a grant of £500 from the Small Grants Budget; seconded by Cllr. Tanner, all in favour by show of hands.

11) Traffic Issues in Bampton – Cllr. Hicks to provide further updates to Council. Ideas have come in from parishioners. These ideas include enlarging the pavement; installing in a crossing; 217 positive replies received so far. Chairman is considering for a census of traffic: further information to be available at the annual parish meeting.

12) PLANNING:

Planning Applications - Mid Devon District Council has asked for comments from the Town Council on the following planning applications:

- i. 19/00219/FUL Erection of a garage, Higher Barn, Bampton
No objection.
- ii. 19/00173/FUL Removal of condition 3 of planning permission 05/02284/FULL pertaining to removal of agricultural building within 3 years of cessation of use, 35 Frog Street.
Cllr. Edwards took the chair.
Council object – the building should be demolished. Condition 3 should remain.
All in favour by show of hands.
- iii. 19/00174/FUL Conversion of agricultural building to holiday let and change of use of land to associated garden area, land and building north of 35 Frog Street, Bampton.
Objection by Council on the grounds listed. All in favour by show of hands.

This Proposed should be refused.

The grounds advanced for this are largely the same as those for the 2017 application to convert the building to a dwelling.

First. The application site is outside the village boundary. It is noted that in the local plan Bampton has been designated as a village for Planning purposes.

Second. Sewage disposal is difficult and could lead to increased pressure on the already stressed sewer system

Third. Water run off from the site remains a problem, causing problems at the point where the Shuttern Brook enters a culvert at the Town end of Frog Street.

Fourth. Frog Street is a narrow lane with an almost right angled bend near the town. There are no passing places. This is difficult for residents who are familiar with the road constraints, visitors would find the road layout problematic and would add to the already significant congestion.

Fifth. This proposal would lead to the loss of a traditional Devon hedge. Part of the charm and visual amenity of the Lane is the continuous line of hedge. This would be disrupted by the provision of a visibility splay, notwithstanding the proposal to construct a new Devon bank by the applicant.

In conclusion, when approval was granted for the construction of an animal shelter in 2005, one of the conditions was that the building should be removed within three years of the cessation of its use for

agricultural purposes. This was in order to remove unnecessary agricultural vehicles from the Lane and to maintain the visual character of the locality. We believe that the substitution of agricultural vehicles by holiday traffic would not be in the interests of residents of Frog Lane and would increase congestion and lead to conflict between vehicles and pedestrians. The original conditions are even more relevant in respect of this application than when they were applied to the 2005 application.

- iv. 19/00214/CAT Intention to fell one pine tree within conservation area, The Castle.
No objection.
- v. 19/00179/FULL Removal of condition 2 of planning permission 14/01304/FULL to allow permanent use as a dwelling, Pixton Woodlands, Bampton.
Cllr baker proposed condition 2 remains, seconded by Cllr. Edwards all in favour.
- vi. 19/00207/HOUSE Erection of a two storey extension, Way Cottage, Shillingford.
No objection.
- vii. 19/00321/HOUSE Erection of a single storey extension, following demolition of double garage, Sunwyn, High St., Bampton.
No objection.

Planning Decisions:

18/00594/OUT Outline for erection of 5 dwellings, Scotts Quarry.
WITHDRAWN

13) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Four Seasons January (pd. 12/02)	£479.99	
	C.E. Prescott – Old Store works (pd. 12/02)	£225.00	
	SW Water – toilets	£76.76	DD
	1 & 1 Ionos Fair domain name annual charge	£11.99	off credit card.
	MNR Projects Ltd (play area repairs)	£450.00	BACs
	Employment February	£527.95	BACs
	SW Hygiene annual charge: toilets	£389.88	BACs
	Ken White Signs – car park	£204.00	BACs
	Fax & Files – photo-copies	£30.00	BACs
	Four Seasons – grass cuts	£479.99	BACs
	Four Seasons – Orchard as per quote agreed	£996.00	BACs
	IBIS UK – annual computer health check	£35.00	BACs
	Clerks & Councils Direct – annual sub	£12.00	BACs
	UK Craft Fairs – annual (to clerk)	£39.00	BACs
	J. Caunter – toilet cleans	£280.00	BACs
Income:	P3 Footpath monies received for 2019/20	£300.00	

Bank Reconciliation and Statement: Reconciliation and bank statement circulated to all councillors at the meeting.

Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. All in favour by show of hands.

14) The Stage (Silver Street) – request received to have the crazy paving re-pointed as it is now uneven and constitutes a hazard to visitors and volunteer gardeners. Chairman and Clerk having visited the site have identified two patches that need some repair. Bampton in Bloom group to get in touch with Cllr. Hicks to clarify.

15) Millennium Green – to agree to the dog poo/litter bins being emptied by Mid Devon Council. There are 3 bins; weekly charge = £13.25 = £689.00 per annum. Fortnightly charge tba. Council agreed to have the

bins emptied fortnightly. Cleaning of the ball court – possible update. Asked Cllr. Stanley to re-visit the estimate provided for the ball court.

16) Footpath to Scotts – to receive clarification as to the ownership of this footpath (the fence is in a very poor state of repair). Highways are the owners and are responsible for the fence repairs.

18) Open Spaces – to receive updates (if any) from the Open Spaces Committee.

Cllr. Tanner – Wobbly Bridge at the playground has been rebuilt. There are problems with springs on the gates – they require renewing and are to be done soon. Recreation Field – Alan Floyd will be giving a price to remove the fence and the posts. Piers Jones now has a full spraying licence. A car has been dumped at the field. Cllr. Hicks will arrange a notice to go on the car as to its removal.

19) Old Morebath Road – brambles require strimming back close to the hedge: Four Seasons to be contacted first. Oliver Vernon will liaise with Cllr. Hicks.

20) Four Seasons Tree Services – to receive quotation for keeping the Orchard tidy on a regular basis. 2 cuts per year including ditch/stream – spray brambles twice during growing season £840.00 + VAT. Clerk met with Oliver Vernon 6th March to discuss the situation at the Orchard. Quote agreed.

21) Clerk's Report

- i. Asset register now up to date.
- ii. Attended an elections refresher course and reported to Council.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday 3rd April 2019, 7.00pm in the LARC Building.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 26TH APRIL 2019 IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, BAMPTON.

Meeting closed at 8.21pm.

Signed..... Date..... Position.....

Email circulations during the past month

DALC news INVOLVE Funding News

Bampton Town Council Chairman's Report for the meeting of March 6th 2019

With the support of DC Cllr Polly Colthorpe we continue to work to get a safer crossing at the PO/Spar shop. Thank you so much to the distributors of the 'Have Your Say' leaflet: Sophie and Lizzie at Elizabeth Penton Court, Annie Lamond, Joan and Colin Fagg, Anne Khosla, Derek and Rhonda Webster, Ken and Wendy Mills and Stewart Hicks. The co-operation from the staff of the Pharmacy and the PO/Spar shop has been most helpful.

Thank you, too, to everyone who has responded to the call for support and your time in giving your ideas. It is much appreciated. If anyone has forgotten or feels that they have been missed out please get in touch with me. 01398 332101.

It was good too, to see the articles published in the Tiverton Gazette highlighting the issue. Thank you, Lewis Clarke.

I hear from our DC Cllr Polly Colthorpe that Highways have accepted responsibility to repair the rotten but also vandalised railings on the Scott's pathway. Also, she advised that the money for the speed advisory markings for the S. Molton Road is included in this years' Highways' budget. Some good news to report! Renewed signage has been put in place at the Car Park. Eric Cottrell was kind enough to respond as a volunteer to do the job.

The Town, residents and businesses alike, is reaping the benefit of the wonderful Spring planting and the Railway bed pruning-efforts of the Bampton in Bloom team. The results cheer us all up. Thank you so much.

Further work starts on the Old Lock up/toilets on Tuesday, March 12th. The modesty walling height will be reduced, the lower, rotten part of door frames repaired and new doors fitted. Further work on the building will be needed in the next financial year.

*Much has been achieved by BTC in the last 4 years and if you feel you can contribute to Bampton continuing to develop as a rural hub....be brave... Stand for Election!... **Your ideas are needed.** Our well qualified clerk (our legal advisor and financial guru Penny Clapham) has all the governance in hand and is here to guide a new Council from May. Council meeting dates and frequency will be arranged to suit the new Council. Please get in touch with Penny as soon as possible if you are interested. You can also find out more about the role on-line from The Councillors Guide. [https:// local.gov.uk/Councillors Guide 2018](https://local.gov.uk/Councillors%20Guide%202018)*