

Minutes of the Virtual meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 2nd December at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. Hopkinson; Cllr. Williams; Cllr. White; District Cllr. Moore; Lewis Clarke (Press); Cllr. N. Bull; Steve Hall; Cllr. Whiteway; Cllr. McHenry; Cllr. L. Bull; County Cllr. Colthorpe; Penny Clapham (Clerk).

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: Cllr. Weston. Apologies accepted.

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. None declared.

3) Public Discussion – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting or any matters the public would like the Council to consider on a future agenda. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. Standing Order 3 (e,f.) refers.

A reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Steve Hall, invited to give an update on Exestream Radio, supported by Bampton Town Council. This is my first opportunity to thank the Council for their support. We had a slow start but progressing now. We are not quite moved into the new building, but as soon as in can do live broadcasting. From the Bampton point of view the radio has been showcasing Wendy's walks. Thanks again for your support over the last 6 months and the radio is moving forward supporting the various communities. Cllr. Fouracres thanked Steve Hall for the update.

Parishioner brought up the problem of the traffic in Castle St., having set up a camera to retrieve evidence in the past couple of weeks. Huge trucks are seen coming over the pavement. Stated that he is becoming genuinely frightened coming out of his own front door. Counting over 20 lorries a day.

Cllr. L. Bull agreed and evidence is being photo collected – requested Cllr. Colthorpe's advice.

Cllr. N. Bull indicated that children are being encouraged to walk up Castle street pavement to access the new play park.

Cllr. Whiteway commented. Cllr. L. Bull would like a traffic consultant to come and see what is going on.

Cllr. Colthorpe responded – there have been complaints about the traffic in Castle Street for a long time. The safety officer has attended and not been convinced there is a problem. It is a road and traffic are allowed to use the road.

Parishioner has brought this to Council so they are aware of the problem and aware of the issue, something has to be done.

Cllr. Williams – asked if any of the various councils have a responsibility if there is an accident.

Cllr. White – has also noticed how many vehicles are mounting the pavement, which is a narrow strip.

Cllr. Fouracres requested to know if it is Highways responsibility.

The responsibility is with the driver of the truck and the truck owners.

Cllr. Colthorpe will ask Highways again to take a look at this problem.

Cllr. Hopkinson noted that lorries and the parking problem co-exist.

If double yellow lines are both sides of Castle Street, the traffic would just move faster.

Cllr. Fouracres – thanked everyone for their input.

4) Chairman's Report (for information only) – wreath laid on Remembrance Sunday. Attached copy of thanks.

5) County & District Councillor reports:-

County Cllr. Colthorpe – report has been emailed to councillors earlier this week.

The annual consultation on schools currently running until January. It is coming to the end of the 4 year term for county cllrs, and the locality budget needs to be used if possible. Applications have to be in by February. The application form will be sent to the Clerk.

District Cllr. Moore – the main focus is on finances, which look fairly harsh on the core budget for the next financial year. Covid-19 has had a large impact. Just to mention Dean and his team at Mid Devon Council who have handled about £29.25m of financial support given to both business and individuals.

Free parking is available in several car parks in main centres around the area, Saturday and Sunday in December and extending to Saturday in January to encourage use of the town centres.

Leisure centres and the pool are open and well organised.

Cllr. Moore is now a part of the governance working group and looking into making improvements within the District Council.

6) Minutes – the Minutes of the Virtual meeting held on the 4th November 2020 were approved as an accurate record and will be signed at a later date.

7) Budget 2021/2022 – to consider the draft budget presented by the finance committee for the year commencing 1st April 2021. To agree actions and amendments as required.

Cllr. Fouracres explained the deficits relative to possible precept monies. Comments requested. Questions were asked and answered; the final figures will be presented to Council in January prior to setting the precept for the financial year 1st April 2021. Note that it is Council's responsibility and duty to maintain the parish assets.

8) Open Space Committee brief report –

- i. The Orchard – The S106 funding application for £10,000 has been approved to spend on the landscaping of the Orchard as submitted in 2019. A meeting to be held with the approved contractor Four Seasons this December to move this project forward.
- ii. Hollett Garden – Barbara Girdlestone has requested and been given permission to plant bulbs in the garden, with monies from the remainder of the Celebrate National Lottery 25 funds. Noted and thanks to Barbara for her care of the garden. The large conifer will be reduced in size and trimmed.
- iii. Lengthsman – report from Cllr. L. Bull to include the quote for removal of dangerous trees, trim the fir in Hollett Garden and to repair/install fence at Millennium Green.
This week the graffiti will be painted over in the bus stop. Many small jobs have been completed. Removing the dangerous trees from the Millennium Green, the resulting wood will be stacked in habitat piles spreading the wood chip at a cost of £585.00. Resolved to accept. Proposed by Cllr. Hopkinson, all in favour by show of hands.
At the Shuttern Brook, the baptismal gate has been properly anchored back, with a new padlock and a danger sign sited.
Work is in hand to increase accessibility to the proposed wildflower meadow at Recreation Field. Fencing works are required at the Millennium Green with use of the existing fence where possible and new posts and rails installed as required.
- iv. Christmas – Cllr. L. Bull to update Council on progress to date. Thankyou Four Seasons and the stalwart band of volunteers who ensured that all 66 mini trees and the big tree went up in a covid safe manner. The electrical works have been completed on time with the wiring now properly contained.

9) PLANNING:

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

- a) 20/01867/ARM Reserved matters for the erection of a single storey dwelling and detached garage following outline permission 17/01935/OUT, The Vicarage, Barnhay, Bampton.
No objection
- b) 20/01926/FULL Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 19/01818/FULL to allow the substitution of previously approved plans, Wonham Quarry, Bampton.
No objection
- c) 20/01901/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension and alterations to roof, 2 Moat View, Bampton
No objection
- d) 20/01891/LBC Listed building consent for alterations to first floor layout, Court Grove, Bampton.
No objection
- e) 20/01951/FULL Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 16/00047/FULL to modify approved materials relating to plots 47/48 and 58/59, Scotts Business Park, Bampton.
No comment

Planning Decisions:

- a) 19/01804/FULL Erection of replacement agricultural building, Lower Rill, Shillingford.
APPROVED
- b) 20/01602/CAT to remove 1 willow tree within conservation area, Brook Street.
NO OBJECTION

10) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Devon CC Xmas light supply	£308.92	BACs 13/11
	Employment November	£589.00	BACs
	West of England Fire – service	£33.60	BACs
	Jamie Whyte, illustrator	£450.00	BACs
	DALC – cllr training	£18.00	BACs
	J. Caunter – toilet cleans November	£300.00	BACs
	Four Seasons – grass cuts	£479.99	BACs
	Bampton in Bloom – plants	£28.00	BACs
	R. White – Xmas assorted	£434.12	BACs
	Mid Devon – annual bin empty	£468.00	BACs
	Four Seasons – essential tree works	£2,088.00	BACs
Income:	VAT refund received	£23,534.40	DD
	Car Park	£184.00	Cash
	Toilets	£23.00	Cash
	SW Water – credit/toilets	£67.06	off next bill

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors at the meeting.

Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all in favour by show of hands.

11) Action Challenge – Confirmation received that this Challenge from Coast to Coast, are stopping off at Bampton Recreation Field from Friday 23rd July to Sunday 25th July 2021. This is the charity walk/run which was cancelled this year. Noted.

12) Clerk's Report –

- a) Further diversion order posted from Devon CC for highway known as Holwell Farm, Bampton. Acknowledged receipt by email and no objection to the proposal as previously stated.
- b) Request to purchase an up to date (edn. 12) of Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration, book cost £169.99 (hope to get a 20% discount). Allowed.
- c) Clerk's holiday – to close the offices from Monday 21st December to Tuesday 5th January inclusive, being 10 working days holiday – leaving a total of 14 working days still owed as holiday to 31st March 2021. Granted.
- d) Copy and pictures of the play area in the Recreation Field have been sent to Mid Devon for their newsletter and to DALC to hopefully publish today.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Cllr. Whiteway complimented Cllr. L. Bull her appearance today on BBC TV talking about Grove House and Covid-19 safety measures.

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on **Wednesday 13th January 2021** at 7.00pm. Likely to be a virtual meeting. Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Virtual meeting agreed

Signed.....

Date.....

Email circulations during the past month

Latest news from the ICO (sent 06/11)

DALC Newsletter 64 (sent 06/11)

ConnectMe Devon (sent 13/11)

Chairman's report:

There are two Bampton parishioners that I would like to mention, first Barbara Girdlestone who has been doing sterling work in getting the Hollett garden back into shape and is currently planting bulbs to create a colourful display in the New Year. She is a volunteer gardener doing excellent work to make Bampton an attractive and welcoming place for visitors and residents. Thank you Barbara.

Next I understand that Katrina and Richard Munroe are all set to leave Bampton and settle in Wales. The council would like to pay tribute to Katrina for her contributions to the community of Bampton in many different roles. First with business partner Julia Meyer at the Toucan cafe where, as well as providing good food, they turned the Toucan into a real community hub, bringing people together to collaborate on projects which have benefitted the whole community. The Spring Fair was re-vitalised, the Bampton Business Group was started, a Christmas open evening for local businesses has become a regular event and Katrina has been active in supporting the Bampton Fair committee.

Perhaps her most significant achievement has been her leadership as chair of the Trustees of the Bampton Heritage and Visitor Centre. From the initial idea through to the official opening in 2013 and right up until today, her enthusiasm, hard work and drive has been an inspiration to all the Trustees and volunteers. The Centre has had over 13,000 visitors since it opened.

Thank you Katrina, you will be missed and we wish you and Richard success in the next stage of your lives.