

Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 7th September at 7pm in the LARC building.

Present – Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. White; Cllr. N. Bull; County Cllr. Chesterton; Lewis Clarke (Press); Adam Paget; Cllr. Williams; Cllr. Weston; Cllr. McHenry; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. Jones. 15 members of the public. District Cllr. Stanley.

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: District Cllr. Moore. Cllr. Whiteway. 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.

Cllr. Chesterton has been asked to speak regarding the consultation on Castle Street. Cllr. Chesterton has spoken to Highways officers requesting the results of the consultation on Castle Street; informed quite a clear view from the public with around 80% against the proposals being consulted on. His view is that no further action should be taken, however, this will still be down to the next meeting of the HATOC Committee. Noted that a petition has gone around and been sent to Devon County Council. This is very helpful as it is a clear steer from the public making this a meaningful consultation.

Cllr. L. Bull commented that it should be made more clear that these consultations are for the public to respond to.

Parishioner commented that there was only a three week consultation period available.

Further comments were made by a parishioner against both the Council and individual councillors.

Cllr. Fouracres responded to all the members of the public.

Cllr. Williams put forward points regarding previous consultation work done by the Council with regard to Castle Street.

Cllr. Chesterton further responded regarding the consultation. Next HATOC meeting is 28th November 10.30am at Mid Devon offices. The agenda and report should be published a week before.

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.

See above.

A parishioner whose job is to call on individuals at home; has had two emergencies recently. Requested to know if there are first aiders in the village who could be called on. She had also been called on to get a defibrillator but does not know how to use one. Cllr. L. Bull about the First Responder Scheme thinks this scheme has been withdrawn. Informed everyone that a defibrillator does have instructions within it as to how to operate it. It could be good to consider a health initiative such as a buddy scheme for Bampton. Parishioner informed Council that they now have a Ukrainian family with little English – if away this could put this family into a vulnerable situation. Lewis Clarke suggested they get in touch with Petroc as they are organising weekly get-together sessions for those from Ukraine.

Parishioner brought up the issue of the on-going hole in the road dug by SW Water. Council are attempting to get this sorted out.

4) Chairman's Report (for information only) – a letter from Bampton Scout Group has been received regarding their lease which runs until 2030. The Scout Group would like reassurance that the lease will be renewed in good time. To send a letter of support.

5) County & District Councillor reports:-

District Cllr. Stanley informed Council that budgeting is difficult at this time. The district council has been very quiet due to holidays.

County Cllr. Chesterton informed Council that for a short while the Locality fund has been closed but hopefully will be reopened shortly. Will send details and figures as available.

6) Minutes – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th July 2022. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

7) Millennium Green – to receive an update on the survey with reference to teen facilities. To agree further actions and associated expenditure.

Adam Paget reported – the consultation has run its course 8th July to 6th September; 204 people responded through Google surveys. The responses were specific to the area and the surroundings – under the comments box there was a variety of suggestions alongside a pump track. Council thanked Adam Paget for an excellent job done.

Council resolved to approve this project subject to planning permissions being given, proposed by Cllr. Williams and seconded by Cllr. White. The Clerk will liaise with Adam Paget regarding the planning application.

8) Bampton Hall – to receive a progress report on the pre-planning and environmental studies. Cllr. White has a planning consultant in mind. No further progress and no meeting set.

9) Charter Fair – update from the Fair Committee. Cllr. White – all going quite well except for the chicken auction which has had to be cancelled due to Avian Flu. Volunteers as stewards would be gratefully appreciated. Suggested a voucher scheme for stewards for refreshments. Also required are 3 teams of 3 to put out and take back in the road cones. The new logo was discussed.

10) Open Spaces & Assets-

- a) Vandalism report since April 2022 – for discussion. (Attached to this agenda). A link as to how to report a crime has been placed onto the Council and the Town websites, with a request to report vandalism. Cllr. N. Bull would like to know the cost of the vandalism so far. Clerk to report.
- b) Bins around Bampton. An up to date list of all the bins around Bampton has been provided by Mid Devon Council together with a map. There are 34 bins, emptied twice weekly.
- c) Grass cutting contract – to consider this contract should be put out for quotations early in 2023. Complaints about the cutting within the car park due to cars being parked. This is an ongoing issue. Council resolved to issue requests for quotes early in 2023.
- d) Fly tipping – information on this subject and how you can report it is available here and on the council website. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/environment/street-care/fly-tipping/>
- e) Restricted byways nos 26 & 27 Notice of Order – comments to be received by October.
- f) Asset register – it has been decided to photograph Council's assets as an update to the asset register. A visual check of many of the assets was made by the Chairman and the Clerk on Wednesday 24th August.
- g) A replacement 'grab bar' is required for the disabled toilet – currently being sourced.
- h) It is impossible to pick the apples in the orchard due to the overgrowth – to agree actions. To ask Four Seasons to trim under the trees – Cllr. L. Bull.

- i) Clerk to request the spec for the roundabout from Dragon Play. Cllr. Williams brought up the issue of the swing – Clerk to ascertain quotes for either one or two swings – one of which being a toddler swing. Cllr. Williams is organising a work party to clear and repair items in the playground.

11) Christmas – planning for this annual festive break – Cllr. L. Bull to report. Hoping to have some open businesses this year on the switch on night. The trees will be happening as usual. Switch on to be decided. Agenda for October. Change solar lights to battery lights on the small trees.

12) Grant application from St. Michael’s Community Hall – to discuss and agree actions and associated expenditure. To request a copy of their accounts and to agenda this item in October.

13) PLANNING:

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

Planning Decisions:

- a) 22/00107/HOUSE Installation of replacement front door and window, The Gallery, Newton Square.
GRANTED
- b) 22/01150/FULL Erection of replacement dwelling (revised scheme) Five Levels, Old Tiverton Rd.
APPROVED
- c) 22/01135/HOUSE Erection of single storey timber garage and carport, The Castle, Castle St.
APPROVED
- d) 22/01331/FULL Erection of an agricultural barn, Kersdown Barton.
APPROVED

14) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	A. Deptford replacement defib pads	£137.94	BACs 11/07
	UK Table Tennis – table and installation	£924.00	BACs 11/07
	SW Water – toilets estimated	£106.61	DD
	SW Water – store estimated	£14.93	DD
	N. Page P3 works to footpaths	£300.00	BACs 08/08
	Four Seasons – Grass + weeding	£839.99	BACs 08/08
	Employment July	£785.64	BACs 08/08
	Hoar Oak Publishing – Fair	£42.00	BACs 08/08
	EDF – toilets (prior to regular DD)	£67.82	DD 29/07
	Buy a Plan	£33.46	Card
	Ionos – Bampton.org domain	£11.99	Card

For payment and authorisation at this meeting.

IBIS UK – computer fault fix	£30.00	BACs
PKF Littlejohn – external audit	£360.00	BACs
S. Fouracres – assorted purchases	£129.51	BACs
Employment August	£785.64	BACs
Sam Stokes – Jubilee balance owing	£1,667.02	BACs
Heritage Centre – from Jubilee monies	£1,000.00	BACs
J. Caunter – toilet cleans August	£310.00	BACs
LARC – hire for meeting	£60.00	BACs
Four Seasons	£527.99	BACs
Bowdens Wood Fuel – gas Jubilee	£159.60	BACs

Income:	Open Reach wayleave	£24.50	BACs
	CCLA to 31 st July	£67.03	Re-invested
	Toilets & car park income	£170.00	Cash banked

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

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

15) External Audit Result – no issues raised by the external auditor and the notice of conclusion of audit has been published on the website. Noted.

16) Finance Committee – to set an informal pre-budget discussion date towards the end of September. Agreed on Wednesday 21st September 9.30am.

17) Clerk’s absence from 14th November until January 2023 – to discuss whether a locum should be in situ during this absence. All but 4 days of this leave is covered under annual holiday allowance. Cllr. L. Bull suggested a locum clerk. Cllr. White stated that the clerk’s absence should be made clear to all in Bampton. Clerk was asked to comment – there is no need for a locum as it is a quiet time of year. Cllr. Fouracres will check emails during this time and the December meeting will go ahead as usual with a councillor taking the minutes.

18) Jubilee Celebrations – final financial result from the Jubilee 4 day weekend’s activities. Total income £12,270: total expenses (inc. 2 listed above) £12,110.61: leaves £159.39. A suggestion that the balance from the Fair 2021 of £740.50 is added to the above to provide some photography/media workshops for children. Council to consider and agree actions. Council resolved to add the balance of the Fair monies to the balance of the Jubilee monies for this project. Suggested that perhaps photos of the fair would make a good project. Proposed by Cllr. N. Bull, all agreed.

19) Civility and Respect Pledge – information circulated prior to this meeting – to agree actions. There is now a Dignity at Work Policy, which will replace Bullying and Harassment Policies. Council resolved to take the Pledge; Clerk to action.

20) Clerk’s Report –

- i. Clerk will be attending the Devon Assoc of Local Councils conference on 5th October.
- ii. Complaint received reference overgrown trees/hedging on footpath from Station Road – Highways have been informed by email.
- iii. Warm Spaces initiative – to be aware of this national initiative. Agenda for October.
- iv. Monday 5th September. Paul from Mid Devon Council has removed the brown bin and associated rubbish. Whilst there he also removed an old bin from the stream, a bike helmet and lot of broken wood. I have emailed thanks to Mid Devon for his excellent work.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on 5th October 2022 at 7.00pm in the LARC building.

Email circulations during the past month

DALC Newsletter 32 (sent 13/07)

DALC Newsletter 38 (sent 26/08)

Devon Climate Emergency Newsletter (sent 02/09)

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (sent 05/09)