

**Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 7pm in the LARC building.**

**Present** – Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. Williams; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. White; District Cllr. Moore; Cllr. Jones; Penny Clapham (Clerk). Cllr. N. Bull (delayed by work)

**1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:** Cllr. Weston. Cllr. Whiteway. County Cllr. Chesterton.

**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.

**4) Chairman's Report (for information only)** – The proposed Bampton Business Group could be moving forward; suggested that Council pay a room hire for a start-up meeting. Met with local police in the LARC recently, 10 parishioners attended with a variety of subjects discussed. A 'landmark' crab apple tree is being donated by the Wildlife Trust. Discussion as to where the tree is to be planted.

**5) County & District Councillor reports –**

Cllr. Chesterton reported by email to keep reporting potholes.

District Cllr. Moore reported that budgets are to be discussed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February – there appears to be a deficit still to be sorted.

The Frog Street application. Currently there are objections on highways/drainage/visual impact. Applicant has requested more time to address the first two items.

The removal of 10 homes in School Close proposal; 8 are Woolaway properties in a very poor state + 2 bungalows. The replacements will be z build type and eco neutral, a total of 19 to be built with varying numbers of bedrooms. The Council are looking to demolish autumn 2023 with groundworks to commence early 2024. A briefing pack will be sent to Council. Cllr. L. Bull asked if some of this accommodation could have key worker availability. Cllr. Moore responded with housing needs for Bampton have been matched as best as possible.

Informed Council that he is not standing for re-election in May. Cllr. Fouracres on behalf of the Town Council thanked Cllr. Moore for all his time and effort assisting Bampton over the past few years.

**6) Minutes** –the Minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**7) Open Spaces Reports/Actions –**

- i) Hollett Garden. Barbara Girdlestone is no longer able to look after the Hollett Garden, so Council are in need of a new volunteer. Contact scouts/school to see if there is any interest.
- ii) Trees report surrounding the car park. See clerks report viii. Cancel Green Trees.
- iii) Millennium Green, update on the proposed pump track, to consider a future plan specific to the M.Green. The planning application has been submitted to the planning authority. An ecological survey may be requested.

- iv) Quote for replacement of birds nest swing if required at £2051.60 + VAT. Cllr. Williams explained that this would only be used if the swing is moving within the concrete, otherwise it will be a repair. Resolved to replace the swing if required. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all in favour by show of hand.
- v) Bench on S. Molton Road still has broken wooden slats. Cllr. Williams to action.

**8) Bampton Hall** – to confirm that the pre-application has been submitted to Mid Devon Council. Cllr. White agreed it has been submitted and there is a site meeting this week.

**9) Bampton Charter Fair** – to receive a report on the committee meeting from Cllr. White. The Charter Fair has not made a profit at present. Expenses have been higher and income lower in 2022. The Lord of the Manor has agreed to extend the lease for another 10 years. Clerk to action with the solicitors.

**10) Climate Emergency** – any update to be received. Cllr. L. Bull – April agenda.

**11) PLANNING:**

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

**Planning Decisions:**

- a) 22/01643 Change of use of agricultural land for the siting of a shepherds hut for use as holiday let, Land and buildings at Hayne Barton, Shillingford.  
APPROVED
- b) 22/02050/FULL Installation of 72 ground mounted solar panels, Whittenhays, Bampton.  
APPROVED
- c) 22/02376/CLD Siting of a mobile home on land at Little Hedge Meadow, Shillingford.  
APPROVED

**12) FINANCE:**

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Eventbrite – Clerk’s attendance at Local Councils and Community Engagement; Zoom	£38.93	Council Card
	Dutch Landscape Architects	£840.00	BACs
	N. Stevens – Xmas trees	£240.00	BACs
	NBB Outdoors – bike rack & fixings	£344.64	BACs
	Employment January	£848.84	BACs
	J. Caunter – toilet cleans January	£310.00	BACs
	S. Fouracres – padlock	£31.49	BACs
	Four Seasons – strimming/hedges	£1372.80	BACs
	Four Seasons – grass cuts	£527.99	BACs
	LARCS – room hire	£84.00	BACs
	Mid Devon Mobility – grant	£500.00	BACs
<b>Income:</b>	Planning fee for rec field refunded to the Clerk	£219.33	

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors at the meeting. Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all agreed by show of hands.

Cllr. N. Bull arrived.

**13) Grant Application** – a grant request has been received from Mid Devon Mobility for £500. The application has been circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting. Resolved to agree this amount. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all agreed by show of hands.

**14) Policy and Document update check –**

- i. Risk Assessment Open Spaces
- ii. Risk Assessment Council actions
- iii. Training Policy

All policies accepted as circulated.

**15) Annual Parish Meeting** – to set a date for this meeting, suggested venue the Community Hall which is available on most Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays in March/April. The Community Hall is currently closed for repairs. Use of Eventbrite to invite to LARC.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April preferred date. Refreshments to be served.

**16) Request from Rotary** – to note that Rotary have received a legacy from the late Shiela Howells estate, to fund small accessibility improvements in Bampton. Information emails have been forwarded to Councillors prior to this meeting. Possible thoughts could be town gateways. Councillors will give this some thought.

**17) Coronation of King Charles III** – no beacons for the coronation. Suggestions of a “Big Lunch” on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>. Comments please. Put in Signpost. Bring and share. Dog show. Agenda March.

**18) Clerk’s Report –**

- i. To report on Local Councils and Community Engagement zoom attended 25<sup>th</sup> January.
- ii. Phone request for a grit bin up Old Tiverton Road (further up from Scouts field) – to be noted.
- iii. I have enquired about training for councillors after the elections. A block booking to suit when Elise would come to Bampton could be organised. This could also be shared with other councils in the area if they are interested. Your thoughts would be welcome.
- iv. Harry George, stonemason is looking for somewhere in Bampton where he could store his tools safely – to save carrying them around all the time. He enquired about the Old Store.
- v. Make A Change become a Councillor promotion emailed to Signpost for publication.
- vi. SW Hygiene are increasing their annual fee from £324.90 to £337.90 + VAT: this is for sanitary and nappy disposal at the toilets – to be noted.
- vii. Local Councils and Community Engagement workshop attended by the Clerk – brief report.
- viii. Tree survey at the car park – Martin from Chris Groves Associates does tree inspections in the summer when the trees are in leaf. May I suggest cancelling Green Trees for March and having the survey done in June.
- ix. Bolham Primary School – have asked the police about speedwatch – the police referred them to the Council – they are seeking help.

**EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:** reports from Councillors

**Items for Information**

Meeting closed at 8.23pm

Signed..... Date.....

The next Council meeting is on 1stMarch 2023 at 7.00pm in the LARC building.