

Bampton Town Council: Draft Minutes of meeting 3 Dec. 2013

Notes on the Public Forum on 3rd December 2013

There were no questions from members of the public. The Chairman therefore decided to summarise the situation regarding the Heritage Centre in the light of his recent discussions with Amy Tregellas, the Monitoring Officer from MDDC. Bampton Town Council have already made a decision to require appropriate paperwork before making funds available to the Heritage Centre. This decision could not be reversed but would remain on the table for one year.

**('Appropriate Paperwork' = a properly drawn up Constitution of the Heritage Centre Committee either accepted by the Charities Commission or formally adopted by the Council for Voluntary Service)

The Chairman asked Cllr Polly Colthorpe to present her report during the time allocated to the Public Forum with the proviso that if any other members of the public arrived during this time and wished to ask a question, this would be done.

Draft Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on 2nd December 2013.

1. Apologies from Cllrs Rachel Gilmour and Francis Stoner and from the Clerk, Jane Eyre

Councillors present: Brian Smith (Chairman), Edward Tanner, Rodney Baker, Keith Pitt, Jean Pope, Jack Ward, William Weston, Polly Colthorpe and acting Clerk, Wendy Lunel. (Initials only will be used in the rest of the minutes)

2. Jean Pope declared a personal interest in item 7e

3. (item 5 on the agenda) Cllr Colthorpe reported that MDDC's Local Plan Review Draft was currently going out to consultation. She asked Councillors to study it carefully and report on it.

Devon County Council's ' Waste Plan' is also out for consultation with a 12 week consultation period. She pointed out that Bampton's nearest 'Energy from Waste' incinerator would be located on the planned 'East Urban Expansion' (potential house purchasers would need to be aware of this plan.)

PC brought details of Christmas MDDC opening hours and changes to refuse collection times. These are also on MDCC web site.

PC commented on the recent Ministry for Communities comments that councils were 'sitting on large reserves of money'. She reported that in the past The Audit Commission had made it clear that Councils needed bigger reserves to deal with emergencies than they had saved. More recent policies have therefore involved putting aside resources but both DCC and MDCC are currently dipping into these to repay debts and cover ongoing expenditure so neither has large reserves now. Their

budgets for 2014/15 are still being worked on by the 4 Scrutiny Committees for 'People', 'Places', 'Health & Wellbeing' and 'Corporate Matters'. These will go through various stages and arrive at Full Committee stage before the end of March. There is no news yet on bus passes or libraries. PC said the road works at the Black Cat are not due to finish until Mid March and there will be no access to Bampton until then although some changes to the 3 way lights system may happen before then.

KP expressed concern at the increased heavy lorries, including Devonshire Homes earth removal lorries, which are now coming through the town. He also mentioned an un-notified road closure by May Gurney today (2/12/13) along the Old Tiverton Rd . PC said she would investigate.

4. Minutes of meeting on 5th November and matters arising:

a) BS said in item 7d – it is Mr Woolley's daughter, not Mr Woolley, who has offered to sell the coconut matting although this had not been made clear at the meeting.

b) ET proposed and JP seconded that there should always be an AOB item at the end of every agenda to deal with those matters which had arisen since the publication of the agenda. Carried unanimously. Action: Clerk to add AOB item at the end of each agenda, only to be used for those matters which have arisen since the publication of the agenda and need an urgent response before the next meeting.

c) The Council wish to record their thanks to ALL those involved in putting up Christmas trees and lights in Bampton. JW proposed ET seconded that improved funding for next year's decorations be put as an item on the agenda for discussion in June 2014. Carried unanimously. Action: Clerk to add an item on June's agenda.

5. Finances:

Bampton Fair expenses.

29th July DCC road closure £50.00 6th August Community First insurance £144.50

1st October Stewards jackets £100.00 5th November Ken White Signs £301.00

5th November Contact radios £102.00 5th November KS Fire Protection £25.00

5th November Riverside Hall (Thank you) £10.00 5th November M.Morgan £200.00

5th November Riverside Hall (Vols) £70.00 3rd December Luxury Loos £457.00

3rd December St Johns Ambulance £333.33 3rd December R.White-rent- £100.00

3rd December SW Tree Fellers £99.00 3rd December B.Smith plastic ties £11.02

Total £2003.25 exclusive of VAT

Receipts: Bampton Fair Working Group £1970.84 Anderton & Rowland £1785.00

Total £3755.84

Giving a total profit of £1752.59

December 2013 Payment Due.

D/D MDDC	Rates for toilets and car park.	£77.00
J.Eyre	Clerks salary	£724.00
Exmoor Luxury Loos	Toilets for fair	£548.40
St John's Ambulance	Fair	£400.00
E.H.Blake	Repair Pump House	£200.00
Wickstead Leisure	Four swing seats	£186.69
Richard White	Fair rent	£100.00
Filmbank Distributors	Riverside Film	£99.00
Southwest Tree Fellers	Collection of fair signs	£99.00
MJF Contractors	Oct grass cut	£68.17
Mr B Smith	Key cutting and ties	£51.97
Mrs J Pope	Ink cartridges	£19.50
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE & NI	£2.56
M.Morgan	Toilets cleaning	£300.00

November 2013 receipts

20 th November	Riverside Hall films	£83.00
20 th November	Anderton & Rowland's Fair	£1785.00
27 th November	Car parks	£126.00

Cheques not cashes at 27th November 2013

1782 £500.00 1750 £10.00 1795 £70.00

Bank statements @ 27th November 2013

HSBC £32,035.18cr Scottish Widows £36,531.39cr

Car Park revenue;

W/E 22nd Nov £123.99

W/E 29th Nov £35.71 Annual running total £1,928.80

The Treasurer noted that the Fair profits (Apprx £2000) was available for local charities Action; Clerk to put note in January's signpost asking people to apply for grants from the Fair proceeds.

6. On –going business.

a) The owner of the wooden white horse, which is a time capsule, seeks a new location. A ground level location where it could be vandalised is not thought to be a suitable option. Action; ET & BS to discuss the location with the owner and MDCC to see if permissions are needed.

b) The Riverside Hall and Recreation Ground Funding meeting has been fixed for Tuesday 10th December at 7.30 pm in the Albert Fowler room. Action; TAP funding application to be completed by Clerk by 10th Dec to include input from the Clerk to Morebath PCC. All Bampton councillors to attend if possible to meet Paul Tucker of MDDC.

c) Playground inspections: BS has been in touch with Adrian Cooke of MDDC re monthly inspections. .ET proposed and RB seconded a monthly inspection ,costing £25 each visit for a 3 monthly trial period and the automatic repair of any items up to a cost of £75 per month without referral for authorisation and the training of JP to take over this role. Confirmed unanimously. Action; BS to confirm details with Adrian Cooke . ET , JP & BS to be there at the first inspection and ET to contact parents with children who use the playground to attend if possible with suggestions/ comments.

d) Rents for Scout Hut and football field: The Scouts have paid Action; Clerk to send invoice to the Football Club.

e) Vandalism at the pump house: Repairs were requires twice last month following damage through vandalism. Proposed KP and seconded by RB that the quote from Chris Adams for security lighting is accepted. Passed unanimously. As not all quotes for the gates were available at the meeting KP & RB proposed they are all available for the next meeting; they also proposed that there is a working party within the near future to tidy and improve the area around the pump house. Action. Clerk to accept Chris Adams quote for electrical work. JP to set up date for volunteer working party and establish the practicability of volunteers clearing fallen trees asap. ET, BS, & KP to meet at pump house to determine the spec for new work and new fencing at the pump house by properly certificated workmen. BS has changed the key and has a list of current key holders.

f) Parish Lengthsman: Currently working unsatisfactorily Action: JP to urgently contact Steve Leigh at DCC with a list of work which needs to be done before Christmas. This includes cutting back of trees blocking lights in the Packhorse Way and on the footpath between Frog Street and Bouchier Close as well as numerous drains blocked by fallen leaves. ET proposed and RB seconded that if this cannot be done within the next 10 days a contractor should be engaged to do this work urgently. Passed

g) Parish precept: This must be decided at the next meeting for submission at the end of January. Action: Clerk to put this as an item on January's agenda. All Councillors to put forward their ideas for next year's improvements.

KP expressed concern that Bampton Town Council should not take on items that are MDDC's responsibility and obligation – he felt that MDDC might be deliberately dragging their feet in order that town/parish councils get so concerned that they take these responsibilities on themselves. ET expressed concern that Bampton had neglected certain items in recent years and the town needed a bit of a boost

h) Mobile vehicle/kitchen parked in Silver Street. Councillors had received complaints about the excessive length of time that this had been parked in a Conservation Area and both the untidiness of the area and the reduced accessibility for mobility scooters/prams etc. Action. KP to discuss with the owner re immediate removal and if this is unsuccessful, Clerk to contact appropriate MDDC department to ensure permanent removal

i) Neighbourhood Plan. Action. Clerk to complete the funding application form ready for discussion with Paul Tucker at meeting on 10th December. Clerk to add Agenda item for January's meeting.

BS reported that the Parish plan was at the printing stage and these ideas could help towards the Neighbourhood plan but he asked all Councillors to consider ideas for next month.

j) Clothing /Book banks in the car park. These are currently being abused. JP proposed ET seconded. (Carried) that Clerk to contact charities and give 3 months notice to remove them .

k) Traffic speeds in High Street:

Steve Lee of DCC has monitored the speeds and claims the average speeds are 15 mph outside Spar.

Councillors were not happy with this conclusion as they felt average speeds did not reflect the Maximum speeds which some drivers attain and the high risk of an accident. Action Clerk to contact Steve Lee and Vicky Follett to request a) a meeting

with councillors b) the possibility of using a speed indicator device for a full week which could be the basis for police caution letters.

7. Planning

i) 13/01459/FULL Extension to 5 Silver Street .The Council has no objections. Certain concerns expressed by objectors do not fall within the remit of the council but they feel reassured that as builders' access will be whilst the property is unoccupied, most materials etc should go through the house and not via the shared rear access.

ii) 13/01437/FULL Erection of dwellings and garages at 33 Ashleigh Park. The Council agree subject to the following conditions;

a) the existing permission for 7 houses is rescinded

b) new, deeper more thorough soil/geology tests are made

c) all the conditions relating to the permission for the 7 houses are retained.

iii) 13/01502/FULL Conversion of part of restaurant to flat. The Council has some concerns about the main public access being onto the main street eg will smokers congregate there? Will passengers be dropped off there? However there are no objections in principal.

8) AOB.

Councillors had received information about new Litter bins and would like this item on next month's agenda with the possibility of installing a metal one at the Recreation grounds Action Clerk to add to the agenda and check with MDDC whether this could be emptied and whether this would have to replace or be in addition to the Dog bin.

9. The next meeting is Jan 7th 2014.