

## **Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 7pm in the Community Hall, Bampton.**

**Present:** Cllr. Edwards; (Vice chairman); Cllr. Tanner; Cllr. Leach; Cllr. A. Mares; Cllr. C. Mares; Cllr. J. Gregory; Cllr. Baker; Stephen Walford; County Cllr. Colthorpe; District Cllr. Moore; Penny Clapham (clerk) 6 members of the public.

**1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:** Cllr. Hicks. 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) Stephen Walford, CEO of Mid Devon District Council;** available to answer questions from Councillors and the Public.

Stephen Walford addressed the meeting. Now is the time to create our own destiny with collaboration and partnership working. It is increasingly apparent from government, of the expectation that we (councils) are to be interventionist. It appears harder to make things happen here; however this has to change. Mid Devon Council are setting up their own property company to directly link with housing. This is for the good of the district, making sure development comes forward where it is wanted. Mr. Walford further explained how other services are provided, asking, are we doing a reasonable job and can we prove it. There is a lot of potential at Mid Devon and he is here to make things happen.

Sheila Howells asked if Mid Devon Council have the skills to make these things happen. Yes in most cases. Parishioner asked about property development – does this mean compulsory purchase? No. As a property developer, this cannot happen. As a Council this can happen but is very rare.

Parishioner asked what has been your biggest crisis. Mr. Walford replied, no crisis but the biggest challenge is taking the staff along this new and exciting road. Plus having been in post for just over a year, a recent achievement has been the changed outlook within Mid Devon, to being outwardly focused and no longer insular.

Cllr. Gregory raised a question about funding Cullompton, J28 and J27, and the regeneration in Tiverton.

Mr. Walford replied that the biggest challenge is around the unknown. He is pushing to get an understanding of the totality of the J27 site. Then a deal can be taken to government. J28 is residential.

Cllr. Tanner asked what future for places like Bampton if these junctions take place.

Smaller places should benefit in good way.

Cllr. Edwards thanked Mr. Walford for his time and presentation.

**4) Public Discussion –** To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting. Representations can be made from our County Councillor, District Councillor and Community Police Officer. **The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. Standing Order c,d,e, page 3 refers.**

Mrs. Fagg enquired about the Exeter Strategic Plan, and their call for sites. To be on guard for creeping development.

Cllr. Moore indicated that the local plan hopefully will be approved by the end of September.

Sheila Howells expressed support for the current community website. Website discussion is an agenda item. Supports the idea of a notice board on the Stage. Volunteered to help with the parish plan.

Cllr. Weston arrived at 7.29pm.

**5) County & District Councillor reports:-**

Cllr. Colthorpe's report emailed to Councillors today. A brief explanation was given to the members of the public present.

Cllr. Moore advised Council that the new housing white paper has been issued. This allows for up to 20% increase in fees. Mid Devon have achieved a balanced budget for 17/18. Special planning company set up – separate entity but benefit will come to the council. Architects have been appointed for the development of the town hall site. Litter team has been appointed from 1<sup>st</sup> April to clear outside parish boundaries (30mph). Booklets on local walks. Mid Devon voted 18<sup>th</sup> in league table of best rural places to live in the country.

**6) Chairman's Report** (for information only) – Thank you to Paul and Doreen Banks and other helpers for the lovely display of flowers in the town. Some of the potholes have been filled in Brook Street; thanks to our district and county councillors for their lobbying. The whole street is down for re-surfacing this year.

**7) Minutes – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.** The minutes having been previously circulated to all councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**8) Bampton Fair –**

- i. To receive update from Clerk (acting Tolly) from meeting held 4pm, 5<sup>th</sup> April of Working Group. Clerk updated Council on this meeting – all in hand for the Fair this year.
- ii. Fair Committee to report on actions taken to date. No report available as yet.

**9) Bampton Toilets –** any further updates to be reported to Council.

Cllr. Edwards is continuing to be in touch with Steve Densham who is dealing with the still outstanding issues. One coin unit has never worked and one has a faulty display – still not sorted out. Concerns recorded that these units are not fit for purpose, being internal not external units. Letter received from member of the public with some concerns about the toilets. Cllr. Edwards to reply to the letter.

**10) Website**

- i. To receive the report from Cllr. Gregory as to the possible use of the Mid Devon website compared to a specific website dedicated to the town of Bampton.  
Not interested in affecting the community website whatsoever. Council need a separate website to ensure protection of their own data. There would be a link between the two sites. Costings were discussed at the previous meeting in March. Recommendation to use the free site from Mid Devon Council rather than a paid for site. Put to the vote. 6 in favour, 1 abstention. Motion carried. Cllr. Gregory will set up the pages on the Mid Devon Council website, which can then be operated by the Clerk after suitable training.
- ii. Ownership of the current community website by Bampton Council. Clerk to report on this matter after meeting Mr. Berridge on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

Standing orders suspended for parishioner to speak.

Standing orders resumed.

Council now own the names of the community website through the hosting company 1 & 1, a contract having been arranged for the next 3 years from today. Mr. Berridge will continue to run this website as before.

**11) PLANNING:**

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

- a) To action any planning applications that arrive after this agenda has been published
- b) 17/00447/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension, 2 Bouchier Close, Bampton  
No comment
- c) 17/00476/HOUSE Erection of extensions to include raising of roof height and erection of replacement garage and store, Sycamores, South Molton Rd., Bampton  
No objection

- d) 17/00525/ARM Reserved matters for the erection of 4 bungalows and garages following outline approval 14/00140/OUT, Land & Buildings East of Simla Cottage, Ashleigh Park.  
No objection

### Planning Decisions:

- a) 17/00084/LBC Removal of external log store, relocation of boiler, insertion of external flue, renovation of existing rear porch, Croft House, 5 Briton St., Bampton  
GRANTED
- b) 17/00026/FULL Erection of an agricultural storage building, Wick Farm, Bampton  
GRANTED
- c) 17/00230/CAT To fell 1 willow tree in a conservation area, The Flat, 4A Newton Sq. Bampton  
GRANTED
- d) 16/01932/MFUL Construction of two ponds, wetland area, an attenuation basin and creation of additional 120m of Devon hedgebank, Higher Barn, Bampton  
GRANTED.

### 12) FINANCE:

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Clerk's salary month 12	£416.00	BACs
	PAYE Q4	£312.00	BACs
	Clerk's expenses Q4	£285.23	BACs
	SW Water Lock-up	£85.27	DD
	Cllr. Gregory, purchase of benches	£25.00	BACs
	J. Caunter toilet cleans March	£310.00	BACs
	MJF Contractors grass cuts	£95.00	BACs
	Visionict 9 hosted email accounts	£145.80	BACs
	Visionict Biennial fee for .gov.uk	£90.00	BACs
	Cllr. Hicks assorted expenses	£52.76	BACs
	C. Rowland – allotment land rent 2017/18	£1.00	Cq116
	C. Fagg P3 expenses for 2016/17	£37.30	Cq117
	DDC Community Service	£960.00	already paid
	PHS Group sanitary collection	£107.80	already paid
	DALC annual sub taken from precept	£377.64	noted
<b>Income:</b>	Parish paths recd. for year 2017/18	£300.00	
	Community Locality budget recd.	£756.00	
	Car parks	£274.05	
	Bank interest Q4	£3.64	
	Toilets Feb & March	£40.75 & £94.40	

Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. Proposed by Cllr. Edwards, seconded by Cllr. Baker.

### 13) Business Rates – Notifications received of the rates payable in 2017/18.

- i. Old Lock-up, Bridge Terrace £312.22 pa
- ii. Tolls of Fairs £518.36 pa NB increased.
- iii. Car Park, Station Rd £1631.00 pa with full small business relief = £0

**14) Bank Reconciliation and Statement:** Reconciliation and bank statement circulated to all councillors at the meeting. Noted.

### 15) Open Spaces –

- i. Agreed actions particularly regarding the play area. Letter received from Lucy Ball and circulated to all councillors prior to this meeting.  
Standing orders suspended.  
Cllr. Leach invited Lucy Ball to be on the committee. She accepted. Lucy Ball commented that there is no disabled swing. Asked Council to consider the spending power of families who may come into the town, using the play parks. A drop kerb to access the play park could be useful.  
Standing orders resumed.  
Should be road signs warning of a children's play area. A lectern in the pump house could be utilised.  
A second estimate received for the works in the play area for £3,900, covering more items than the previous estimate. Council to go ahead, proposed by Cllr. Mares, seconded by Cllr. Leach, all in favour by show of hands. There is a £2,000 deposit required before work starts. Clerk to action.  
4 signs for £100 + VAT, that will conform to BS standards. Age limit to be under 12. Proposed by Cllr. C. Mares, seconded by Cllr. Leach. All in favour by show of hands.
- ii. Final report on the clearance at the Motte; Cllr. Gregory. Community workers came to do two more days, not very happy and expressed displeasure – two extra days to come. 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April.  
Concerns about the cuttings which need burning soon. May have access to a shredder. There is an ornate gate which may be positioned at the bottom end of the Motte.

**16) Devon Air Ambulance** – awaiting further information from Toby Russell regarding night landings. The lights are in place and a night landing could now happen if needed.

**17) Car park repairs:** for discussion and possible action to the surface of the car park. Action pothole in front of car park, this is a Highways issue and should be reported on the Highways website.  
Cllr. Tanner – like to see the car park lined. About a quarter of the cars put money into the box. Monitoring the number of cars in the car park. Considers Council would be advised to put in a parking meter. 50p for 12 hours, £1 for 24 hours. This would generate income to maintain the car park. Agenda in May.

**18) Parked trailer and caravan in the car park.** Council to action if this is causing a nuisance. Clerk has further information on the caravan. Removed.

**19) Public Noticeboard** – Cllr. C. Mares requests a noticeboard for the public to use, possibly at the Stage. Encased board with doors and on legs. Clerk to gather some prices.

**20) Charter, between Mid Devon Council & Towns & Parishes** – circulated to all councillors prior to this meeting – no comments made.

**21) Parish Plan** – to consider updating the parish plan. Some items within the plan have been achieved, such as the toilets. Cllr. Edwards has spoken to Judy Edwards who is happy to give advice on the proposed updates of the Plan. The process of updating could begin on 26<sup>th</sup> April, at the annual parish meeting. Cllr. Edwards to take this forward at present.

**22) Outline of proposed Five Year Plan for Bampton parish** – Cllr. Edwards. When council tax is increased it needs justification. Councils should be enablers not providers. Headings read out to Council. This will be promoted at the annual parish meeting. Council resolved to accept the outline Five Year Plan, proposed by Cllr. Edwards seconded by Cllr. Baker, all in favour by show of hands.

**23) Clerk's Report:**

- i. Letter of thanks posted to K. Marshall Unpaid Work Supervisor on 10<sup>th</sup> March.
- ii. Answered several phone calls with respect to the increase in the Town precept.
- iii. Enquiries ongoing for the Road Warden Scheme.

**EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:** reports from Councillors

Cllr. Hicks’s report from the South West Councils Conference, circulated and taken as read.

**Items for Information**

General Power of Competence information circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting (May agenda)

Charity Commission requested accounts and a report on the Millennium Green – submitted.

Mid Devon DC has submitted the local plan to the Inspectorate.

**The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7pm in the Community Hall.**

**The Annual Council Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May commences at 7pm followed by an ordinary council meeting.**

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm in the Community Hall.

**Email circulations during the past month**

Rural funding updates

Charity Law trustees update

Healthy People

Bampton Heritage Centre AGM notification

Town & Parish Newsletter

Meeting closed at 8.36pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Position.....