

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. White; Cllr. N. Bull; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. Williams; District Cllr. Stanley; 8 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk); County Cllr. Colthorpe; Cllr. Whiteway; Cllr. Hopkinson; Cllr. McHenry.

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

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.

Parishioner regarding a letter sent in on 25th August which applies to the possible installation of CCTV at the recreation field. Cllr. L. Bull answered the points raised. Parishioner considers that CCTV could prove to be more of a safe guarding issue. Questioned the evidence of the need for a CCTV. County Lines was talked about by Cllr. L. Bull.

Parishioner concerned over CCTV; would like to see this evidence based. Feels that there is a need for further discussion.

Parishioner asked what the rationale is for CCTV just at the new play park, should it not be in other places. Cllr. L. Bull answered this.

Parishioner commented that he is pro CCTV as he has dealt with this first- hand. There is always a small minority who do damage and vandalism. Any where there is a non-populated space will attract anti-social behaviour.

Cllr. Whiteway confirmed the previous parishioner's comments with regard to the installation of CCTV.

Parishioner asked why other places such as Sampford Peverell do not have this CCTV – it would appear that Sampford Peverell is in a more populated area.

Cllr. Williams, speaking to members of the public has noted more people going to the recreation field at present, such as walkers. Vandalism problems can be addressed by just human flow, to bring this area more into the town rather than outside. Human traffic will act as a deterrent particularly with dog walkers.

Cllr. L. Bull commented on the amount of dog faeces on the recreation field. The football club are dismayed at the amount of dog poo not being picked up. Cllr. White commented that CCTV could be seen as a protection for all walkers particularly in the early evenings.

Parishioner asked if CCTV would lower the insurance premium – this is unlikely.

Cllr. Williams considers there should be a fact-based need for this service, providing evidence. Speed on the road outside the recreation field is also an issue.

Further comments from parishioners both for and against CCTV in the recreation field.

4) Chairman's Report (for information only) –

On VJ day, there was a town cry at the war memorial with a few people attending. This was a national effort at 11.10am. Many thanks to our town crier and to the bell ringer.

Chairman has been contacted about parking problems, planning issues, litter – all relevant to Bampton. Thanks in particular to Cllr. Lucy Bull and the wardens who specifically gave help to a vulnerable resident in Bampton.

5) County & District Councillor reports –

County Cllr. Colthorpe – has spoken to Highways about the speeding issue outside the recreation field. There are hopes that when Highways sort the 30mph roundels on the South Molton Road, the same could be installed on the Morebath Road.

District Cllr. Stanley – GESP (Greater Exeter Plan) has been rejected by East Devon District, (one of the partners) and cannot now go ahead in its current state. There has been a change in the cabinet at Mid Devon Council taking a more positive position. £24.5 million has been dispersed to local businesses; this grant has now finished, and the start-up funding grant is also spent out. The District are re-looking at their budgets due to the lack of income so far this year. Fly tipping is a major problem in Stoodleigh. Please report anything that is seen on the appropriate page on the website.

Cllr. McHenry is currently dealing with 3 incidents within the parish.

6) Minutes – to approve the Minutes of the meetings held on the 5th August 2020 and 1st July 2020.

Both sets of minutes were approved as accurate by show of hands and will be signed at a later date.

7) CCTV at the Recreation Field. – to consider that any decisions pertinent to the proposed installation of CCTV at the recreation field should be postponed until after budgetary considerations for 2021 have been held.

Cllr. L. Bull – quotes for CCTV from 2 companies has been received. The third company did not wish to quote. This has not been considered in the current budget, and there is fencing and signage also to be considered as a priority. Cllr. L. Bull stated that given the level of feeling at this meeting, perhaps the situation should be monitored over the next few months. Cllr. Hopkinson – fencing a priority to keep dogs out. Cllr. White has received one quote for a chain link fence, pedestrian gate for access at £3,088 – 2 more quotes will be required.

Cllr Williams has a quote for the hedge, which will take time to bed in. There is a need for an interim fence to prevent dog access. Cllr. L. Bull in favour of natural fencing, however an interim fence needs to be in place as a priority

Standing order suspended for a parishioner to comment.

Potentially stock fencing with a smaller mesh on one side would be disguised as soon as any hedge grows up.

Standing orders resumed.

Cllr. N. Bull considers the fencing important and that the issue of CCTV needs further discussion.

A meeting will be convened on Wednesday 16th September to agree quotes received on both fencing and signage for the recreation field play area. The agenda for this meeting will be published the week before.

8) Open Spaces Updates.

- i. To discuss and agree signage at the Recreation Field. Signage altogether. Recommend we remove some of the signs that are damaged and vandalised. This to be agreed at the meeting on 16th September.
- ii. To discuss the findings from the visit of Greg Venn, Conservation Officer, to the lime kiln. To agree actions and associated expenditure.
Cllr. Fouracres met with the conservation officer for Mid Devon Council. There is encouragement for parishes to preserve their industrial heritage. The overall façade of the lime kiln should show what is there, however it would be okay to fill in the kiln with loose fill to make it safe. There is some maintenance required with the removal of small trees and debris. Cllr. White commented the mortar has been patched in the past.
- iii. To receive an update on the proposal/action for a lengthsman. This has been finalised with Oliver Vernon of Four Seasons. The weeding of the brook in Brook Street, because it is on the highway, needs a chapter 8 trained person. Clerk will action this weeding. Spraying on the stage to get the weeds under control will be done in the Spring.
- iv. To discuss the formation of a sub-committee for Bampton's play areas. This has not been finalised however, more community engagement and involvement would be appreciated. Cllr. Whiteway has offered to do more with the Open Spaces.

Regarding community engagement, Cllr. Nick Bull informed Council that some councillors going about their daily business in the town have been abused in the street. Discussion is fine, as is requesting items to be discussed on a meeting agenda. Questioning individual councillor's integrity and the Council as a whole, being accusatory is simply not acceptable. Would parishioners please remember that the people who put themselves forward to be councillors are parishioners themselves. They are not paid for the work done on behalf of the Town; they are there because the Town of Bampton means a great deal to them and they wish to be of service.

Cllr. L. Bull remarked that it is important people get involved. Great to see members of the public attending meetings.

9) New Hall for Bampton – further discussions to be held with the Diocese during September. These discussions will be reported on at the October meeting.

10) Bampton Charter Fair – to receive a report from the Fair Committee meeting held on 2nd September at 5pm. Cllr. White reported that there will not be a fair this year in any recognisable form. The cheque giving ceremony to the lord of the manor will be held at the Stage at 3pm on the 29th October. In the circumstances with Covid-19, this is all the Committee can do. We move forward to 2021.

Cllr. N. Bull considers that Cllr. White did an amazing job in the circumstances to keep this altogether and thanked him for his efforts on behalf of the rest of the committee.

11) PLANNING:

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

- a) 20/01288/FUL Erection of extensions to two agricultural buildings, Lodfin Wood Farm, Morebath.
No objections

Planning Decisions:

- a) 19/01804/FULL Erection of replacement agricultural building, Lower Rill, Shillingford.
APPROVED
- b) 20/00709/FULL Conversion of barn and associated buildings to dwelling and alterations to vehicular and pedestrian access (revised scheme), Higher Arthurs Hayne, Bampton.
GRANTED

- c) 20/00942/LBC Replacement of 4 uPVC on rear elevation and 1 uPVC windows on west elevation with timber framed double glazed windows, 6 Brook Street, Bampton.
GRANTED
- d) 20/00837/HOUSE Erection of single storey rear extension, The Castle, Bampton
GRANTED 20/00840/LBC Also granted.

12) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	1 & 1 Ionos (bampton.org.uk) domain name	£11.99	Card
	SW Water – toilets May to August	£104.43	DD
	SW Water – old store May to August	£43.93	DD
	J. Caunter toilet cleans	£310.00	BACs
	Four Seasons grass cuts August	£479.99	BACs
	Employment August	£574.00	BACs
Income:	Openreach wayleave	£24.50	Cq

How long keep toilets unlocked – monitor monthly: review in October.

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

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

13) Christmas – to consider any form of parade for the turning on of Christmas Lights should be cancelled for 2020 due to Covid-19 and social distancing measures.

Cllr. L. Bull – cannot see that a parade would be suitable. The large tree for the Stage can be organised, along with the mini trees throughout the town. To consider making the Stage area the centre piece, as there are budgeted funds available for Christmas. To devise a Best Decorated Shop Window competition – theme, Christmas.

14) Application for diversion order, highway know as Holwell Farm, Bampton. Letter and map circulated prior to this meeting. Noted.

15) Restricted Byway No. 20, Bampton – notification received of the confirmation of the upgrading of bridleway 20 to a restricted byway. Noted.

16) Flood Resilience Group – to further action flood resilience in Bampton, delayed since the start of Covid-19. Cllr. N. Bull has received comments about Ashleigh Park from members of the public regarding the rotten wood. Mid Devon Council are to repair, however Cllr. Stanley is still trying to get agreement from the landowner for the work to be done. Shuttern Brook; Cllr. L. Bull is now keeper of the key; the grate has been cleaned out, and a new quote obtained for repairs. Also a quote for steel straps to hold the door back against the wall.

17) Clerk's Report

- i. Community Speedwatch – update from the Clerk not available.
- ii. All strategic documents have been made 'accessible' on the website. Older minutes and agendas have not been updated due to time constraints.
- iii. BT Wayleave annual payment now changed to bank transfer instead of cheque. Applied to Western Power to do the same.
- iv. National Salary Award agreed at 2.75% back-dated to 1st April 2020.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Items for Information

Meeting on 16th September 5pm

The next Council meeting is on 7th October 2020 at 7.00pm. This may still be a virtual meeting, to be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 8.42pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Email circulations during the past month

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (sent 10/08)

DALC newsletter 40 & 41 (sent 14/08)

Mid Devon Council forward plan statement (sent 14/08)

Connectme Devon (sent 24/08)

DALC newsletter 42 (planning, sent 24/08)

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (sent 01/09)