

## BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Ordinary meeting of the council held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT: Cllr J Allinson, in the Chair, Cllr S Betty, Cllr R McBrien, Cllr D Clarke, Cllr H Rainey, Cllr B Slater.  
APOLOGIES: Cllr M Dowding, Cllr R Wilkins, Cllr P Smith, Cllr G Pursey, Cllr J Downing  
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Street, Clerk to the Parish Council, District Cllr M Booty (left at 8pm)  
PUBLIC: 0

#### 13/537 To approve the agenda

The agenda was approved.

#### 13/538 Declarations of interest

Cllr J Allinson declared an interest in planning application no. 13/1608/P/FP.

#### 13/539 Confirmation of minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 were signed as a true record.
- The minutes of the Finance and General Purpose meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept & 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013 were signed as a true record.

#### 13/540 Matters arising

- **Highways walk around** took place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December with Cllr P Smith.
- **Upkeep of footpaths** - Oxfordshire County Council have resurfaced a small section of the footpath from Cheyne Lane to Weald.
- **Town Hall Siren** – It was agreed that Cllr Pursey would ask Mr S Radband to return the siren to the Town Hall. On going.
- **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** – Cllr S Betty is arranging this. Ongoing.
- **Upkeep of notice boards** – Ongoing.
- **West Oxfordshire Arts (WOA)** – Cllr Pursey to arrange electrician to look at heaters. On going.
- **HSBC Mandate** – to be completed by clerk and taken to HSBC.
- **Town Hall Signage** – Cllr J Allinson to inform clerk of fees for retrospective planning application for the signage on behalf of West Oxfordshire Arts.
- **Sand Bunker** - WODC asked the Parish Council to consider making a contribution towards the cost of the bunker. It was agreed that the clerk would write back asking for it to be funded by WODC. On going.
- The Old School Community Centre automatic door closer is due to be repaired next week.
- It was unanimously agreed to write to the person who has been representing himself as a member of the Parish Council officially asking him to stop. On going.

#### 13/541 District Councillors' Report

- The draft budget for 2014/15 is available online at West Oxfordshire District Council.
- Council Tax will be frozen again, free car parking in Witney will be maintained, the grants budget will be maintained, fees and charges will increase by 3%.
- BT have won the contract to supply High Speed Broadband to 88% of rural areas in Oxfordshire. West Oxfordshire District Council have agreed to finance up to £1.6k to attain a figure as close to 100% as is possible.

- 24 defibrillators have been donated to the 64 parishes in Oxfordshire. WODC have agreed to fund 50% towards the cost of having a defibrillator in every parish.
- The planning application for Aston Road development has been recommended for refusal at Monday's West Oxfordshire District Council lowlands planning sub-committee meeting.
- West Oxfordshire District Council have objected to the relocation of Witney Post Office to WHSmith.
- The County Councillor was not present. It was noted that the Parish Council were disappointed that the County Councillor has only attended one Parish Council meeting, which was immediately after his election.

#### 13/542 Finance and Accounts for Payment

- The following cheques were signed:

Cathy Street	Contribution towards home broadband June – December (7 months)	£70
Bampton Library Support	Funds held by Parish Council	£14,507.71
Bampton CCC	Grant for St Mary's Church	£800
Bampton Classical Opera	Grant	£500
OALC	Training courses	£384
Thames Water	TOSCC	£50.62
Thames Water	Town Hall	£20.79
Timms	Noticeboard repair (£49.57 + £4.32)	£53.89
Southern Electric	TOSCC	£248.92
Southern Electric	Town Hall	£35.01
BT	TOSCC Broadband	£31.18
Stuart Ranson	Christmas tree x 2 (Nov 2012 & 13)	£300
Margaret Johnson	Laminator, magnets & hand towels for TOSCC	£80.35
Oxfordshire County Council	Rent TOSCC (1.12.13 to 28.02.14)	£500
Gordon Butterton	Manhole repair	£60
Dee Clarke	Reimbursement for projector	£265.81
Chris Smith		£1536

#### 13/543 Planning applications

13/1638/P/LB	10 Bushey Row. Internal alterations. No objections.
13/1668/P/FP	Willow Dene, Bridge Street. Demolition of rear extension and garage, erection of single and two storey rear extension & loft conversion, porch, outbuilding & pedestrian access. No objections.

#### 13/544 Mercury Court Playing field Report.

There were no new issues to report. The basket swing now has its new chains.

#### 13/545 Alarm upgrade for Old School Community Centre

A quote was received from Securipol to upgrade the alarm system. Clerk to check that the monitoring is an extra £100 per annum and isn't linked to the roof alarm that is already being monitored. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote.

#### 13/546 Disposal of previous clerk's old PC

It was agreed that the hard drive needs to be destroyed but the monitor, keyboard and mouse will be donated to the Bampton Community Shop. Cllr D Clarke to dismantle PC and ask Cllr G Pursey to destroy hard drive.

#### 13/547 Cemetery

- The quote received from DNN Ltd for laying the path was accepted.
- One quote for "Reserved" stones was received. Cllr H Rainey to get a second quote.
- It was unanimously agreed to increase cemetery fees by 25% to bring Bampton in line with all other local cemeteries. The Exclusive Right of Burial is to be increased to £250, with the price to be doubled if person is not on the Bampton electoral role. This is to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. Clerk to advise funeral directors.

#### 13/548 Bampton Beam article

Cllr J Allinson has agreed to write article for next Bampton Beam.

#### 13/549 Budget and Precept 2014/2015

- Following detailed discussions by the Finance and General Purpose committee, it was unanimously agreed to put forward a figure of £81,723 (less £4966.03 parish grant awarded from West Oxfordshire District Council) as a precept. Clerk to send off precept request form.
- The Parish Council received a request for a contribution of £500 towards the Highmoor Meadow Flood prevention project. It was unanimously agreed that the grant would be made available when it is needed. Cllr Allinson to email D Hawkins.

#### 13/550 Highways Report

A highways report was sent via email to all councillors and it was requested that all replies be sent to Cllr P Smith.

#### 13/551 The Old School Community Centre

An alternative use for the Old School Community Centre was proposed by Cllr B Slater. After a discussion it was agreed that no change of use would be entertained at this time due to the fact the building is owned by Oxfordshire County Council and the Parish Council only lease it, there is a commitment to the boxing club to use the main hall, and planning restrictions are for community use only. Cllr B Slater to enquire about the freehold with our County Councillor with a view to planning for future facilities for Bampton.

#### 13/552 Correspondence

- A letter was received seeking permission for bench in memory of Roy and Frances Shergold on the grass verge near the brook in Bridge Street. The Parish Council agree this is a lovely idea, however it is a decision for the County Council Highways department and not the Parish Council.

#### 13/553 Any other matters for consideration

- Clerk proposed small changes to streamline the running of the Parish Council payroll. These were agreed and letters to be sent out to employees notifying them of the change.
- Date for Xmas Lights switch on for 2014 was agreed as Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Clerk to book village hall.
- Cllr S Betty to book a bugler for Remembrance Day 2014.

- It was noted that the Union Flag is old and needs replacing. Cllr J Allinson/clerk to order a new one.

With no further business to discuss the meeting finished at 9.30pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....