

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary meeting of the council held on 12th February 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT: Cllr J Allinson, in the Chair, Cllr R McBrien, Cllr P Smith, Cllr G Pursey, Cllr J Downing, Cllr D Clarke, Cllr H Rainey
APOLOGIES: Cllr S Betty, Cllr R Wilkins, Cllr M Dowding, Cllr B Slater
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Street, Clerk to the Parish Council.
District Cllrs M Booty & M Barrett (both left at 8.10pm)
PUBLIC: 0

14/15 To approve the agenda

The agenda was approved.

14/16 Declarations of interest

Cllr Downing and Pursey declared an interest in planning application no. 14/0131/P/FP

14/17 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2014 were signed as a true record.

14/18 Matters arising

- **Town Hall Siren** – It was agreed that the clerk would write to Mr S Radband asking him to return the siren. As volunteer in charge of raising the flag, clerk to also advise Mr Radband that the Town Hall lock is due to be changed and a replacement flag is to be purchased and will be passed directly to him for storage, rather than keeping it at the Town Hall.
- **Upkeep of notice boards** – Lengthsman has been instructed to clean and renovate. Cllr Wilkins to get progress report from lengthsman. Ongoing.
- **West Oxfordshire Arts (WOA)** – Cllr Pursey to arrange electrician to look at heaters. On going.
- **Sand Bunker** - WODC asked the Parish Council to consider making a contribution towards the cost of the bunker. Clerk has written back asking for it to be funded by WODC and District and County Councillors have agreed to look into this. District Councillors to chase Louise Chapman at Oxfordshire County Council. We would like to request more sand bags.
- **Replacement Union Flag** - Clerk to order a new one. On going.
- **Wooden sign at the entrance to Sandford's field** - It has come down due to weathering of the wood. Cllr Pursey to get quotes for replacement.
- **Village Design Statement** – Cllrs to research Neighbourhood Action Plan and Village Design Statement. There will be a short presentation at the Parish Council meeting on March 12th.
- **Dog bins** – it was agreed to go ahead and order dog bins for the area outside Mercury Court Play Park and at the entrance to the footpath across the fields off Church Close. Cllr Smith to investigate possibility of getting the Mercury Court bin free of charge due to its proximity to a children's play park.
- **Christmas tree star** - is to be bought from profits from the Christmas Market. On going.
- **Electric sockets** under the manhole cover for the Christmas tree need repairing. On going.

14/19 District & County Councillors' Reports

It was proposed that a new bank account be opened to manage the Charity Shop Disbursements. It was agreed that the Clerk would open an account in the name of "Parish Council Disbursement Account" linked to the other Parish Council banks accounts at HSBC.

- The Lowlands area planning subcommittee decision meeting for planning application no. 13/1465/P/OP (Land to north of New Road, Bampton) is scheduled for Monday 17th Feb.
- The WODC money lost from the Icelandic Bank crash has been retrieved.
- The Council budget has been set. Council Tax will be frozen, free car parking in Witney will be maintained, and the grants budget will also be maintained.
- There have been more savings from shared services with other District Councils.

14/20 Finance and Accounts for Payment

- The following cheques were signed:

E Wileman & Sons	Window cleaning Town Hall and Old School	£60
WODC	Retrospective planning application fee for Town Hall signage.	£110
Cathy Street	Stamps (£52.80), Broadband Dec 13, Jan, Feb 14 (£30), Office furniture, shelf & desk lamp (£106)	£188.80
Mr Bajwa	Post office on account – cleaning products	£11
ESPO	Misc health and safety items	£108.56
Monard	Electrical repairs at TOSCC	£396
George Henry Relay	TOSCC auto door repair	£157.14
Chris Smith	Cemetery upkeep	£60
Margaret Johnson	Health and safety equipment	£102.76
123Connect	IT Support and hosting	£142.56
Cathy Street	TOSCC BT Broadband (paid on personal debit card)	£57.56

14/21 Planning applications

Variation application for Biztro, Wheelgate House, Bampton Licensing	OBJECTION. Although the Parish Council is happy to support the restaurant, there is an objection to the extension of hours beyond the current time of 10.30pm. There is no objection to the increase in hours between the morning and evening period INSIDE the restaurant, however, the council agrees they wouldn't want this change to extend to the outside area, which is to retain the current trial licencing agreement.
14/0131/P/FP	Poachers Rest, Market Sq. Single storey replacement rear extension, dormer window, 2 nd floor rear extension to enlarge attic. NO OBJECTION

14/22 Mercury Court Playing field Report.

Glenn Wright reported two broken concrete stanchions where wire fence has been trodden on. These were inspected by Cllrs Downing and Wilkins and they agreed that the two stanchions needed to be removed along with the wire fence.

14/23 To discuss funding contribution (\$106) sought from New Road development

The following list of suggestions (in no particular order of priority) was agreed upon and Cllr Pauline Smith is to send them to Abby Fettes at WODC.

1. Improvements to Sports and Play facilities at both the Buckland Road Recreation Ground and the Pembroke Place Play Park (the closest to the site) where the equipment is now some 20

years old. This could include items such as tree and bush thinning on the trim track trail, new equipment for both and drainage improvements.

Please note that based on telephone and email discussions with Martin Holland and Abby Fettes we have made the assumption that this will be funded from the monies requested by WODC for sports development.

2. Funding towards further development of The Old School Community Centre which currently supports Weightlifters, Boxing, Youth Club and an elderly persons support group.
3. Traffic management repairs / improvements where existing and new traffic calming is required e.g. road lining and vehicle activated speed signs on the main roads into Bampton. *We would expect that this should be funded through any contribution made to the County Highways Department and request that relevant monies are ring-fenced for them.*
4. Additional flood management improvements to provide water attenuation in the Plantation area as proposed by the Bampton Flood Management Group.
5. Footpath repairs / improvements to the school (via the road rather than to the rear of the development) and the Recreation Ground.
6. Funding for a lavatory for the Post Office which without Parish Council support would have been closed several years ago.
7. Funding towards an evening and weekend bus service.
8. Funding for the library which currently receives no financial support from the County Council but is supported by donation and the Parish Council. *As the County Council have requested some £40,000 for libraries we would expect this to be funded through their contribution and request that relevant monies (based on the current licence fees of £8,800 per annum) are ring-fenced for them.*
9. A disbursement fund to supply small grants for local groups including Bampton archive, Bampton sports clubs etc.
10. Funding towards Cycle Paths up the Buckland Road to the Thames Path and to Witney utilising the old railway track. *Please note that the Parish Council holds some monies for this from a project initiated through Sustrans some years ago.*

14/24 To review quotes for installation of Post Office Lavatory. Ongoing.

14/25 To sign ERP issue form

Cllr Betty still to sign. Ongoing.

14/26 AGGROW Report

Cllr McBrien attended a meeting with AGGROW on Jan 31 2014. Currently Bampton is not one of the areas being considered for gravel extraction in the new plan. However, adopting this plan is a lengthy process and Bampton could be included again at any point.

It was also pointed out that one of the criteria used to assess whether consent should be granted for a particular area is how far the gravel has to travel. It is most profitable when under 25km. His worry was that if the housing developments in Bampton were granted permission this would add weight to the argument to allow extraction too. AGGROW's view is that a keen eye should be kept on the approval process.

14/27 Correspondence

- a. **Electricity Contract Renewal from SSE for Town Hall.** It was agreed to renew the current contract.
- b. **Review of Street Trading policy.** It was agreed that no changes were needed.

14/28 Any other matters for consideration

- A quote was received from George Henry Relay to remove the automatic door closer at The Old School Community Centre and replace it with a Briton door closer. It was agreed the clerk would accept the quote.
- The Parish Council wishes to thank Darren Street and Mark Betty for volunteering their time to shovel gravel to level the Recreation Ground car park.
- The cemetery map has now been photographed and printed. Cllr Rainey to take old map to the County Archives and to ask if the old minutes could be stored there as well.
- There are various odd jobs that need doing at the Town Hall and at The Old School Community Centre. It was agreed that the Parish Council would buy the materials. Cllr Pursey to look at the wobbly screens at The Old School and assess what repairs are needed.
- The engraving on the chairmen's plaque needs updating to include Fred Grey and Jacky Allinson.
- It was agreed the clerk would raise a cheque for £25 for Help for Heroes and £25 for The British Legion as a donation for the 2 filing cabinets and a metal cupboard that were acquired for the Town Hall.

With no further business to discuss the meeting finished at 8.55pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....