

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (chairman); Cllr. N. Bull; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. Whiteway; Cllr. White; Cllr. Williams; Cllr. Hopkinson; County Cllr. Colthorpe; Lewis Clarke, (Tiverton Gazette) Penny Clapham (clerk); District Cllr. Stanley

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: Cllr. Weston. Cllr. McHenry. 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.

4) Chairman's Report (for information only) – Council have received a letter from a couple who stayed in the Swan and praised the cleaning efforts of Janice Caunter. Also received a letter expressing concerns about the new play park, with observations of the foolhardy behaviour of some of the children using the equipment, together with how they are exiting the play park on skateboards. This is something that parents would need to take on board. Reporting that the pumphouse outside light is on all the time and there is another hole in the roof; agenda for December. A wreath will be placed on Sunday at the war memorial on behalf of the Council.

5) County & District Councillor reports –

County Cllr. Colthorpe – apologies for not having a written report available. Cabinet meet on the 11th to consider a resource and waste strategy for Devon and Torbay prior to this going out for consultation. Devon are still one of the best performing authorities in recycling. There is a problem that over a third of food waste is going into black bags and not being recycled, neither are there many plastic bottles of shampoo and shower gel – all can be recycled. Climate change group mentioned. Childrens mental health and those with special needs, new school opened in Tiverton last year due to increased need. Involve is looking for local trustees – karen@involve.co.uk
26th November is carers rights day and Devon Council does a lot of work with its carers who are not professional and need support in this role.

District Cllr. Stanley – budget for 2021/22 currently facing 3.01% deficit next year including the spend on Covid, some of which has been refunded by government. Mentioned waste, reaching targets and recycling. Now taking small electrical equipment for recycling. Pilot scheme within Mid Devon where some black bags will be checked, and whether there will be a 3 week collection on black bins. Hoping to educate people to recycle more. There is a consultation on governance for the district council. If you have a view please advise. Utilising the payback service, currently 40,000 hours available. Contact is Darren Beer at Mid Devon.

6) Minutes – the Minutes of the virtual meeting held on the 7th October 2020, were approved as a true record and will be signed at a future appropriate time.

7) New hall for Bampton – to receive an update on any progress.

Cllr. Fouracres informed Council that there have been contacts and conversations gathering information – much work has been done previously in 2016. The option of the purchase of the community hall or the use of station road car park had not been considered previously. Currently Council are working on survey questions for a public consultation.

8) Christmas –

- i. to discuss the mini trees that decorate properties in the town. Cllr. L. Bull stated that ordinarily this is not a council matter. Suggested 60 mini trees to have a small team of volunteers to dress the trees and then use the lengthsman to install them. Four Seasons are happy to do this on their normal hourly rate. Cllr. White agrees. Normally there is a request from each household who has a mini tree for a donation of £10. Cllr. Hopkinson supports keeping this amount, as does Cllr. Whiteway. Cllr. L. Bull proposed the use of the lengthsman + £200 towards the trees. All agreed by show of hands.
- ii. to check on having a large tree at the Stage; if so, check lighting and installation of the tree. Cllr. N. Bull informed Council that a new pole for the electrics is to be installed. Court Grove are kindly sponsoring the purchase of a large tree. Many thanks for this.

9) Open Spaces updates –

- i. To receive an update on the Lengthsman's duties. So far, the leat has been cleared in Brook Street; a new padlock for the Shuttern Brook; the hedge on South Molton road has been cut. Tasks for November include to paint over the graffiti in the bus shelter and remove the ash trees that need taking down. Ironmongery for the Shuttern Brook is in hand.
- ii. The free trees from the Woodland Trust have arrived – planting options to be discussed later.
- iii. Cllr. Williams is following up on the final draft of the new notice for the recreation field.
- iv. The fencing is now complete around the new play area. The contractor found the safety fencing had been kicked down one night. This then had to be put back which prior to continuing installation of the fence. Noted.
Dog poo mentioned regarding complaints recently received.
- v. To consider the request from Bampton in Bloom to plant 2,000 crocus bulbs in the verge opposite the 'railway garden'. All in favour by show of hands.

10) Bampton Charter Fair – Cllr. White reported on the presentation of the annual rental to the Lord of the Manor, which surprisingly well attended. The cheque was handed over and the town crier did an excellent cry. The Lord of the Manor then said to keep the annual rental putting this towards the Fair in 2021. Council thanked Richard White for this generous gesture. Thanks also to Lewis Clarke from the Tiverton Gazette for attending, and for the video of the event.

11) Car Park charging – to discuss charging in the car park; Cllr. Hopkinson to report.

People have continued to put money into the toilet slots. Car park - emptying once a month yields about 15kg of coins to collect and count – this time there were coins joined together with some sticky substance which made the money almost uncountable and took a great deal of time. Also, a large proportion of the monies donated are 2p, 1p, 5p which also take time. To consider that regular users could pay more regularly, perhaps offering residents some sort of annual pass, exempting them from having to pay every time. Cllr. L. Bull suggested setting up a payment using a QR code. Cllr. White agrees with regular users being requested. Cllr. Whiteway also commented. BT have quite a large site in Frog Street – could this be used for parking in the future. December agenda to discuss the possibility of a QR code. To bear in mind that all donations to the car park are voluntary.

12) PLANNING:

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

- i. 20/01564/LBC Listed building consent for replacement of damaged area of roof and attic window, 5 & 7 Fore Street, Bampton.
No comment
- ii. 20/01718/CAT Notification of intention to fell 1 apple tree within conservation area, 54 Brook St., Bampton.
No comment
- iii. 20/01757/TPO Application to lift the crown of 1 turkey oak tree to provide 5m clearance from ground level, prune limbs growing towards house and overhanging driveway, protected by a TPO, Oak Tree House, Barnhay, Bampton.
No comment
- iv. 20/01789/FULL Change of use of hall solely for use by holiday makers to public use, Buildings at Duvale Priory, Bampton.
Cllr. Stanley commented on this and problems with noise.
Cllr. L. Bull proposed Objection:-
There is a history of noise issues which if made over to public use can only increase.

Planning Decisions:

- a) 19/01804/FULL Erection of replacement agricultural building, Lower Rill, Shillingford.
APPROVED
- b) 20/01297/PNCOU Prior notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling under class Q, 3 Corner Cottage, Cove.
APPROVED
- c) 20/01176/LBC to replace existing windows on rear elevation, Court Grove, Brook Street.
GRANTED

13) FINANCE:

Expenditure:

Employment October	£589.20	BACs
J. Caunter toilet cleans October	£310.00	BACs
Four Seasons – dead tree removal	£192.00	BACs
Viking Direct – toilet rolls	£107.93	BACs
Cove Garden Centre	£308.16	BACs
DALC Finance course	£36.00	BACs
RBL Poppy Wreath	£30.00	BACs
Four Seasons grass cuts	£479.99	BACs
Four Seasons hedge as per quote	£1116.00	BACs
Four seasons lengthsman duties	£336.60	BACs
Four Seasons Orchard cut	£504.00	BACs
Dan Woollacott Fencing	£4,183.20	BACs
NALC 2 x Cllr courses	£77.86	CARD

Income:

Car parks revenue	£250.00
Toilets revenue	£230.00

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

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

14) Budget 2021/2022 – to set a date for the Finance Committee budget meeting in November. Cllr. Fouracres will suggest some times to the Finance Committee for later this month.

15) Clerk’s Report –

- i. The bridge over the river Bathern (from Petton X past North Haynes Farm) has been damaged probably by the logging lorries to the extent that part of the bridge is now in the river. Due to the diligence of a parishioner, Highways have been to see the bridge and have this under control.
- ii. Blue badge spots in Brook Street – the lines indicating these parking bays are to be renewed.
- iii. Confirmation received from Four Seasons to keep then contract price as per the last 3 years with the exception of the Recreation Field and strimming around the new play equipment @ £40 per strim.
Clerk accepted this confirmation. Council resolved to agree this extension to the contract.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on 2nd December 2020 at 7.00pm and will be a virtual meeting.

Meeting closed 8.06pm

Agreed at the virtual meeting held on

Signed.....

Dated.....

Email circulations during the past month

DALC newsletter no. 62

NALC Chief Executive’s Bulletin (sent 01/11)

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (sent 01/11)