

Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 12th January 2022, 7pm in the LARC building.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. N. Bull. Cllr. Williams. Cllr. McHenry Cllr. Weston; Cllr. White; Press; Me; Cllr. Whiteway.

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: Cllr. L. Bull. District Cllr. Stanley. County Cllr. Chesterton.

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) Open Spaces Report –

- i. The removal of the ash trees at the Millennium Green. These have now been cut down.
- ii. Any further information regarding a proposed pump track also at the Millennium Green. Adam Paget has met with a contractor who could create this track. To do in tarmac would cost in the region of £40 - £50K. Mr. Paget showed an initial design to councillors. As a scout leader he is well-placed to involve the younger generation. This area at the Millennium Green (old quarry) has been used for biking/skating in the past. Cllr. Williams will check if planning permission would be required. Agenda for February for further updates.
- iii. To receive any update on the S106 monies available to Council. Circulated.
- iv. Table tennis outdoor table for installation at the Recreation Field. Clerk to apply for the funding for the table and to check on prices for matting underneath.
- v. Cllr. N. Bull thanked all those and in particular the Open Spaces Committee for putting up and taking down all the Christmas trees/the main tree which looked brilliant – a credit to the town. Hugely appreciated.
- vi. The second memorial bench is waiting to be installed at the Orchard – just waiting for the agreed space to be levelled.

5) New Hall for Bampton Committee – report from Cllr. White

To agree actions and any associated expenditure requirements outlined in Cllr. White's report.

Cllr. White has spoken to owner of Classic Cars and he is open to discussing the piece of ground opposite the playground. Cllr. Fouracres proposed the New hall committee meet with the owner for a site meeting. Also proposed to look at other new halls in the area, then in March to have more time at the annual parish meeting to receive ideas pertinent to a new hall. Positive steps forward.

6) Chairman's Report (for information only) -

Attached to these minutes.

Lorries down West Street – to please have photos of any lorries concerned so that the companies can be contacted – this is happening during school in and out times.

7) County & District Councillor reports:- not received.

8) Minutes – the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st December 2021, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

9) Budget – to resolve acceptance of the provisional budget for 2022/2023. Resolved to accept the budget as presented with employment increased by £1000 – total agreed budget £77,034; proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all agreed by show of hands.

10) Precept – to resolve to set the precept for Bampton based on the agreed budget. The precept for the year 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 was resolved to be set at £67,185 a 2% rise. Proposed by Cllr. McHenry all agreed by show of hands.

11) Recreation Field additional car parking – report from Cllr. Fouracres.

Council would need a planning application in order to change use from part recreation field to car parking. Clerk to investigate and discuss with the Chairman.

12) PLANNING:

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

- a) 21/02267/OUT Outline for the erection of 5 holiday lets with provision of access and associated works, land south of Scotts Quarry, Bampton.

OBJECTION

- 1) The application is outside the settlement line of Bampton Parish.
- 2) Part of this proposed application is within the flood plain.
- 3) There is no access outlined in this application.
- 4) Any access onto the road from this proposed location would be extremely hazardous due to the narrowness of the road at this point and the bends limiting vision.
- 5) There is no pedestrian provision for persons to access the town of Bampton other than by walking along the road at least to Scotts.
- 6) Council consider there is no requirement for further 'holiday' lets within the parish.

Council request this application to be 'called in' so that the application can be discussed in committee at Mid Devon Council.

Planning Decisions:

- a) 21/02143/HOUSE Erection of an extension (Revised scheme) Westbrook Farm, Bampton
APPROVED

12) FINANCE:

Expenditure:			
R. White (Xmas & bike rack)	£419.62		BACs
SLCC Clerk's subscription	£241.00		BACs
Heritage Ctr – sub to WaW	£50.00		BACs
Clerk's expenses Q3	£371.17		BACs
Employment December inc.			
Back-dated pay increase	£776.20		BACs
PAYE Q3	£500.74		BACs
N. Page P3 works Fp7	£160.00		BACs
Viking Direct – shredder	£46.18		BACs

LARC January & February	£90.00	BACs
J. Caunter toilet cleans	£310.00	BACs
N. Stevens (xmas trees)	£1050.00	BACs 07/12
NBB Recycled Furniture	£780.00	BACs 20/12
SW Water – toilets Aug-Nov	£251.44	DD 04/01
SW Water – old store Aug-Nov	£12.32	DD 04/01
Unity Trust Bank – cash & Cq charges October to December 2021	£13.50	DD
HM Land Registry	£12.00	CARD
Mutts Butts dog poo bags	£91.98	CARD

Income: CCLA Dividend to 31/12/21 £5.55

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors at the meeting.

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

13) Card payments through Unity Trust bank – Unity Trust Bank have teamed up with Elavon to take card payments over the phone and in person. A one off cost of £29.00 and 1.75% cost per transaction. Council to agree actions and associated expenditure. Cllr. White mentioned the company Sum Up. Clerk to check.

14) Internal Audit supplier for year ending 31st March 2022 – to resolve the appointment of Hania Lee of Lee Accounting as the Council’s internal auditor. Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all agreed by show of hands.

15) Community Small Grant – request from CHAT for a grant to support their work. Letter and information emailed to councillors in December. Clerk to email a grant application form.

16) SLCC Conference – 3 day virtual conference for Clerks, 15th, 16th and 17th February at a cost of £75.00. This is also regarded as a training conference and counts towards continual professional development. Clerk requested she may attend with Council covering the cost. Agreed.

17) Clerk’s report –

- i. Charity returns have been completed and submitted for both the Recreation Field and the Millennium Green.
- ii. The owner of the piece of land at the top of Castle Street adjacent to the Morebath Road is considering selling. Do Council have any thoughts on this matter. Cllr. Fouracres has taken a look around this site and updated Council. There are no thoughts of buying this piece of land at present.
- iii. Mid Devon Council have informed there is funding available for visitor boards in their towns which includes Bampton – to pursue this.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors

Items for Information

Meeting closed at 8.16pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

The next Council meeting is on 2nd February 2022 at 7.00pm in the LARC building.

Email circulations during the past month

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (sent 06/12)

DALC Newsletter 75 (sent 08/12)

DALC newsletter 77 (sent 17/12)

Devon Climate Emergency news (sent 17/12)

NALC Chief Executive's bulletin (sent 17/12)

DALC Newsletter 1 (sent 05/01)

CHAIRMANS REPORT

The function of the Council is to request an appropriate amount of cash, the precept, from MDDC and to spend it wisely and efficiently for the benefit of Bampton and its inhabitants.

It is the beginning of the year and as we are setting our next budget, I thought it would be useful to review and focus on the current responsibilities of the Council and the plans for future projects.

CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES

General maintenance & repairs of:

The Station Road Toilets, Car Park and Play Area,

The Millenium Green, Pump House, Lime Kiln and Orchard,

The Recreation Field, Play Area and Motte & Bailey

The Hollett Garden

The Old Lock-up

The Stage

The War Memorial

4 Bus shelters and at least 15 seats

The footpaths in the parish

2 Salt Spreaders and sandbags in case of floods

Grass cutting, tree maintenance, litter and dog poo

The annual Bampton Charter Fair

&

then the Christmas Trees project

We support local organisations

Bampton in Bloom, the Heritage Centre, the Football Club, the Scouts

We liaise with MDDC and Devon County Council on principally:

Planning

Road Repairs

Road Safety

FUTURE PROJECTS

A New Hall is now a realistic prospect

We have plans for developing the Millennium Green

We are investigating creating a Car Park at the Recreation Field

In the not too distant future we shall need a new Cemetery

and we have had a request for more allotment space