

## **Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7pm in the LARC.**

**Present** - Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. Whiteway; Cllr. Boyles; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. White; Cllr. Brock; Cllr. Brooker; District Cllr. Adcock; 1 member of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk).

**1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:** District Cllr. Gilmour. Cllr. Grabke. Cllr. N. Bull. County Cllr. Chesterton. Apologies accepted.

**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 who lives in Brook Street, very concerned about the number of vehicles left idling in the road whilst the owner shops. This is a danger to health, affecting the air quality and is not good for the community. <https://publicprotectionpartnership.org.uk/environmental-health/air-quality/vehicle-idling/#:~:text=The%20law%20states%20that%20is,buses,%20taxis%20and%20private%20cars.>

The idling of vehicles and leaving the engine running whilst shopping are both illegal, contrary to the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002. The law states that it is an offence to idle your engine unnecessarily when stationary.

Cllr. L. Bull kindly supplied the above link; to consider a campaign to bring this to drivers' attention.

Perhaps a notice in the shop window may help. Parishioner thanked for bringing this to our attention.

**4) Chairman's Report (for information only)** – litter pickers had coffee/mince pies together, costs covered by the Council. Cllr. White attended Morebath PC last Thursday because of a large proposed planning development/25 safari tents etc. This could cause an increase in traffic through Bampton if it is passed. Cllr. Fouracres attended Bampton School because they have been awarded an ACE School of Character Quality Mark awarded to them; Congratulations.

**5) County & District Councillor reports** –

County Cllr. Chesterton's report was read to Council. Mentioned both the storms and the 20mph zones. Cllr. Adcock and Cllr. Gilmour submitted a written report to Council. This was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

**6) Minutes** –the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**7) Walkers are Welcome** – to receive the annual report from Judi Thomas and to agree the annual subscription of £50.00. The subscription of £50 was agreed. Invite Judi Thomas to give her report at the February meeting.

**8) Millennium Green** –

- i. Trees overhanging school grounds – for discussion and action if required. Cllr. L. Bull will meet with the school to discuss said trees.

- ii. Boules – latest suggestion that the sides would be held in place by metal stakes and the required grit placed onto a matting, thereby making it easier to remove and the ground returned to its natural state when/if required. Check on costings. Ask the question as to who would be in charge Clerk to check with the Twinning committee, asking for an outline drawing and costings. February agenda.
- iii. Pump track – to receive the latest update. The tender for the works is required to be posted on the Government website Contracts Finder to comply with Council’s standing orders. Clerk to action a tender document. February agenda.

**9) Traffic Island** – brought forward from December meeting. Cllr. Fouracres. To agree actions and associated expenditure to install a traffic island. Four enquiries are ongoing – February agenda.

**10) Station Road car park/toilets –**

- i. EV charge point – Cllr. Brooker to update on contact with Western Power. Two quotes have been obtained. £10K and £5K so far. Further investigation required. Cllr. White raised the point that the street light in the car park is broken. Cllr. Boyles will check on the repair of the light.
- ii. Disabled parking space – to receive information as to the best place to site such a parking space. Cllr. Brooker reported that the entrance to the car park would be the best place to site such a space. Clerk to action a template.

**11) PLANNING:**

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

- a) 23/00118/MFUL Erection of 18 affordable dwellings following demolition of 10 existing dwellings with associated vehicular and pedestrian access, parking, landscaping and associated works, School Close, Bampton.  
Council consider it is a good idea to replace these buildings, though Council would like to have been better informed and consulted and be further re-assured that the needs of local residents be taken into consideration. Mid Devon to consider local applicants for the completed housing as there is a big shortfall in affordable housing within the parish.

**Planning Decisions:**

- a) 23/01618/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension following demolition of existing, alterations to front door/window, erection of front porch and wrought iron railings, North Hayne Farm, Shillingford.  
APPROVED
- b) 23/01786/CAT Notification of intention to fell 3 fir trees in a conservation area, Belle Vue, 1 Morebath Hill, Bampton.  
NO OBJECTION

**12) FINANCE:**

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Hi-Tec Drains – drain clearance	£222.00	BACs
	Employment December (inc. increase)	£1210.20	BACs
	HMRC Q3	£1038.23	BACs
	<i>Payments made 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023</i>		
	Walkers are Welcome – subscription	£50.00	BACs
	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance	£582.38	BACs
	Castle Grove – bench installation	£90.00	BACs
	J. Caunter – toilet cleans December	£350.00	BACs

Clerk's Expenses Q3	£305.87	BACs
Corks & Cru – Fair	£137.70	BACs
SLCC Membership renewal (shared)	£121.50	BACs
LARCS – room rental	£42.00	BACs
SLCC Practitioners Conference (shared)	£246.60	BACs
SWWater toilets – actual read	£267.42	DD
SWWater old store – actual read	£33.80	DD

**Income:** Interest received £562.40 reinvested

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres0 , all agreed by show of hands.

**13) Budget 2024 to 2025** – to consider the proposed budget, to agree any changes. Council resolved to adopt the budget without any further changes. Proposed by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands.

**14) Precept 2024 to 2025** – based on the agreed budget, Council resolved to set the precept for the next financial year together with explanations as required. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres that for a precept of £79,160 be agreed. This means an increase of £2.00 per week on band D = 8% increase.

**15) Internal Control Policy** – to agree the policy is up to date and fit for purpose. Agreed.

**16) Internal Auditors** – to agree to Hania Lee of Lee Accounting as Council's internal auditor for 2023/24. Agreed.

**17) State of the District Debate** - to consider any ideas to be added to the agenda for this debate. February agenda; Clerk to resend the email.

**18) Clerk's Report (for information only)**

- i. Thank you email received from Citizens Advice for the recent grant.
- ii. Attendance at the Practitioners Conference 31<sup>st</sup> January/1<sup>st</sup> February (shared) £246.60 requested. Council agreed to fund this attendance.

**EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:** reports from Councillors

Cllr. L. Bull – a huge thank you to all who came out on the 6<sup>th</sup> to take down all the Xmas trees as well as the big tree. Cllr. White thanked Cllr. L. Bull for organising everyone with a smile. Save the date 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Thank you to the Scouts who are going to burn the trees. Thanks also to all the businesses who supported the Xmas event.

The blocked leat was mentioned – this is ongoing.

**Items for Information**

The next Council meeting is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm in the LARC building.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

**Email circulations during the past month**

DALC Bulletin 54 (sent 06/12)

DALC Bulletin 55 (sent 13/12)

NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (sent 14/12)  
NALC Chief Executives Bulletin (sent 02/01)