

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 3rd June, 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. Williams; Cllr. White; Cllr. Hopkinson; County Cllr. Colthorpe; Cllr. Whiteway; Cllr. N. Bull; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. McHenry. Penny Clapham (Clerk).

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

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. Cllr. N. Bull agenda item 7.

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) – Virtual meetings and emails are proving successful in handling issues. This Council is functioning well.

5) County & District Councillor reports:-

County Cllr. Colthorpe has emailed a written report to Council. Devon CC members are successfully keeping in touch virtually. Still some people going into County Hall, such as the social work team who need to meet personally. Working towards opening up again, possibly for the end of July. Warnings of fraudulent activity have been issued by Trading Standards. Ofsted report on Devon Childrens' Services was deemed inadequate. The main points have already been actioned. Certain year groups, some 40-50% went back to school Monday. Devon has been chosen as one of 11 beacon councils to develop and share best practice.

6) Minutes – the Minutes of the virtual meeting held on the 6th May 2020 were approved.

7) Grant Application – to consider the request for a grant of £1,000 from Exmoor Studios CIC. This new station is looking to stream live by 15th June. Council resolved to pay the grant. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, seconded by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands/

8) Motte & Bailey Play Area – to receive an update. To agree actions and associated expenditure. Cllr. Williams reported that the formal schedule of works and contract has been received from Earth Wrights. The new play area could well be completed by the end of this summer. After each phase (there are 3) there will be a safety assessment.

Cllr. McHenry attended at 7.23pm.

Cllr. L. Bull and Cllr. White both expressed concerns about security at the site whilst it is being built. Cllr. Williams has raised this with Earth Wrights and they accept full responsibility whilst construction takes place. Once formal delivery has happened our insurance policy will be extended. CCTV was mentioned, though not discussed. Fencing to remain in place until the works are finally completed. Cllr. Williams and the Clerk will go through the contract and make sure it is fit for purpose.

9) Open Spaces reports –

- i. To discuss best methods of keeping the brambles under control at the Recreation Field.
Cllr. Fouracres met with Piers Jones when he was recently spraying the brambles. No further action on spraying to take place at present. Cllr. White suggests a bladed strimmer in future.
Cllr. L. Bull suggests just keeping an eye on the growth for the time being. Cllr. Williams informed that the verges up the motte need cutting back once or twice a year, and the key to prevention of additional growth is collecting and taking away the cuttings.
Cllr. L. Bull and Cllr. White will consider a strategy for the future management of the Motte's brambles.
- ii. To confirm the works requested by Colin Fagg from the DCC approved contractor, on various footpaths, to be carried out – estimated value £720.00. There is £631 in the P3 budget. Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands.
- iii. To re-look at the handyman/lengthsman task sheet (circulated prior to this meeting).
Clerk to submit the schedule of works to Four Seasons for comment.
- iv. Redundant lime kiln – to receive a report on this kiln from the Clerk.
After contact with Greg Venn, conservation officer at Mid Devon DC, it has been established that though not listed, the lime kiln “is significant to the history of the town and is recognised as being important”. Mr. Venn has offered to view the lime kiln and to offer advice to Council as to how best to manage it. The visit to be arranged.

10) Bampton Charter Fair – to receive an update from the Fair Committee.

Cllr. White reported that a group event would be difficult to organise at present – looking to make final decisions at the July meeting, as October could still be very restrictive for people movement. To keep the road closure in place for Fair Day.

- a) Agreement between Exmoor Rotary Club and Bampton Town Council for 3 years from 2021 to 2023 inclusive. Circulated prior to this meeting to the councillors.
Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands.

11) Plastic Free Bampton – to receive an update from Cllr. L. Bull.

This was started in June 2019 to enable Bampton to be recognised by Surfers Against Sewage as plastic free. Council thanks Laura Grant who has worked very hard on this project for the past years. Application to achieve plastic free status for Bampton, supported by the Council has been submitted together with a letter confirming Council's status - and now awaiting confirmation. The community has worked very hard to achieve this – Cllr. L. Bull was thanked for all her hard work on this project.

12) PLANNING:

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

- a) 20/00677/CAT Notification of intention to remove 1 willow tree within conservation area, 3 Frog St., Bampton. NO OBJECTION.
- b) 20/00665/LBC (part retrospective) for internal alterations including removal and replacement of staircase with associated partition; external alterations including installation of 3 replacement doors and a front and rear window. NO OBJECTION.
- c) 20/00732/HOUSE Erection of single storey extension following removal of conservatory, Higher Court Green, Bampton. NO OBJECTION.
- d) 20/00709/FULL Conversion of barn and associated buildings to dwelling and alterations to vehicular and pedestrian access (revised scheme), Higher Arthurs Hayne, Bampton. NO OBJECTION.
- e) 20/00776/CAT Notification of intention to cut ash trees back by 17 metres within a conservation area, 7 Bridge Terrace, Bampton. NO OBJECTION.

Planning Decisions:

- a) 19/01804/FULL Erection of replacement agricultural building, Lower Rill, Shillingford.
APPROVED
- b) 20/00419/FULL Retention of riding arena and change of use of agricultural land to mixed agricultural and equestrian use, Lodfin Wood Farm, Morebath.
GRANTED

13) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Hedgerow Print (leaflets)	£133.00	Card
	Exmoor Studios CIC (forward grant)	£1,000.00	BACs 22/05
	Employment May (inc. salary increase from 1 st Jan 2020)		
		£630.20	BACs
	P. Jones (strim & spray Motte)	£1,200.00	BACs
	Lee Accounting internal audit fee	£240.00	BACs
	B. Littlewood – toilet cleans	£180.00	
	Four Seasons grass cuts	£479.99	BACs
	Visionict website and email hosting	£404.40	BACs
	SWWater Toilets (est)	£111.84	DD
	SSWater Old Store (est)	£42.02	DD
Income:	EDF refund at Toilets	£559.33	DD
	Locality Grant (Exmoor CIC)	£1,000.00	DD

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors.

Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account. Proposed by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands.

14) Asset Register Policy - Policy detailing the method of Council's asset valuations was agreed.

15) Memorial Bench Policy and Agreement – to be considered and agreed.

After suggested amendments the policy and agreement have both been agreed by Council.

16) PSPO consultation from Mid Devon DC with reference to the control of dogs – ends 6th July.

Council agree to support this consultation.

17) Local Flood Risk Strategy Update – comments if applicable. No comments.

18) Clerk's report

- a) Insurance documents received from BHIB.
- b) Have enquired from CIL regarding the S106 monies for the Orchard – CIL are waiting formal validation and approval. Ongoing.
- c) Abandoned car in Council's car park – to receive an update. The car has been removed and a destruction certificate issued.
- d) Internal Audit completed with no issues raised.

Councillors Reports (for information only)

Cllr. White has emailed the planning office about Pixton Woodlands requesting updates about this site.

Cllr. L. Bull thanked Cllr. Moore and Mid Devon DC for accessing suitable help for a person in need, in Bampton during the recent week.

Cllr. Fouracres reported no change on the application on Morebath Rd.

Meeting closed at 8.21pm

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on 1st July 2020 at 7.00pm.

ConnectMe Devon (sent 18/05)

Roadmap (sent 18/05)

NHS Test & Trace info (sent 29/05)

NALC Executive Bulletin (sent 18/05)

DALC newsletter 31 (sent 22/05)