

Minutes of the Virtual meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday 5th August 2020, 7pm.

Present: Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. White; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. N. Bull; Cllr. Weston; Cllr. Williams; District Cllr,. Moore; Penny Clapham (Clerk); 2 members of the public; Cllr. Hopkinson; County Cllr. Colthorpe; Cllr. McHenry;

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: None received.

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) -

The bench in memory of Val and Tony Lee installed on top of the Motte today with memorial plaque – an appreciative message received from the Lee family.

29th July at extraordinary meeting of Mid Devon Council the local plan was adopted. For Bampton this means that the parish is only suitable for limited development. This is limited to proposals within the defined limits of the parish. Currently there are 4 items of planning that have already been approved and are taking place. The defined settlement limits are very clear and the Morebath development is outside the area.

Cllr. Whiteway joined the meeting.

5) County & District Councillor reports:-

County Cllr. Colthorpe – the director of public health retiring in November; the new director already appointed.

New funding scheme called Grant finder which will be circulated as soon as available. New Chairman, Stuart Barker just elected.

Highways officer not impressed with the playground road signage currently on the Morebath road – working to get these changed to the more modern design. The 30mph roundels due to be replaced sometime; may be able to put similar on the Morebath road.

A proposal to set up park runs based on the canal basin in Tiverton is being considered.

Cllr. Williams asked about speed control signage. Cllr. Colthorpe repeated her support. Highways officer has already looked at this situation. A speed watch group could be set up.

District Cllr. Moore – Mid Devon are in a fortunate position regarding Covid-19 (210 proven cases in the district). Credit to the finance team in Mid Devon, who have issued nearly £28m in grants over the area. An emergency budget is going to Council in September as there is an overall financial hit about £1 million. Government have provided significant support so far but still an overall loss. Re-opening of leisure centres has begun this week – not swimming pools yet. Local plan has been passed.

Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) is next to be looked at and commented on.

6) Minutes – to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st July 2020. Re-send the minutes to all councillors as some have not received same; to be agreed at the September meeting.

7) Walking Festival Proposal, April 2021 – for information.

Standing orders suspended.

Parishioner from the Heritage Centre – the new book of walks has just been published. This will hopefully attract people to the town, benefiting the town and economy as a whole. Reason for this approach as the Heritage Centre looking for funding and Council support for a new book and a new flyer with medium length walks – not applying to council for total funding, other funding streams being looked at. Funding for possibly targeted facebook posts which are usually paid for, plus an advert in the Exmoor magazine, to promote the walking festival. Estimated total of £2,000. Cllr. Williams proposed support for the festival, all agreed by show of hands. Council grant form will be supplied by the Clerk.

Standing orders resumed.

8) Open Spaces Committee reports – Report from the Committee (circulated prior to this meeting)

- i. Lengthsman - Four Seasons quoted £16.50 per hour on the basis of the rest of this year. Resolved to agree this figure. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres and all agreed by show of hands.
- ii. Play Park at Station Road and the report from the Play Inspection Company. Inspection report from Open Spaces Committee circulated prior to this meeting. To agree actions and associated expenditure. There are concerns about some of the equipment currently in the play area. There is not one item in the park that has passed with flying colours. Open Spaces Committee will list the urgent items to be fixed within the next month or two by the Lengthsman. There are budgeted monies for these sort of repairs.
- iii. The Stage and its maintenance. To agree actions and associated expenditure. Weeds are prolific between the flagstones on the top surface. Four Seasons have been asked to look at the weed situation, and quote for the surfacing.
Signage at Millennium Green has been vandalised. Agreed for this to be removed as a matter of safety.

9) Motte & Bailey update –

- i. To receive an update on the works – a report has been circulated. Completion date probably end of August. Opening event is unlikely to take place this year. Mentioned the required hedge. Approach the Woodland Trust for hedging trees.
- ii. To consider CCTV for the site. Cllr. L. Bull and others have met at the M & B and circulated a report prior to this meeting. The report stated reasons both in favour and against. Cllr. White asked if a pole could be cored so that any wiring would be on the inside. CCTV could also protect the football clubhouse and the entrances to the M & B.
Cllr. Williams included information regarding this subject in his report. Consulted Earth Wrights who said that very few of their parks had this installed.
Cllr. Fouracres considered that initial thoughts were to protect the new equipment, but now personal protection and safeguarding is more of an issue.
Cllr. Williams stated that some parishioners have offered to litter pick and possibly warden the area on a voluntary basis.
Concerns were raised about protecting any volunteer, the need for DBS checks and regular risk assessments.
A named councillor would be required to monitor the CCTV, policies would be created by Council.
Cllr. Whiteway proposed that CCTV be installed. Resolved: 6 in favour, 1 against, motion carried.

10) New Hall for Bampton -

- i. To receive an update from the meeting held with Rev. Chandra, Graham Davies and the Archdeacon of Exeter.

Cllr. Fouracres reported on Graham Davies’s summing up of the meeting: the hall and land it sits on is valued at £100,000; the piece of land adjoining is valued at £115,000. There is local perception that the Community Hall has been supported with local fund raising. The Council are seeking to establish what funds were raised towards the hall. The next meeting of this group is scheduled for 22nd September.

Cllr. Fouracres requested a PART II and all members of the public left the meeting.

PART II

Council are excluding members of the public and the press to progress a matter of a confidential nature.

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960.

Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102.

- ii. To agree next steps which include pre-planning application advice. To agree actions and associated expenditure. No pre-planning actions are being taken at this present time.
- iii. The confidential minutes of the Part II will only be circulated to councillors.

11) PLANNING:

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

- a) 20/01019/FULL Conversion of barns into 2 dwellings, Land and buildings, Kersdown Barton, Bampton.

SUPPORTED

- b) 20/00948/FULL Conversion and extension of agricultural building to a dwelling (revised scheme), land and buildings, The Elms, Shillingford.

NO OBJECTION

- c) 20/01136/FULL Change of use of agricultural land to residential garden to include the erection of a triple garage and fencing, Middle Rill Barn, Shillingford.

NO OBJECTION

- d) 20/01126/FULL Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian to include the erection of equestrian and storage building and manege, Land at (Deer Park), Bowdens Lane, Shillingford.

NO OBJECTION

Planning Decisions:

- a) 19/01804/FULL Erection of replacement agricultural building, Lower Rill, Shillingford.

APPROVED

- b) 20/00665/LBC LBC (part retrospective) for internal alterations including removal and replacement of staircase with partition, external alterations including installation of 3 replacement doors and a front and rear window, Carriage House, 19 Castle Street, Bampton.

GRANTED

12) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Mid Devon Council annual dog bin charge	468.00	BACs (15/07)
	Employment August	£574.00	BACs
	Refund of Fair deposit made in March	£54.00	BACs
	Volunteer C. Clayton mileage expenses	£117.45	BACs
	Viking Direct toilet supplies	£61.46	BACs
	Play Inspection Co. annual report	£162.00	BACs
	B. Littlewood, toilet cleans	£170.00	BACs

NBB Recycled Furniture (bench)	£437.76	BACs
S. Fouracres – office expenses	£60.95	BACs
Earth Wrights (VAT element of invoice)	£12,768.40	BACs

Income: Toilets £193.00

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

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

13) Tree Management Policy – approved. Proposed by Cllr. Fouracres, all in favour by show of hands.

14) Rental agreements, Scouts and Football Club – to be reviewed. To agree actions and associated expenditure. Cllr. Fouracres suggested that in the light of the pandemic there should be a rent review. Cllr. White proposed a rental of £5 for the Scouts. Cllr. N. Bull proposed the Football Club pay 50% which equals to £275. Resolved for the year 2020 to 2021 only. All agreed by show of hands. Clerk to action.

15) Defibrillator training – to be actioned if Council considers this necessary. Council are not actioning this training.

16) Christmas – to commence discussions pertinent to the Christmas festivities and the tree. September agenda.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED: reports from Councillors.

Cllr. Fouracres attended two ‘open the town centre’ virtual meetings. Considers Mid Devon have missed the opportunity for installing the temporary 20 mph limit in the towns.

Cllr. N. Bull on the support for the new community radio station based at Dulverton. Planning permission for their proposed building has been granted.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7.00pm.

Virtual agreement of these minutes dated.....

Signed..... Date.....