

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2014**

The Town Crier introduced The Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor; and the Chief Officer. He then invited Rev'd Darren Fraser to lead members in a time of prayer. The Mayor then opened the meeting.

### **PRESENT**

The Mayor – Councillor Swift  
The Deputy Mayor - Councillor Adams  
Councillor Baddeley  
Councillor Davies  
Councillor Ellsum  
Councillor Hall  
Councillor Harper  
Councillor Hart  
Councillor Hawley  
Councillor Jackson  
Councillor Jones  
Councillor Lovatt  
Councillor Rogers  
Councillor Sheldon MBE  
Councillor Tolley  
Councillor Walley

### **39.14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Alan Holdsworth was invited to speak. Mr Holdsworth read from the Staffordshire County Council Integrated Transport Plan 2013-2023, noting that this was already out of date. He had written to County Councillor Mark Winnington (Cabinet Member for Economy, Environment and Transport) and received the response that bus operators had recently revised their routes. Mr Holdsworth expressed concern about bus timetables, especially the 99 route, Biddulph to Congleton. He could not understand why the 99 could not be reprogrammed to connect with the other services in Congleton. Councillor Rogers asked why the town centre was regularly clogged with buses - circulating photographic evidence - yet outlying areas had no service. Councillor Hall noted that these were valid comments and could be forwarded to the bus operators. Councillor Harper suggested that a small working group be formed to meet with the bus operators; Mr Holdsworth would also be invited to attend.

### **40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations: Councillor Sheldon in any matters relating to Biddulph in Bloom, as Chairman. Minute 45 Councillors Hart and Rogers: their travel expenses. Councillors Hall and Harper, as members of the Rotary Club of Biddulph
- b Other Disclosable Interests: none

### **41. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence and reasons accepted were received from:

Councillor Deane  
Councillor Deaville  
Councillor Gibson  
Councillor Redfern  
Councillor Whilding  
Councillor Wood

#### **42. MINUTES**

- a It was **Resolved** to approve and sign the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16 September 2014.
- b It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the General Purposes meeting held on 16 September 2014. Re Minute 44: the group was looking at the possibility of a yellow line to deter parking on the bend at the junction of Park Lane with Conway Road. Councillor Jackson was hoping to be able to implement a speed matrix sign somewhere along Park Lane.
- c It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 14 October 2014.
- d It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the Civic Committee meeting held on 14 October 2014. Re Minute 27: the change of route should be publicised in the local press.

#### **43. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- a Mayor's Engagements – the Mayor read out details of his recent engagements over the last month including a visit to our twin town of Fusignano; where he was presented with a gift of a plate. The plate will be on display in the Council Chamber
- b The Mayor announced that this month marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the appointment of Mr John Robinson as Biddulph Town Crier. Members applauded.

#### **44. YOUTH ADVISOR REPORT**

An Induction event had been held to welcome the new Youth Advisors. Advisors expressed concern about lack of safe places for them to meet with their friends. One area of particular concern was the play area on Haydon Park; it was felt to be isolated and hidden from view.

Councillor Tolley noted that he had received concerns about the lack of lighting at the BMX facility at Mill Hayes, especially during the darker months.

#### **45. ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE**

##### **a The following accounts were approved for payment:**

Heads (Congleton) Ltd - Artisan Market advert x 2	67.68
V Brown - Market Day Organiser	50.00
W Linaker - Stall Construction	75.00
M Hall – Stall Construction	75.00
V Brown - Events Director	743.33
Local World Ltd – market advert, Leek Post & Times	82.81
HM Revenue & Customs (to be paid by direct debit)	1,778.40
Salaries	4,298.82

