

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2014**

The Chief Officer introduced The Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The Mayor invited Rev'd Martin Cannam to lead members in a time of prayer. Rev'd Cannam mentioned that election hustings with the five main candidates would be held at the Victoria Centre on 28 April 2015. The Mayor then opened the meeting.

### **PRESENT**

The Mayor – Councillor Swift  
The Deputy Mayor - Councillor Adams  
Councillor Baddeley  
Councillor Davies  
Councillor Deane  
Councillor Gibson  
Councillor Hall  
Councillor Hart  
Councillor Harper  
Councillor Hawley  
Councillor Jackson  
Councillor Jones  
Councillor Lovatt  
Councillor Redfern  
Councillor Rogers  
Councillor Sheldon MBE  
Councillor Walley  
Councillor Whilding

### **74.14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

PCSO Sherratt reported on:

- Anti-Social Behaviour at Sainsbury's, 5 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC) had been issued by a colleague with 3 more pending.
- Reports of thefts from graves at Woodhouse Burial Ground; things would be put into place.
- Tony and Margaret Worthington had obtained some intercom systems which could be fitted free of charge by Your Moorlands, mainly for the elderly with priority given to Knypersley residents. For more information contact the Worthingtons for details. Councillor Rogers noted that he had fitted a similar one for his parents, it was working well.
- There had been an exceptionally large funeral last Thursday which had stopped traffic throughout town, not one complaint had been received.
- No crime trends at the moment.
- Councillor Jones expressed concern about children being blatantly 'dropped off' at school on the zig zags.
- Councillor Baddeley noted that there are police cadets in many towns, when would there be cadets in Biddulph? PCSO Sherratt replied that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) would like to run the scheme in Biddulph.
- Councillor Harper asked of there had been any problems reported with parking near the new Grange Chip Shop. PCSO Sherratt responded that there had been no cause for concern, the area was regularly patrolled.

PCSO Sherratt also gave information about his fundraising for The Dogs Trust:

- An auction on 13 June at Knypersley Club –a family event, tickets £2.
- Sponsored bike ride through Switzerland in July.
- Sponsored bike ride from Port Vale Football Club to Shrewsbury in August.
- Charity stall at the next Artisan Market on 3 April.

## **75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations: Minute 81 Councillor Davies – his expenses.
- b Other Disclosable Interests: Councillor Sheldon, anything to do with Biddulph in Bloom as Chair. Minute 77b, Councillor Harper as a Biddulph Lifeline member

## **76. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence and reasons accepted were received from:

Councillor Deaville

Councillor Ellsum

Councillor Wood

Town Crier – Mr J Robinson

## **77. MINUTES**

- a It was **Resolved** to approve and sign the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17 February 2015.
- b It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the General Purposes meeting held on 17 February 2015. Re Minute 96: Councillor Jones reported that the red phone box at Rock End had power, but the light was broken. The box was in a disgraceful state, he expressed disappointment that the local residents had not looked after it. Biddulph Moor Community Association was considering adding the box to its maintenance programme. Councillor Harper, on behalf of Lifeline, had no objections and welcomed the intervention.
- c It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 10 March 2015.
- d It was **Resolved** to receive the Minutes of the Civic Committee meeting held on 10 March 2015. Minute 56b - Councillor Davies updated members. Moorlands Partnership Board had accepted the kissing gates project. This would now be taken back to the Civic Committee for discussion about possible funding. The application had been put in before the end of March to benefit from the MPB budget for 2014-15.

## **78. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor read out details of his recent engagements over the last month. He invited Councillor Sheldon to give information about Biddulph in Bloom's inclusion in the Britain in Bloom finals. Councillor Sheldon noted that Biddulph always gained points due to its community involvement and environmental credentials.

The Mayor reminded members about his Civic Ball on Friday 24 April 2015.

## **79. YOUTH ADVISOR REPORT**

The Chief Officer reported on the meeting that afternoon. There had been a good representation of young people. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Ellis, and Ross Podyma from Sporting Communities had attended.

Ross had distributed questionnaires and asked the representatives to bring at least ten completed ones each to the next meeting. Ross and his team were working at Halls Road playing fields on Tuesday evenings and he was also trying to have the floodlights put on at Woodland Street on one evening a week. Young people preferred to congregate where there was something for them to do, such as sport.

Councillor Harper reported that a 'SPACE like' project would be starting up in the summer holidays.

**80. MEETINGS CALENDAR FOR MAY 2015-APRIL 2016**

Copies of the proposed meetings calendar for the next Council year were received by members.

**81. ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE**

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

Radplant – 2 <sup>nd</sup> payment for work on Wharf Rd steps	16,024.80
Severn Trent Water – Woodhouse Burial Ground	32.39
Staffordshire Ecological Services Ltd – appraisal for Springfield Rd	639.48
Moorside Memorials – repair to broken water tap at Burial Ground	28.61
D W Lovatt – additional work to divert water from graves at Burial Ground	200.00
Viking – stationery & stamps	290.12
V Brown - Events Director	743.33
HM Revenue & Customs ( <i>to be paid by direct debit 6/4/15</i> )	1,703.18
Salaries	4,148.77
Staffordshire Pension Fund	1,569.73
D Allcock Lengthsman work	230.00
RAD Plant - final invoice re work on steps	8,175.60
Kent CC – copier rental	582.65
Investors in Publishing – market advertising (Cheshire Borders Independent)	240.00
J Davies – Artisan Market, use of tractor/fuel to March 2015	112.63
Askey & Sutcliffe Associates (Property) Ltd	1,560.00
Annual garage rent for Artisan Market ( <i>due 1 April</i> )	
CommuniCorp - Local Councils Update – annual subscription ( <i>due 1 April</i> )	75.00
SMDC – non-domestic rate for Burial Ground <i>due 1 April</i> )	263.97
Community Council of Staffordshire – annual subscription ( <i>due 1 April</i> )	25.00

**b The Ernest & Mrs Mary Wells Ambulance Fund War Stock:**

HM Treasury has announced that all 3½% War Stock will cease and be redeemed in its entirety and a cheque has now been received for £2,072.48. There is £37.12 remaining in the Wells Account, a charity set up from the sale of the Wells ambulance when the NHS came into being. The interest from the stock was donated to the elderly or sick of Biddulph each Christmas. A decision should now be taken how to utilise this money.

Several suggestions were made and it was moved to discuss this in more detail at the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm

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