

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 JULY 2018

The Town Crier introduced the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Officer; Rev'd Derek Balsdon was invited to lead a time of prayer. The Mayor then opened the meeting.

PRESENT

The Mayor Councillor McGuinness
The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Davies
Councillor Baddeley
Councillor Hall
Councillor Harper
Councillor Jones
Councillor Lovatt
Councillor Nicosia
Councillor Rogers
Councillor Rushton
Councillor Salt
Councillor Walley
Councillor Whilding
Councillor Wood

21.18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting to adjourn for up to 20 minutes (Standing Order 1d-f) to allow for public participation. Residents are invited to give their views and question the Town Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Mayor.

Members of the public wishing to raise issues which are not on the Agenda should notify the Chief Officer five working days before the meeting. Members of the public may not take part in the Council meeting itself.

a) Mark Holdcroft, Pastor at Life Streams (Biddulph Pentecostal Church) - Vision regarding the church car park

Pastor Holdcroft reported that he and his wife were raised in Biddulph and had returned to the Church on Newpool Road nearly two years ago, after spending ten years in Eastern Europe.

Pastor Holdcroft noted that there were parking problems in the vicinity of Knypersley First School at busy times, and enquiries had been made about public use of the Church car park to alleviate some of the congestion. Life Streams wanted to help the community; he was open to working with local schools. The suggestion had been made that the car park could be opened 15 minutes before schools opened and closed again 15 minutes after school began. He was working towards this. Pastor Holdcroft had consulted their insurance company who required the car park to be in good condition. It was usable during summer months, as it was constructed from crushed stone. However, it had been laid several years ago and during winter became very muddy. The result of this was that the car park would have to be resurfaced before it was available. The cost for the work was in the region of £10,000 for a crushed stone surface. Life Streams would fund this work, but with financial pressures it was the third priority. At present the car park was sufficient for the needs of the church, as there was a smaller car park with capacity for 40 cars. Grants had been sought. Pastor Holdcroft had hoped that the work would be

completed by September, but this was not possible. He would work with the school so that the car park would be used in a respectful way.

Councillor Salt thanked Pastor Holdcroft and noted that she had been a school governor at Knypersley First School; she asked if he had approached the school for financial help. Pastor Holdcroft responded that he had not as the church would prefer to self-finance the work.

Councillor Wood thanked Pastor Holdcroft and noted that as a ward Councillor, parking issues were one of the biggest complaints he received from residents. He noted that the Knypersley crossroads car parking was an horrendous situation and was something which the Town Council should look at in order to ensure residents are safe, and for the safety of children and parents. This should be looked at by the General Purposes Committee and put to the Finance Committee to improve the environment of that area.

Councillor Nicosia noted that St Johns Road was lined with many cars. These came from the Roaches School and cars were parked on Newpool Road, Crossfield Avenue, Conway Road and Tunstall Road; the crossroads and periphery were extremely busy.

Councillor Jones suggested that this is looked at by the Finance Committee initially; the deadline for grants had passed. He suggested that County Councillors Lawson and Flunder are approached as they had money for available for such projects.

Councillor Rogers said he was worried that if this Council supported Pastor Holdcroft it would have to consider support for other schools that had issues too.

Pastor Holdcroft reaffirmed that Life Streams would do the work, but that it would take a longer time than first thought.

Councillor Harper suggested tagging discussion onto an extra meeting of the Finance Committee. Councillor McGuinness agreed.

Councillor Harper proposed, seconded by Councillor Wood, to add this as an agenda item on the Finance Committee meeting to be held in August.

Councillor Lovatt asked Pastor Holdcroft to put the information in writing.

The motion was agreed; Councillor Lovatt abstained from the vote

b) Pastor Matt Coster, Lord Street Evangelical Church - an introduction

Pastor Coster noted that he had been brought up in Norton and had recently taken charge of Hebron Hall/Gospel Mission on the corner of Lord Street and Church Road.

The Church had never had a Pastor before and had been meeting in the building since the 1960's; the congregation had declined. The Church had been renamed to reflect the desire to do something new. Lord Street Evangelical was a Church that wanted to impact those around; with a focus to work with families. It was a small Church; 12-15 attended on Sunday mornings. Pastor Coster had been given the opportunity to work with Squirrel Hayes First School and had taken assemblies and instructed in social and emotional learning. Lord Street Evangelical Church had identified an issue of drug and alcohol misuse in the local area and was working on projects to help.

Councillor McGuinness thanked Pastor Coster and noted that Churches Together would welcome him and that Biddulph Methodist Church was also working on a drugs and alcohol initiative.

Councillor Salt was a member of the Biddulph Youth and Community Zone community interest group, which would welcome contact with Pastor Coster; there was a meeting to be held the following day and Councillor Salt passed the details to Pastor Coster.

Councillor Rogers noted the building was slightly like the old Mission Hall at Gillow Heath; which had opened the up for children's parties.

Pastor Coster noted that he would be compiling a hire policy for the future.

22. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence and reasons accepted were received from:

Councillor Hart
Councillor Hawley
Councillor Jackson
Councillor Lawson
Councillor Sheldon
Councillor Swift

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations: none declared
- b) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests: none declared.

24. MINUTES

- a) It was moved to approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 June 2018.
- b) It was moved to approve and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 6 July 2018.
- c) It was moved to receive the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 10 June 2018.
Councillor Jones informed members that the eye screen situation will be considered at the September Health Scrutiny Committee at SMDC; he will report back to this Council.
- d) It was moved to receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 10 July 2018.
- e) It was moved to receive the Minutes of the Civic Committee Meeting held on 10 July 2018

25. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor McGuinness noted that this was the second time he had asked for a special Town Council meeting. The meeting to be held on 20 July was to discuss the item on the tabled pink paper; to come to a decision and to vote.

26. ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

a) The following accounts were received for payment:

JULY EXPENSES TO BE PAID IMMEDIATELY

Expenditure in excess of £500

P2 Services Limited Work to the Leat at Biddulph Grant Country Park Project completed as part of Moorlands Partnership Board project, in partnership with Biddulph Grange Country Park Friends. Organisation sourced by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council following receipt of three quotations from suitably qualified organisations. To be reimbursed. (VAT included at £1240)	7440.00
Greenbarnes Ltd Provision of a timber noticeboard and post kit for Biddulph Grange Country Park. Project completed as part of Moorlands Partnership Board project, in partnership with Biddulph Grange Country Park Friends. Organisation sourced by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. To be reimbursed. (VAT included at £149.71)	898.25
KCS Professional Services Photocopier charges (VAT included at 97.11)	£582.65

Expenditure below £500

Heads (Congleton) Limited Advertising for Dementia Cinema event	144.00
Moorside Memorials Digging to remove concrete and expose drainage.	250.00
Staffordshire County Council Membership of Destination Staffordshire (Gold Level)	240.00
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Annual fee, Premises License PLA0421 (High Street and Town Hall frontage)	70.00
Cheshire Branch of Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) Attendance on Cemetery Legal Compliance course- 21 August (SH and JG)	150.00
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Lease at Congleton Road	90.00
Market imprest Stall construction and dismantling	180.00
ASH waste services Emptying 4 x bins at Town Burial Ground	299.40
Brian Carter Un/lock Woodhouse Burial Ground gates	40.00

Credit card payments

Gov.uk Basic DBS Check	25.00
Facebook publicity for the Town Walk	14.00
Filmbank membership (refundable deposit)	150.00
Filmbank- Singin' in the Rain (Dementia Cinema event)	99.60

AUGUST EXPENSES TO BE PAID ON 21 AUGUST 2018

Expenditure below £500

Market imprest	180.00
Stall construction and dismantling	
Brian Carter	40.00
Un/lock Woodhouse Burial Ground gates	

b) Supplementary accounts

Expenditure above £500

Salaries	5040.52
HMRC to be paid 1 August 2018	1853.18
Staffs Pension Fund	1995.36
Lengthsman	1173.00
Strimming and grass cutting	
Removal of soil, skip and digger hire	
Biddulph in Bloom	
March payment reissued	6250.00
First of four payments as agreed at grant meeting	6250.00
1 st Biddulph Moor (Saracen) Scout Group	750.00
Re issued	

Expenditure below £500

Ebm printers	57.60
Receipt books	
Blonde Folly	30.00
Catering for Dementia Cinema event	
SLCC	
Annual membership	258.00
Petty cash	13.80
S Haydon – Travel	8.28
Travel to meeting in Leek	
J Gaunt	6.30
travel to and from burial grounds	
J Hancock	18.72
Travel for market for July and August	
Card – Shutterstock	19.00

August expenses to be paid on 21 August 2018

Expenditure above £500

Salaries	5039.65
HMRC to be paid 1 September 2018	1834.86
Staffs Pension Fund	1995.43

Expenditure below £500

Tidysite	20.30
Monthly waste collection at Woodhouse Burial Ground	
ASH Waste services	up to 300.00
Monthly waste collection at Town Burial Ground	
Petty cash	up to 60.00
Card – Shutterstock	19.00
The final balance for the Mayor's Charity 2017/8	3707.58

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Signed Date