

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,  
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 16 JULY 2024, 6.30PM  
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

**PRESENT:**

- Councillor J I M Garvey (Chair)
- Councillor K Jackson
- Councillor A Parkes
- Councillor J Redfern
- Councillor W Rogers
- Councillor M Hopkins
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor N Yates

Councillor Rogers was in attendance but did not sign the attendance sheet.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Mrs Angela Williams – Administration Officer
- Councillor J T Jones

*Councillor Garvey recited the disclaimer regarding the recording of the meeting.*

**17. APOLOGIES**

- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor J Salt
- Councillor C Smith
- Councillor K Harper - Absent
- Councillor C Kisicki - Absent
- Councillor D Proudlove - Absent

**18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations: None.
- b) Other Interests: None.

**19. MINUTES**

- a) To **sign** the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 18 June 2024  
Proposed by Councillor Garvey; Seconded by Councillor Rogers. All agreed.

- b) To **receive** the Notes from the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on Wednesday 3 July 2024

Proposed by Councillor Jackson; seconded by Councillor Yates. All agreed.

## **20. TO CONSIDER THE CELEBRATION OF VE DAY 2025**

The Chief Officer advised that there would be lots of activities across the country to celebrate this milestone, and questioned what activities could be considered for Biddulph.

Councillor Jackson questioned whether there is a budget for this event. The Chief Officer noted that funds had not currently been allocated for 2025 events.

The event was discussed and suggestions of a Street Party, 1940s themed dance, exhibition in the hall and gathering voice recordings of people's memories; with young people interviewing them.

Councillor Jones requested a separate party for Biddulph Moor ward.

There was a suggestion of a commemorative badge to give out to Young People. Ideas would be costed and brought back to a future meeting.

## **21. TO CONSIDER NATURE IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECTS:**

[www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/wilder-communities/nature-your-neighbourhood](http://www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/wilder-communities/nature-your-neighbourhood)

The Chief Officer explained that Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Keele University and partners had a project about improving and monitoring habitat health; appropriate sites are nominated for consideration. As part of the project, they monitor the habitat health over 5 years to try and enhance community's knowledge.

The Chief Officer suggested sites such as the Butterfly Garden, Briarswood, the Country Park. It was suggested to look at local green spaces such as Newpool Meadows.

Councillor Jackson proposed the Springfield Road site incorporating the Morris Homes Land and include the allotment land.

Councillor Lawton suggested Dorset Drive vegetation to the side of the path bridge and steps. There was discussion around what this site is used for, Councillor Yates explained

that the wetland is a naturalised site, trees will dominate over time. It was intended to as a wildlife zone.

Councillor Jones suggested Hot Lane playing fields.

The Chief Officer would put forward these ideas.

## **22. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON HERITAGE PROJECTS IN THE TOWN**

The Chief Officer gave a verbal update on the current heritage projects, she reported that the Overton Road Trough should be completed at the end of August; traffic lights would be needed to complete this.

The Chief Officer stated that the lanterns on St. Johns Road Roundabout will have a solar lamp attached to each lamp with a blue light.

Both of the above projects are funded by Moorlands Partnership Board (and partners).

The Chief Officer gave an update regarding the Station Road artwork, she stated that the tiles will be positioned in August, and the opening will coincide with the Classic Vehicle Show as part of heritage weekend.

There was a discussion around the Biddulph Valley Way station platform and what signage would be used to highlight of the history of the area. Councillor Jackson suggested a photograph of the station that he'd seen on a Facebook group.

The Chief Officer reported that a car had driven into the railings around the cenotaph, which will require repair, and costings will be brought forward. Unfortunately, there is no CCTV footage of the incident.

The Chief Officer gave a brief memorial brick update for the Town Hall frontage project and stated that the architect meeting will take place to approve documentation. The Chief Officer reported that the aim is to complete the Frontage project by the end of the year.

## **23. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON 2024 EVENTS**

The Chief Officer gave a verbal update on the upcoming events taking place at the Town Hall, she stated that the Council continue to support the festival events.

The Chief Officer stated that there will be a Jobs Fair provided by the Job Centre, the Northern Soul event, to be held on Saturday is sold out. Also, on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July there will be a Free showing of Kung Fu Panda 4.

The Chief Officer reported that she is working with the Arts Culture and Heritage Officer at the District Council on the creation of a new strategy.

The Chief Officer stated that there is steady progress with the September events, such as the Car show.

The Chief Officer reported that the Biddulph Grange have requested to open the gate at the end of Bateman Walk to allow access for their upcoming heritage weekend event; this has been agreed.

The Chief Officer reported that there will be a Christmas Lights meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> regarding initial discussions around collaboration with Biddulph Moor Village Hall; all are welcome.

The Chief Officer reported that a programme for summer holidays detailing the free events and food is currently being compiled and will be circulated asap.

*The meeting closed at 7.24pm.*

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