

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2025, 6.30PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR.**

PRESENT:

- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor J I M Garvey
- Councillor M Hopkins
- Councillor K Jackson
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor C Kisicki
- Councillor J Salt
- Councillor J Redfern
- Councillor D Proudlove
- Councillor W Rogers
- Councillor C Smith (Chair)
- Councillor N Yates

Councillors Jackson, Kisicki and Salt were 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 Margaret Warman – Compliance and Governance Officer
- Mrs Angela Williams – Administration Officer

Councillor Smith recited the disclaimer regarding the recording of the meeting.

56. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

- Councillor K Harper
- Councillor A Parkes

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

58. MINUTES

- a) To **sign** the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2024

All agreed.

- b) To **receive** the Notes of the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on 27 November 2024

Proposed by Councillor Jackson; seconded by Councillor Garvey. All **agreed**.

59. TO RECEIVE A DRAFT OF THE BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL 'CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT' PLAN (ATTACHED) AND TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK

The Chief Officer had circulated the 'Caring for Our Environment' plan and explained that when the Environment and Climate Change Working Group last met, they considered the feedback received following the consultation event in Spring 2024. The Chief Officer stated that the document included national and global initiatives and our role with those, e.g. net zero campaigns.

The Chief Officer recited parts of the document and explained that the wider 5-year Town Council strategy is referenced. It was also noted that the bold text are the action points to take forward.

Councillor Garvey gave his thanks to the Chief Officer for creating the document and stated his support.

Councillor Salt suggested to make it clear that the Town Council will work with partners to create electric charging points; we may not provide these ourselves.

Councillor Proudlove noted the bullet point on page 9; Green belt is not an environmental policy, and suggested to distinguish that by rewording.

Councillor Yates noted that page 6 states that the Town Council will create a sample garden, he suggested that maintenance of this could be funded through UKSP funding; applications open again in April 2025.

Councillor Redfern stated that there should be an emphasis on the environmental benefit of companies that the Town Council work with. The Chief Officer stated that the Procurement Policy could be strengthened to support this.

It was discussed that the document will be added to the website, and an action plan would be created. Proposed by Councillor Garvey ; seconded by Councillor Salt. All **agreed**.

60. ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR SALT: TO CONSIDER BECOMING A COOPERATIVE COUNCIL, <https://www.councils.coop/about-us/>

Councillor Salt explained that there is a small fee to join as an associate member, she stated that it is a non-political campaign. It was discussed that there are opportunities to apply for grant funding up to £2,000 yearly, with the opportunity to collaborate with other councils.

It was agreed to sign up for the first year and evaluate after this, using the Biddulph Works Together budget.

It was proposed by Councillor Jackson; seconded by Councillor Garvey. All agreed. Forthwith.

61. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON 2025 EVENTS

Ms Hancock tabled the plan for the Chinese new year event and explained that it is a collaboration between the Town Council and Outside Arts, with funding from Shared Prosperity Fund.

Ms Hancock stated that the event will start at 10.30am and she requested volunteers to help as marshals.

The Chief Officer stated that the film offering will continue, however, the Town Council is coming to the end of the funding from Film Hub. It was explained that 'Scratch' was developed through this. It takes place on the first Friday on the month, and the bar is available. Other funding would be sourced

The Chief Officer stated that the final sessions of the Mental Health training will take place on 8th February, there are a few spaces available. Councillor Salt requested numbers of the attendees so far.

Councillor Lawton requested a date for the next repair café.

Dan Budd as Robbie Williams tickets are available from reception or on Eventbrite.

The second Northern Soul Night will take place on 22nd March; tickets are available from next week.

The Mayor's cycle ride will start 9th April in Biddulph and end in London on 12th April 2025.

The annual Classic Vehicle Show will take place on 13th September 2025; there was discussion about a youtuber called Hubnut.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

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