

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING, BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025, 7PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR.**

PRESENT:

- **Mayor**
Councillor N R Yates
- **Deputy Mayor**
Councillor A Lawton
- Councillor A K Harper
- Councillor K J Jackson
- Councillor J Jones
- Councillor C Kisicki
- Councillor D A Proudlove
- Councillor A C W Parkes (Chair)
- Councillor J Redfern
- Councillor J Salt

Councillor Proudlove 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 W Rogers
- Councillor J I M Garvey

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

Councillor Parkes gave his best wishes to Councillor Hart and wished a speedy recovery.

66. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

- Councillor C Brady
- Councillor A Hart

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations

None.

b) Other Interests

None.

68. MINUTES

- a) To **approve and sign** the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11 February 2025

All **approved**.

- b) To **receive** the Notes from the Transport Working Group meeting held on 12 February 2025

Councillor Harper queried whether the Police will be involved in enforcement activity at schools.

They were **received**.

69. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TRENT VALLEY WAY FOOTPATH DEVELOPMENTS

The Chief Officer reported that the Trent Valley way is an ongoing partnership project. The idea is to bring together different pots of funding and ideas to try and strengthen and promote the route of the river Trent, from Trent Head Well. The Biddulph section starts in Biddulph Moor and passes down through Knypersley reservoir before heading onwards.

Most recently, the Chief Officer took part in the walk, to agree the final route; a report is currently being compiled alongside a 'to do' list. This will eventually promote a walking route from the head of the Trent.

It was **received**.

70. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TRANSFORMING THE TRENT HEAD WATERS PROJECT

The Chief Officer explained that 'Transforming the Trent head waters' is a wider project led by Staffordshire Wildlife trust; they are looking for projects from within the Trent Head area.

The projects could be heritage or improvements to the environment, or community development work.

A meeting took place yesterday to determine what the community feels are priority projects.

The Chief Officer noted that she had spoken about the Trent Valley Way footpath and also the creation of a new cycle route that would open up the old Carriage Drive.

It was **received**.

71. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS WALKING FESTIVAL

The Chief Officer reported that the Walking Festival is run by a separate committee but is supported by the District Council and runs from 25th April to 5th May. There is a separate website with more information.

It was agreed to host information regarding this in the Town Hall reception.

The Chief Officer explained that discussions have taken place previously regarding Biddulph walks, in particular, a Methodist walk has been discussed. Councillor Parkes explained that the walk could include Mow Cop and Lask Edge chapels.

Several short urban walks within the town were discussed. Councillor Garvey suggested the Talbot car park to Fold Lane walk, encompassing the Clough.

Councillor Salt suggested a Young Persons walk, with footpaths to follow and perhaps a 'Shakes on the Rocks' walk.

It was **received**.

72. JOBS FOR LENGTHSMAN (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)

Councillor Harper reported that the verge outside of his house had not been cut. It was discussed that it could be County Council land. The Chief Officer will enquire who should be cutting this section of land.

Councillor Jones reported a patch of land on the path behind Rowan Close needs some attention.

Councillor Garvey noted that on the footpath from Leek Lane to Stoneyfields there are a number of bushes that are heavily overgrown.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, the Council is to determine which items, if any, should be taken with the public excluded.

**73. TO CONSIDER LAND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE TOWN
(STANDING AGENDA ITEM)**

There was discussion about land ownership around areas of the river Trent.

The meeting ended at 8.13pm

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