

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING, BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2025, 7PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR.**

PRESENT:

- **Mayor**
Councillor A Lawton
- **Deputy Mayor**
Councillor C Smith
- Councillor C Brady
- Councillor Rev. Y Case
- Councillor A Hart
- Councillor K J Jackson
- Councillor J Jones
- Councillor C Kisicki
- Councillor A C W Parkes (Chair)
- Councillor J Redfern
- Councillor N R Yates

Councillors Parkes and Case did not sign the attendance sheet but were in attendance.

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 W Rogers

The Mayor recited the disclaimer regarding the recording of the meeting.

1. ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

The Mayor called for nominations for the role of Chair. Councillor Redfern nominated Councillor Hart; seconded by Councillor Parkes. There were no other nominations. All **agreed**.

Councillor Hart called for nominations for the role of Deputy Chair. Councillor Jackson proposed Councillor Parkes; seconded by Councillor Jones. There were no other nominations. All **agreed**.

2. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies were received from Councillor D A Proudlove. There were no substitute members.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations

None declared.

b) Other Interests

Councillor Smith declared an interest in item 7.

4. MINUTES

a) To **approve and sign the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 8 April 2025**

Proposed by Councillor Jones; seconded by Councillor Brady. All **agreed**.

b) To **receive the Notes from the Transport Working Group meeting held on 30 April 2025**

Proposed by Councillor Lawton; seconded by Councillor Yates, **received**.

5. TO APPROVE UPDATES TO THE BURIAL POLICY (ATTACHED)

The Chief Officer reminded Councillors that the Town Council was submitting an application to the Burial Awards scheme; this had necessitated some revisions to the Policy, to strengthen sections in relation to environmental aspirations, for example.

There had also been slight amendments to benches section, with the introduction of a planter as an option for memorials.

Councillor Jones questioned how to policy is enforced. The Chief Officer stated that letters are sent, and a procedure is followed.

There was a discussion in relation to some amendments, including whether to allow plastic flowers.

It was proposed to accept the amendments, with the exception of point 13.1, by Councillor Jones; seconded by Councillor Yates. The Town Council would consider the issue of plastic flowers again. All **agreed**.

6. TO APPROVE FEES FOR SIMULTANEOUS INTERMENTS WITHIN THE BURIAL GROUNDS (CURRENT FEES ATTACHED)

The Chief Officer explained that recently there have been requests for double interments of cremated remains, i.e. two caskets are interred at the same time. There is not currently a fee which represents this kind of interment, and it was suggested to amend the fee document to include the initial fee plus a re-open fee, for this type of interment.

Proposed by Councillor Jones; seconded by Councillor Yates. All **agreed**.

7. TO CONFIRM EMERGING ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING A WEEK OF ACTION IN RELATION TO SCHOOL PARKING

The Chief Officer explained that a week of action had been discussed, in partnership with the Police and Parking Enforcement. This would be in September.

A discussion took place regarding the issues relating to school parking.

Councillor Smith declared an interest in this item.

8. JOBS FOR LENGTHSMAN (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)

Councillor Jones requested that the hedge behind the phone box on Biddulph Moor Village Green is cut back on a regular basis. The sensor would need replacing for the light/ defib.

Councillor Smith reported at the top of Park Lane, just before lodge barn road, the style is 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.

9. TO CONFIRM TOWN COUNCIL PROJECTS AS PART OF THE TRENT HEADWATERS PROJECT

The Chief Officer gave a brief explanation regarding the Trent Headwaters Project, and suggested different ways of getting involved.

Councillor Smith left the meeting at 8.42pm.

Proposed by Councillor Yates; seconded by Councillor Jones. All **agreed**.

10. ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR YATES: TO CONSIDER THE REMOVAL OF THE KICK-WALL AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHANGING AREA AT HALLS ROAD RECREATION GROUNDS

It was discussed that the Town Council would write a letter to Councillor Matt Swindlehurst to support this.

11. ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR HART: TO CONSIDER THE PAINTING OF BATEMAN WALK BENCHES

It was discussed that the Chief Officer investigate the options.

It was **agreed**.

12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE IN RELATION TO BIDDULPH TOWN 89 FOOTPATH AND CONSIDER APPROPRIATE NEXT STEPS

The Chief Officer recited the draft wording of a proposed letter to the Head of Legal Services at the County Council. It was proposed by Councillor Jones; seconded by Councillor Yates. All **agreed**.

1 Abstention.

13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BRIARSWOOD

A report would be provided at the next meeting.

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

There were no items to report.

The meeting ended at 9.09pm

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