

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2026, 6.30PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR.**

PRESENT:

- Councillor Y Case
- Councillor J I M Garvey
- Councillor M Hopkins
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor A Parkes
- Councillor D Proudlove
- Councillor W Rogers
- Councillor J Salt (Chair)
- Councillor C Smith
- Councillor N Yates

Councillor Smith attended the meeting, 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

The meeting was not recorded due to technical issues.

77. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ANY SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor C Kisicki
- Councillor J Redfern (Absent)
- Councillor A K Harper

78. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations**

None.

- b) Other Interests**

Councillor Case declared an interest in item 83.

79. MINUTES

1. To **sign** the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 17 March 2026

<https://biddulph.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Minutes-Town-and-Community-17-March-2026-Draft-No-confid.pdf>

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

2. To **receive** the Notes from the Biddulph Works Together meeting on 11 February 2026

<https://biddulph.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Notes-BWT-Meeting-11-February-2026-DRAFT.pdf>

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

3. To **receive** the Notes from the Biddulph Works Together meeting on 18 March 2026

<https://biddulph.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Notes-BWT-Meeting-18-March-2026-DRAFT.pdf>

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

80. TO CONSIDER THE 'WHAT DOES GOOD LOOK LIKE' DOCUMENT (ATTACHED)

<https://biddulph.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/What-Does-Good-Look-Like-2026-DRAFT.pdf>

The Chief Officer drew attention to the relevant section of the document for this Committee.

Councillor Parkes questioned whether it was an internal or external piece of work. The Chief Officer explained that it is an internal piece of work.

Councillor Salt requested that in section 8.2 – health and wellbeing be added as a bullet point.

It was **agreed** to add this additional bullet point and to approve the existing elements of the document.

81. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON AGEING WELL IN BIDDULPH PROJECTS

The Chief Officer delivered a presentation outlining the Ageing Well in Biddulph project, including its purpose, key achievements and recommendations identified throughout the project.

During discussion, Members queried the tablet previously located in the reception area. The Chief Officer agreed to investigate its whereabouts.

Councillor Hopkins queried additional support available for physical health. The Chief Officer highlighted the upcoming Health Roadshow in October as an opportunity to signpost services.

Councillor Smith asked whether Adult Social Care had been engaged alongside social prescribers. The Chief Officer confirmed that efforts would be made to establish a contact within Adult Social Care; there were good relationships with social prescribers.

It was also noted that a Volunteer Booklet for Biddulph has been revised and reprinted. There was consideration of the next steps, which were:

- Adoption of Wellbeing Strategy in 2026-27.
- Health and Wellbeing day- October 2026, support for 'International Day of the Older Person'.
- Consider roadshows in October/ November 2026 to update our understanding.
- Ongoing funding to be provided for Biddulph Works Together.
- Consider membership of the Network of Age-friendly Communities
- Consider a 'Walkability Audit' of the town centre, to impact future pedestrianisation plans.

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

82. TO CONSIDER THE 'MORE IN COMMON' AGENDA AND ONGOING RELATIONSHIP: <https://www.moreincommon.org.uk/>

The Chief Officer explained that the Methodist church hosted an event 'More in Common' which is a network founded after the murder of Jo Cox MP in 2016.

The opportunity for the Town Council to become more involved in future activities associated with the network was discussed.

It was proposed by Councillor Proudlove to be involved; seconded by Councillor Garvey. **All agreed.**

83. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE TRANSFORMING THE TRENT HEADWATERS PROJECT

The Chief Officer reported that following a meeting regarding the three previously discussed projects, it was discussed that the fund would not pay for the restoration of the footpath.

As regards the potential Visitor Centre, this could not be purchased, but other costs could be considered. The funders now wanted more information about this and the Carriage Drive project. Funding was limited to £160,000 but the Chief Officer felt that a significant impact could be made with this funding. There had been a revisit this project.

Councillor Case declared an interest in this item.

Councillor Smith left the meeting at 8pm.

84. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE CHAIN REACTION PROJECT

The Chief Officer reported that a bike repair station had been purchased using the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, to be installed on the Town Hall frontage.

The Chief officer stated that the next 'Ride the lights' event will take place in October, using the same route as before. There will be a 'Women's Bike ride' event upcoming, to improve confidence in women.

The Chief Officer reported that the Biddulph Youth and Community Zone are looking at doing bike repair sessions in the future. And that the next pre-loved bike sale will take place on Saturday 6th June at the Town Hall.

It was **received.**

85. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, WITH INVOLVEMENT OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Chief Officer reported that this year the grants programme has been brought forward to align with the Annual Town Meeting, scheduled for 19th May. The meeting will include an open forum commencing at 6:00 pm.

Prior to this, an event will take place at 4:30 pm, which will celebrate 60 years of the Town Hall and include presentations to groups who have received funding.

All agreed.

86. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON YOUTH PROJECTS

The Chief Officer reported that issues relating to anti-social behaviour within the town are continuing. She advised that a recent meeting had taken place with key stakeholders to discuss these concerns and potential responses. There is consideration of Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) projects and a youth cinema session.

It was further reported that the Visitor Centre men’s toilets had recently been subject to damage.

The Chief Officer advised that she is lobbying for greater police involvement and is exploring the idea of hosting a “World Café” style engagement event to address these issues collaboratively.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

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