

**Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 7pm in the Community Hall, Bampton.**

**Present:** Cllr. Hicks (Chairman); Cllr. Baker; Cllr Weston; Cllr. Leach; Cllr. A. Mares; Cllr. C. Mares; Cllr. Tanner; Penny Clapham (Clerk); 8 members of the public.

**1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:** Cllr. Edwards. Cllr. Gregory. Accepted.

**2) Declarations Of Interest:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at Mid Devon District Council within 28 days of the change. Cllr. Weston, Cllr. Tanner, Cllr. C. Mares for agenda item 8.

**3) Public Discussion –** To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting. Representations can be made from our County Councillor, District Councillor and Community Police Officer. **The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. Standing Order c,d,e, page 3 refers.**

Sheila Howells referred to the bid for funds for the Riverside Hall – this is on the next agenda.

Derek Webster advised Council of a meeting with the Environment Agency grant funding team on 13<sup>th</sup> January to take forward plans for raising funds to be held with Cllr. Edwards himself and Charlie Beedon. On 31<sup>st</sup> January at 12.30pm there is to be a stakeholders meeting, with a public roadshow late afternoon/evening at the Riverside Hall.

Environment Agency have visited the flood gate recently and will be replacing the seal.

**4) County & District Councillor reports:-** none received.

**5) Chairman's Report** (for information only) -

Cllr. Hicks thanked County Cllr. Colthorpe for getting the Packhorse Way lights re-connected before Christmas.

The Spring Fest advertising boards are now stored in the Pump House.

The Remedy Hearing as a result of the Employment Tribunal is on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January in Southernhay, Exeter, and is open to the public.

**6) Minutes – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**

The minutes of the meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> December having been previously circulated by email were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**7) Bampton Toilets –** general update.

Agenda for 30<sup>th</sup> January. Baby change toilets lock is broken.

**8) Bampton Fair –**

- a) general update; Cllr. Baker proposed a special meeting, Cllr Leach seconded. All in favour – 1 against. Clerk to arrange a date and venue.
- b) agree advertisement for a new 'Tolly'. Moved to next meeting.
- c) Applications invited for a share of tolls' from the 2016 Fair. Total to be allocated including an amount from the 2015 Fair is £2,504. Only applications received on the correct grant forms will be considered. This form and the criteria are available from the Clerk. Closing date for applications is the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

**9) PLANNING:**

**Planning Applications** - Mid Devon District Council has asked for comments from the Town Council on the following planning applications:

- a) To action any planning applications that arrive after this agenda has been published
- b) 16/01912/HOUSE & LBC Erection of carport/garden store, alterations to garden wall and entrance drive, Dunning House, Tiverton Rd., Bampton.  
No objection.
- c) 16/01893/HOUSE Erection of conservatory to rear, Exehay, Exebridge.  
No objection.
- d) 16/01932/MFUL Construction of two ponds, a wetland area, an attenuation basin and creation of additional 120m of Devon hedgebank, Land at Higher Barn, Bampton.

Report to Bampton Town Council

Cllr. Paul Edwards

### Planning Issues at Higher Barn Bampton

**I attended** a site meeting at Higher Barn with the Planning Consultant acting for the owner. Also in attendance were a number of neighbours who are all concerned about the proposals for the site.

**The applicant** undertook a considerable amount of preparatory work on agricultural land in order to build a large pavilion, putting green and motorcycle track. This was unlawful and a stop notice was served on the owner by The Planning Authority.

**The Planning Consultant** briefed us on plans for two fields adjoining the applicants home. He pointed out that the applicant has accepted that he acted unlawfully and has submitted a planning application to regularise the situation. He is not proceeding with proposals for the motorcycle track.

**The fields** now have the appearance of a lunar landscape having been stripped of top soil.

In brief the planning application will be to create, in one of the fields, a nature reserve, putting green together with a series of drainage ponds. These will collect water from the extensive drainage network that has been installed. Plans have, I believe, been approved by the Environment Agency.

**The second field** will be restored to pasture land.

**Neighbours** have expressed concern about the destruction of the natural environment and also about increased runoff from the fields which could have an impact further down the hill.

**In my view** the loss of Grade two agricultural land must be balanced against the creation of a more natural, ecologically balanced environment. This could be a positive outcome.

**The creation** of a series of balancing/storage ponds should overcome issues of increased runoff

### Recommendation

**Bampton Town Council** advises the Local Planning Authority that it has no objection to the application with the following provisos

1. The designation of this land remains agricultural
2. The Environment Agency approves any drainage plans.

Standing orders suspended for members of the public to address Council on this application.

Andrew Gilbert lives adjacent to Higher Barn.

Comments for consideration. Would like the motor cycle course idea to be specifically excluded, as well as the golf course. Request made that Mid Devon District Council assign the appropriate enforcement actions if the work is not done in a timely and professional way.

Cllr. Baker reminded Council that District Cllr. Stanley had informed Council that this site would be put back to its original state.

There is concern from the property owner below Higher Barn regarding flooding issues.

Standing Orders resumed.

Proposal from Cllr. Baker that the owner should be made to completely re-instate the land back to its original form. Seconded by Cllr. A. Mares, all in favour by show of hands. Expressed concerns has led to this motion.

**Planning Decisions:** None received to date.

## 10) FINANCE:

<b>Expenditure:</b>	Clerks' salary December	£416.00	BACs
	PAYE Q3	£312.00	BACs
	LARCS Fair stewards evening	£30.00	BACs
	Community Hall December	£14.00	BACs
	N.Page for P3 works	£200.00	Cq 112

C.Hicks for Viking toilet supplies	£112.78	BACs
H. Berridge website costs	£100.00	BACs
J. Caunter toilet cleans December	£300.00	BACs
Community Hall room hire Jan.	£14.00	BACs

<b>Income:</b>	Toilets to 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	£54.00
	Toilets to 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec.	£45.00
	Car parks November	£285.80
	Bampton AFC 2016 rent	£400.00

Riverside Hall, re-issue payment of £20 as new bank details supplied.  
Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account.

**11) Bank Reconciliation and Statement:** Reconciliation and bank statement circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Noted. No questions.

**12) Council to resolve to accept the proposed budget for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.**  
Clerk suggests £2,000 towards infrastructure for the Fair, to be added to the budget. This sum was proposed by Cllr. Baker, seconded by Cllr. Tanner, all in favour by show of hands.

**13) Council to resolve to set the precept for the year 2017 to 2018.**  
Cllr. Tanner proposed the precept be increased from £38,816 in this financial year to £48,520 for the financial year 2017 to 2018. Seconded by Cllr. Baker, all in favour by show of hands..

**14) Tree works at Bampton Primary School** – quotes for essential and remedial work to trees overhanging school areas to be agreed and actioned.  
Two quotes were read to Council. Cllr.A. Mares proposed option one of the quote received from Dartmoor Tree Surgeons (essential tree works) at a cost of £885 + VAT, seconded by Cllr. Hicks, 5in favour 2 abstentions. Motion carried.

**15) Highways** – Cllrs. to discuss the state of the pavements and the road, Brook Street.  
A resident has written about her falls due to the poor state of the pavements in Brook Street.  
Chairman proposed a deputation to John Hart, leader of Devon County Council and Highways regarding the state of Brook Street and the adjoining roads. All agreed, this course of action, through County Councillor Colthorpe.

**16) Clerk's Contract of Employment.** Agreed contract to be signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.  
Contracts signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

**EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED:** reports from Councillors

#### Items for Information

**The next Council meeting is on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 4.00pm in the Riverside Hall, Bampton.**

**Meeting closed at 8.20pm.**

#### Email circulations during the past month

DALC Good News  
SLCC News

ICO Newsletter