

Minutes of the meeting of Bampton Town Council held on Monday 2nd September 2024, 7pm in the LARC.

Present – Cllr. Fouracres (Chairman); Cllr. Brooker; Cllr. L. Bull; Cllr. N. Bull; Cllr. White; Cllr. Grabke; Cllr. Boyles; District Cllr. Adcock; 9 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk). Cllr. Brock.

1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence: Cllr. Whiteway by phone message.

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. None declared.

3) Public Discussion – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting or any matters the public would like the Council to consider on a future agenda. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. Standing Order 3 (e,f.) refers.

A reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Celia Hicks came to thank the Clerk for her service over the past 9 years. Cllr. Fouracres also thanked the Clerk for her hard work as this is her last meeting. A presentation of a bouquet was made by the previous Chairman, Celia Hicks.

Parishioner concerned about the leats and following past minutes about having a contractor booked in order to keep the leat in working order. Council responded - the working party did wonders – a contractor could be looked at in the future when budgets are discussed in the autumn. Cllr. L. Bull mentioned Chapter 8 training and is there anyone within the community who would care to take on this course.

Parishioner, treasurer of Rotary and would like an update on the progress of the legacy. Cllr. Fouracres answered this query and apologised that this is taking time. Drop kerbs mentioned that Council are not aware of at present. Rotary, please come back if there is anything else that could be used from this legacy to the benefit of those less able within the parish of Bampton.

Parishioner (Holwell Farmhouse) talked about a festival that he would like to put forward for next year – a family orientated idea to be done in the holidays; 9th/10th August 2025. The biggest thing is traffic management, possibly using the recreation field (shuttle bus), or walking. The festival is to support local people, get the school involved. Cllr. Brock asked if people would be coming to stay – possibly. There could be football on the recreation field and they have priority. Shillingford Hall car park suggested. Council supports this idea.

Judi Thomas – item 8 iv. Looked at this a couple of years ago on behalf of the Heritage Centre. Already done a lot of work relative to costs and siting – potentially could apply for some funds. Glad to see idling engines also on the agenda.

Adam Padgett thanked Council for getting the pump track project in place. Also thanked the Clerk for her work on this project. The open event is all organised and should be a good event on the 21st September.

Parishioner relating to Brook Street; problem accessing the street from their driveway. Vehicles are parking over the white lines and at times over the actual driveway. Double yellow lines? Cllr. Fouracres does not think this is possible. Will try to get Highways to improve the white lines thus highlighting the accessway. Cllr. L. Bull suggested a fb post with a photo to highlight this situation. Parishioner said there should be a metre each side and a dropped kerb.

Parishioner current chairman of Morebath Parish Council introduced himself.

4) Chairman's Report (for information only) – defibrillator training Thursday 26th September in St. Michaels Community Hall 6.30 to 8pm.

5) County & District Councillor reports – August monthly report received from Cllr. Adcock and circulated to Councillors on 19th August. Cllr. Adcock's latest report was sent out on September 2nd. Updates on the national planning policy framework. Mandated increase in house building. Some planning and enforcement issues reported on.

6) Minutes – the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st July 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

7) Charter Fair report – Cllr. White reported that Fair planning is coming together well.

8) Open spaces –

- i. Replacement of the bins x 2 at the Millennium Green – detail emailed to councillors in July. One at the top and one at the bottom would be plenty. Cllr. L. Bull proposed two bins through Mid Devon at a cost of £415 each – Clerk to action.
- ii. Sycamore tree on roadside edge of Riverside Hall car park has been reported as growing rather too well and needs looking at. Check with Four Seasons and request he looks at the tree and gives Council a report. Planning permission may be required to do anything to the tree.
- iii. Map of Bampton sign on the Stage – wobbly. In hand.
- iv. Finger posts as signage within the town – to discuss both costs and suitable sites. Cllr. Fouracres has done some research; recycled plastic/wood/cast iron. Suggest a get together (councillors and Judi Thomas) and agenda for October.
- v. Quote received from Four Seasons for future grass cutting. Cllr. L. Bull considers Council has a very good relationship with Four Seasons and that this quote should be considered at the budget meeting once it has been clarified as to start date/how many cuts.

9) Idling Engines – to discuss setting up a campaign about idling engines with a lead person, possibly a small budget in order to print posters/involve the school. For discussion and action.

Cllr. L. Bull – this was talked about last January; it is a very well known issue/campaign. There are leaflets available; Cllr. Grabke will pitch at the school. (The Eco Club). Suggest a count of idling cars perhaps on a Saturday morning – then do it again after the campaign.

10) Hall update – Cllr. White reported on the tenders for the start of design for the hall. Three have been received with two being useful. Cllr. Boyles proposed Architectural Services, three councillors in favour as the remaining councillors declared interests in the two companies discussed. Resolved, all agreed by show of hands.

For clearing the grounds, Four Seasons proposed by Cllr. White, all in favour by show of hands. Clerk to action.

11) Funded Publicly Accessible EV – for discussion; Cllr. Brooker reported that the funding for this has been moved to County Council from Government – Council applied for funding but has not yet heard. Separately a company has been emailing Council. Cllr. Brooker will follow up on this. October agenda.

12) PLANNING:

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

- i. 24/00907/HOUSE Installation of 16 solar panels on main roof of house, Cats Castle, Shillingford.
SUPPORTED (emailed 15/07)
- ii. 24/01021/CAT Notification of works to various trees within conservation area, Manor Mill House, Bampton.
NO OBJECTION (emailed 15/07)
- iii. 24/00747/HOUSE Removal and replacement of existing garage with room over, removal of existing roof, creation of second storey with glass gable and terrace; erection of ground floor extension and enlargement of external terrace, Hazelhurst, Bampton
NO COMMENT (emailed 01/08)
- iv. 24/00994/HOUSE Conversion and extension of loft to provide additional living accommodation and engineering works to reduce ground level, 4 High Street, Bampton.
NO OBJECTION (emailed 01/08)
- v. 24/01113/FULL Alterations and repairs to existing garages, Forde House, Briton Street, Bampton
NO COMMENT (emailed 22/08)

Planning Decisions:

- a) 24/00583/HOUSE Erection of storage barn and installation of sewage treatment plant, Chainbridge Lodge, Bampton.
APPROVED
- b) 24/00907/HOUSE Installation of 16 solar panels on main roof of house, Cats Castle, Shillingford.
APPROVED

13) FINANCE:

Expenditure:	Edd Lane Ecology – pump track	£461.35	BACs
	Raptors World – fair deposit	£231.25	BACs
	Dan Woollacott – fencing rec field	£3739.20	BACs
	PKF Littlejohn – external audit fee	£504.00	BACs
	Employment August	£869.60	BACs
	<i>Submitted and paid by bank transfer 22nd August 2024</i>		
	J. Caunter – toilet cleans	£350.00	BACs
	Pro-act Marketing Ltd	£120.00	BACs
	Countrywide – grass cuts	£620.64	BACs
	Exmoor Loos – pump track opening	£396.00	BACs
	LARCS – room hire	£66.00	BACs
	Judi Thomas– bags for litter picking	£16.72	BACs
	EDGE IT – annual charge	£914.42	BACs

Bank Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Not available yet for August. Council resolved to accept the receipts and payments account as listed above.

14) External Audit Report – this report received from PKF Littlejohn the external auditors on the 1st August. No issues reported and all documents posted to the Council website as required by law. Noted.

15) Unity Trust Bank – changes to the current account – monthly statements with charges now being made monthly instead of quarterly. Noted.

16) Maintenance person – to resolve to agree the appointment of Jay Kemp as Council’s maintenance person on a self-employed contract basis. To resolve to agree a contract. Hourly rate has been agreed and the situation to be reviewed after 6 months. Cllr. Fouracres proposed acceptance– all in favour by show of hands.

17) Defibrillator for the Recreation Field – to consider the purchase of a defibrillator to be sited at the Recreation Field – prices for the same type as already installed within the town are 775.00 + heated cabinet with light (no lock) 495.00 = £1270.00 + VAT. Resolved to purchase, proposed by Cllr. Grabke, all in favour by show of hands.

18) EDF Energy – Using the Scheme of Delegation, the Clerk has signed up to a three year contract from 1st August 2024 for power to the toilets. Standing charge of 60p per day (same as previously) unit rate 27.4p – slightly higher. Council to formally ratify this contract.
Note – currently in credit at the Pumphouse by £25.85.
Currently an issue with the water at the toilets. There must be a leak, and the plumber has been called.

19) Clerk’s Report –

- i) Citizens Advice have written to thank us for the donation made last year, with apologies for not doing so earlier due to staff shortages.
- ii) Invoices sent to both the Scout Group and Bampton AFC dated 22nd August.

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on 7th October 2024 at 7.00pm in the LARC building.

Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

Email circulations during the past month

DALC Bulletin 32 (sent 24/07)