

February
2011

Bampton Town Council Newsletter

Your Councillors

Terry Knagg (Chairman)
332280

Colin Fagg
331546

Les Hartley
332155

Celia Hicks
332101

Lucie Moore
332011

Francis Stoner
332217

Pauline West
331006

Lynn Compton
331757

Elections – 5th May - BAMPTON COUNCIL - WHY VOTE, WHY STAND?

Why is it important that everyone votes ?

Local Councillors are consulted on nearly everything that happens in your area. They take an active part in influencing what services are and which are not provided – and that affects you and your family! Bampton Town Council is responsible for many things – bus shelters, litter bins, parks and playgrounds and footpaths, to name but a few. They are also consulted on planning applications, highway improvements, street signs, grant funding and projects that affect where you live and what facilities are available. Voting in local town council elections takes so little time but will have a daily impact on you for the next four years and their decisions affect the future for the whole community. If you leave voting to others your opinions and wishes will not be heard and if you do not vote, others will and their views may change your life - Have a voice – vote in the local elections on 5th May 2011.

Why become a parish councillor?

Bampton Town Council depends on local people taking an interest in what happens in their community, whatever their background and local people standing as councillors can bring a wealth of knowledge and community understanding into the local team.

If you are interested in becoming a councillor, or know someone who might just need some encouragement, now is the time to act, get the forms and send them off. If you have any questions or would like more information Bampton Town Council is holding an open meeting at 6pm on 1st March at the Albert Fowler Room in the Riverside Hall – come and find out what's involved.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Bampton's Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th March at 6pm in the Community Hall. All residents of Bampton, Shillingford and Petton are invited to this meeting to take the opportunity to have a cup of tea or a glass of wine and a chat and to have a look at the displays put on by a range of local clubs and societies.

PHOTOS OF OLD BAMPTON – a display from the collection of photographs by Reg Kingdom will be on view in the Hall. The formal part of the Meeting will consist of a brief summary of the events of the past year by the Chairman of Bampton Town Council, Terry Knagg, followed by a short report from MDDC and DCC Councillor Polly Colthorpe. Alan Woolley, the Chairman of the Bampton Parish Plan Steering Group will give a quick update on the group's progress.

If your group or organisation would like to take the opportunity to join in this Community Event please contact the Town Clerk to reserve a display space or for more information. The intention is that this will be a Community not a Council event and its purpose is to make Bampton a better place to live and work.

Bampton Newsletter via E-mail

Copies of the Bampton newsletters are available by email. If you would like to receive it send your email address to:-
bamptontownclerk@hotmail.co.uk

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

1st March, 5th April,
3rd May.

Correspondence: Ann Guilfoyle, Town Clerk, 28 Brook Street, Bampton EX16 9LY
Telephone 01398 331335 E-mail: bamptontownclerk@hotmail.co.uk

OLD BAMPTON SCHOOL SITE DEVELOPMENT

Following the article in the Tiverton Gazette by Devonshire Homes, BTC Chairman, Cllr. Terry Knagg's letter was published as follows:-

"I am writing to express the views of Bampton Town Council in respect of the article in the Tiverton Gazette of the 25th January, regarding the Devonshire Homes plan to develop the Old School site in Bampton.

BTC agrees that the site is the best available one for development. However, together with many of the local residents, we have serious concerns regarding the safety of access to the site via School Close. This is a quiet cul-de-sac leading to the school entrance along which parents and children must travel to and from the school. There will be a huge increase in traffic through this road, both during the construction of the development and after completion.

We believe this poses a serious potential danger to pedestrians.

There is a separate plan to develop the site adjoining the Devonshire Homes Development with access from West Street, though this has yet to be given planning consent. When planning approval was first sought for development of the old school site, the owners were informed that approval would not be granted if School Close was the only access point for the development. This condition has not been lifted to the best of my knowledge. Perhaps Devonshire Homes knows something that we do not know.

*BTC had a public meeting regarding this plan on 24th January where the ongoing concerns regarding the safety of the site were expressed by members of the public. As a result, Bampton Town council voted unanimously **not** to support the present plan without further consultation with the Mid Devon Planning Authority."*

Floral Bampton



Can you help us maintain the lovely flower tubs and baskets in the summer? They need watering daily from June until September to keep them looking at their best. If you can help every day for two hours or be part of a regular team, we can pay £6 an hour. For more information or to apply, please contact the Town Clerk.

COMPLETE YOUR CENSUS AND HELP TOMORROW TAKE SHAPE

The census is a national event that collects information to plan services and facilities. Because every penny counts these days, it's essential that you help shape what your local community needs – like schools, hospitals, housing, road and emergency services. So make sure you complete your census questionnaire on 27th March, 2011.

HELP PRESERVE THE SUCCESSFUL FUTURE OF THE HISTORIC BAMPTON FAIR

"TOLLY" NEEDED TO TAKE UP THE REINS

Kelley Beeston has decided to retire as "Tolly" for Bampton Fair and a successor (or successors) is needed. Kelley has done a wonderful job reviving this ancient Fair and she will be handing over a VERY SUCCESSFUL and FAMOUS event.



WHAT'S A TOLLY?

"Tolly" is the historic affectionate term for the toll collector who plays a very important role in making sure this ANCIENT FAIR runs smoothly and efficiently. The Tolly's job is principally to take bookings and payment for the various stalls and to organise their positions. As part of this task it is necessary to liaise with the various groups i.e. Rotary and BTC, plus the Police and St. John's Ambulance staff

THE REMUNERATION

The Tolly is paid a percentage of the tolls received from the stallholders. Apart from the days immediately around Fair Day the working time can be fairly flexible. It would be possible to divide the job into two roles if required and Kelley has promised to help in any way she can.

FIND OUT MORE

If you would like to find out more about what is actually involved in the Tolly's role please contact Ann Guilfoyle (Town Clerk) telephone 01398 331335, email: bamptontownclerk@hotmail.co.uk or letters to 28 Brook Street, Bampton EX16 9LY.

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BAMPTON PARISH PLAN STEERING GROUP

Results of the Bampton Open Meeting

Over 70 people attended the Open Evening, with much support for the idea of a plan and many comments offered using post-it notes. A brief resume of these notes is as follows:-

POSITIVE

- “Friendly” came up time and time again.
- Good shops and pubs (and getting better)
- Lots of support for the library, school, surgery and chemist.

PARKING

- Most requests were for things to be left as they are – apart from Castle Street, which people felt was dangerous.
- Suggestion of using the bottom of the Morebath Road for Castle Street residents’ parking.

PROBLEMS

- Dog fouling was mentioned many times
- Dirty pavements and litter – a need for pavement sweeping and “residents to sweep outside their own front door”
- Castle Street was mentioned several times, specifically – scruffy – parking
- White Horse premises also mentioned several times as an “eyesore”

EXTRA FACILITIES WANTED

- Indoor sports facilities large enough for ball games, etc.
- Specific facility/club/meeting place for youngsters was another very popular request
- A new Village Hall with stage for multi use was mentioned several times
- Lunch club for older people
- Safe cycle path
- Lighting at Millennium Green (to extend use of Ball Park in the short daylight hours of winter)
- Exercise “playground” for seniors
- Opportunities for music and singing
- Parish Plan
- Specific Dog Walking area
- Flower arranging classes
- Skate Park, Tennis Courts, Bowling Green

IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

- Flowers in the street
- Street cleaning
- Church and churchyard maintenance fund
- More dog bins
- Toilets Proper school playing fields
- Playground CCTV in Car Park

HOUSING

- Most requests – Affordable/local housing - No industrial units needed
- The majority of replies did not want any more housing after the Old School Site.
- Traffic problems, school and services need consideration before any more housing.
- Consider sheltered housing if/when Barnhaven closes – e.g. Abbeyfield, Hanover.

CELEBRATE THE ROYAL WEDDING

Several Community Street Parties are being planned by residents around Bampton to celebrate the Royal Wedding. To encourage everyone who would like to celebrate the wedding in their street Bampton Town Council are putting together an information pack for organisers and a small grant could be available from the Bampton Fair Tolls to help with expenses. Please contact the Town Clerk for more information.

