

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary meeting of the council held on 11th September 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT: Cllr J Allinson, in the Chair, Cllr R Wilkins, Cllr G Pursey, Cllr P Smith, Cllr M Dowding, Cllr R McBrien, Cllr D Clarke, Cllr J Downing, District Cllr M Barrett (left at 8.40pm), District Cllr M Booty (left at 8.40pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr H Rainey, Mrs C Street, Clerk to the Parish Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

PUBLIC: 1

13/478 Declarations of interest

None

13/479 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2013 were signed as a true record.

13/480 Matters arising

- **Vacancies on subcommittees** – Cllr Clarke has circulated an updated list of responsibilities. It was noted that there was also a vacancy for the Friends of St Mary and this should be added to the list. As there were a two individuals expressing interest in joining the Parish Council, it was felt this matter should be deferred to the October meeting.
- **Highways walk around** – Despite repeated attempts to reschedule no new date has been set. On going.
- **Ride of Respect**-Cllrs Smith and Clarke have provided the Royal British Legion with unsuitable dates for next year's Ride of Respect. It was reported that a date of 1st June 2014 has been proposed but not yet confirmed. There will be no road closures, just warning notices of potential intermittent delays to traffic.
- **Speed of traffic along Buckland Road** - It was noted that the traffic calming paint on the road has worn off. The Parish Council are in support of installing speed activated signs but will not be providing the funding. Thames Valley Police will be conducting a speed check. Cllr J Allinson will reply to email. Ongoing.
- **Offer of salt bag from Oxfordshire County Council** –It was agreed that the second new salt bin would be located next to the bus shelter on the New Road side of Bushey Row.
- **Bampton Beam funding** –Clerk to raise cheque for £600 funding agreed at August meeting.
- **New IT hardware and software** are needed. On going.
- **Mercury Court**- Cllr Mark Booty reported that he had been contacted regarding an area of land adjacent to the Mercury Court Playing field that was believed to be neither insured nor maintained. Cllr Booty noted that he would look into the legal position.
- **ERP**- Cllrs Allinson and Smith have made arrangements to ensure there is sufficient space at The Old School Community Centre to set up the ERP.
- **Parking on the Aston Road/Buckland Road junction**: Cllr Booty is to follow up at District Council.

13/481 District Councillors' Report

Cllr Barrett reported there had been a change to the allocations policy for affordable housing. To register on the waiting list, an applicant now needed to have a local connection. Those not meeting this requirement would be removed from the list.

An issue with parking at The Old School Community Centre had been brought to the attention of Cllr Barrett. The fencing erected to prevent parking near the building was causing a nuisance, preventing access to residents and potentially emergency vehicles. The five parking spaces were temporarily suspended. Cllr Allinson will discuss the issue with the local PCO. It was noted that the lettings agreements states that no parking is available at the site and that user group licences indicate that only 5 spaces are available.

Cllr Booty asked if there was any interest group in the village trying to get high speed broadband for the village. Parish Councillors were unaware of any such movement. Cllr Booty reported that the District Council was looking into funding to speed up the roll out of high speed broadband. An article will be included in the Beam.

13/482 Finance and Accounts for Payment

The following cheques were signed:

Pyrotech Services (TOSCC call out)	£120
E Wileman& Sons (Window cleaning)	£60
Thames Water (Town Hall)	£23.30
Thames Water (TOSCC)	£77.68
HMRC (PAYE)	£579.35
Southam Electrical (TOSCC lighting)	£126
Southern Electric (TOSCC)	£285.65
Southern Electric (Town Hall #1)	£9.70
Southern Electric (Town Hall #2)	£166.95
BT (Broadband)	£28.78
Rupert Goody Plants Ltd	£44.71
OPFA (Membership)	£50
Chris Smith	£1576

13/483 Planning applications

13/1183/P/FP	7 Ampney Orchard, Bampton. Erection of single and first floor extensions and conversion of loft to additional accommodation.
	NO OBJECTIONS

Notices of Decisions:

13/0953/P/FP	Little Place, Lavender Sq, Bampton. Removal of tennis courts and erection of attached dwelling & parking	Grant, subject to conditions
13/0954/P/LB	Little Place, Lavender Sq, Bampton. External alterations, vehicle and pedestrian access	Grant, subject to conditions
13/0929/P/OP	Clearwater, Aston Rd, Bampton. Erection of rural enterprise workers dwelling.	Grant, subject to conditions
13/0783/P/FP	3 OathurstEstate, Bampton. Erection of single storey and first floor extensions.	Grant, subject to conditions

13/0934/P/FP	6 Southby, Bampton. Remove garage and erection of two storey side extension.	Grant, subject to conditions
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13/485 Allotments

Cllr Dowding provided an update on the allotments. Those responsible for managing the allotments had been requested to form a Committee for such purposes and to conduct and minute their actions officially. This is being done to Cllr Dowding's satisfaction. It was noted that signposts had been erected at the site and that there were currently six people on the waiting list. Some damage had been caused to the fence post and it was requested that the Clerk write to the person responsible. An increase in rent (£20 for a full plot, £10 for half and £5 for a quarter) was unanimously agreed. The increase in rent will be advised in the Notice of AGM of the new allotments Committee.

13/486 Mercury Court Playing field Report.

Cllr Downing reporting that the graffiti remained on the main item of equipment and some re-raking of the playpark was required. The lengthsman will be instructed to address these issues. Notification had been received from a local resident that two children had been injured by protruding wire on the basket swing. This has been temporarily fixed. Cllr Downing has been authorised to purchase replacement chains from the original supplier and asked to complete an accident report.

Cllr Downing obtained quotes for the removal of the wire fencing on the left-hand side of the playground and replacement with wooden post fencing. It agreed that the quote given by Chris Smith was the best value and he should be instructed to proceed.

13/487 Emergency Response Plan (ERP)

Nothing further to discuss.

13/488 The Old School Community Centre

The lease has been signed and discussions are ongoing with user groups.

13/489 Cemetery Path

In the absence of Cllr Rainey, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

13/490 Library Funding

Cllr Downing noted that BLEST had asked the Parish Council to confirm the amount of money it was holding on its behalf for the future funding of the library. It was confirmed that a total of £13,507.71 was held, the breakdown as follows:

Donations from the Community Shop:	£4250
Amounts reserved from Downton Abbey filming proceeds:	
2012/2013:	£5000
2013/2104:	£4000
Sale of Jubilee mugs:	£304
Less expenses	<u>£(46.29)</u>
Total:	£13,507.71

It was noted a maximum of £5000 from the filming proceeds will be reserved for 2013/2014 so the quantum for this period may rise if there is another filming day.

13/491 Bampton Beam article

CLlr McBrien offered to submit an article for the next edition on behalf of the Parish Council.

13/492 Sub Committees and Councillors’ areas of responsibility

Deferred until next meeting.

13/493 Transport Needs Survey

The county council will shortly review Witney area bus services including nos. 18 and 19 and will be requesting new tenders from bus companies. Existing levels of service are guaranteed until June 2014.

13/494 Ride of Respect 2014

Covered in matters arising.

13/495 F&GP Meeting update

Two meetings have been held in the last month to discuss the Tennis courts and IT equipment. The Clerk is looking into improving our banking services.

13/496 Correspondence

- **West Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau request for contribution to funds.** - It was agreed to defer this item to the next F&GP precept meeting.
- **WODC Parish Survey of Rural Facilities.** - The Clerk has responded.
- **Email re. upkeep of footpaths.** - Clerk to ask county to gravel muddy sections of footpaths. If they cannot do this within the next few weeks, then we will request them to deliver gravel.
- **Email re. lack of sign posting in Town Square.** - It was agreed there was already sufficient signage to direct visitors to places of interest in the village. A map of Downton filming locations was under review (see next point)
- **Email re Bampton map for tourists.** - A proposed map of Downton filming locations for posting on the notice board was discussed. Amendments were noted and it was suggested that it may be preferable to produce a transparency to overlay on the existing map of the village.

13/497 Any other matters for consideration

- Cllr McBrien had been contacted about people camping in woods by Shillbrook north west of Glebelands and leaving behind their tents and litter. He will advise those concerned to contact the land owner. Cllr Allinson will inform the PCO.
- Town Hall siren – it was noted that the siren had not yet been returned to the council, Cllr Pursey will follow up.

With no further business to discuss the meeting finished at 10.10pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....