

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Ordinary meeting of the council held on 8th January 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT: Cllr J Allinson, in the Chair, Cllr R McBrien, Cllr R Wilkins, Cllr P Smith, Cllr G Pursey, Cllr J Downing, Cllr D Clarke, Cllr H Rainey, Cllr B Slater, Cllr M Dowding
APOLOGIES: Cllr S Betty
IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Street, Clerk to the Parish Council.
District Cllrs M Booty & M Barrett, County Cllr S Hoare (all left at 8.30pm)
PUBLIC: 1

14/00 To approve the agenda

The agenda was approved.

14/01 Declarations of interest

Cllr Allinson declared an interest in planning application no. 13/1778/P/FP

14/02 Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2013 were signed as a true record.

14/03 Matters arising

- **Town Hall Siren** – It was agreed that Cllr Pursey would ask Mr S Radband to return the siren to the Town Hall. On going.
- **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** – it was agreed the AED would be located on the Post Office wall. Cllr Pursey to ask Glenn Wright if he would be custodian and perform weekly checks.
- **Upkeep of notice boards** – lengthsman has been instructed to clean and renovate. Ongoing.
- **West Oxfordshire Arts (WOA)** – Cllr Pursey to arrange electrician to look at heaters. On going.
- **HSBC Mandate** – HSBC are awaiting photo ID from Cllrs Slater and Betty.
- **Town Hall Signage** – Cllr Allinson to inform clerk of fees for retrospective planning application for the signage on behalf of West Oxfordshire Arts. On going.
- **Sand Bunker** - WODC asked the Parish Council to consider making a contribution towards the cost of the bunker. Clerk has written back asking for it to be funded by WODC and District and County Councillors have agreed to look into this.
- **Disposal of previous clerk's old PC** - It was agreed that the hard drive needs to be destroyed but the monitor, keyboard and mouse will be donated to the Bampton Community Shop. Cllr Clarke to dismantle PC and ask Cllr Pursey to destroy hard drive. On going.
- **Cemetery** – A second quote for “Reserved” stones was received and is to be discussed at next Cemetery sub-committee meeting. Work on the new cemetery path is to commence in February.
- **Replacement Union Flag** - Cllr J Allinson/clerk to order a new one.

14/04 District & County Councillors' Reports

- Gladmans have not reapplied for planning permission for the Aston Road Development to date.
- The planning application decision for the New Road development will not be made at West Oxfordshire District Council lowlands planning sub-committee before the meeting in February.
- The District Council have approved the following expenditure on defibrillators. There are 54 towns and parishes, of which 24 are covered by the anonymous donation. This leaves 30 to be

financed. WODC agree to finance this remainder to the tune of 50%. i.e. £900 per defib. (The total cost including installation being £1,800).

- The issue of flooding was discussed. Due to the loss of all the sand stocks, the District Councillors will press for a lockable sand containment system to be installed by WODC behind the Fire Station while the County Councillor will make enquiries as to why the sand at the Fire Station which is included in the County's Emergency Plan was removed.
- The wooden sign at the entrance to Sandford's field has come down due to weathering of the wood.
- Further Downton Abbey themed tours of the Oxfordshire Cotswolds have now been launched along with a downloadable leaflet showing the Downton Abbey Film locations. Cllr Smith to contact West Oxfordshire District Council with a view to obtaining a timetable of the tours along with tourist numbers and to inform them about coach parking requirements when visiting Bampton.
- The County budget will be set next month and it is expected that further savings will need to be made.
- The bus and school transport consultations have been extended until next month. Cllr Hoare confirmed he was aware of the issues for Bampton.
- Cllr Hoare reported that he now sits on the County Minerals Working Group. The current proposals for extraction do not include extensive workings in West Oxfordshire but this may change as the plan has not yet been approved / adopted.
- There is a Community Fund of £10k to be spent at the County Council's discretion, also the Area Stewardship Fund has approx. £4-5k of funds remaining which are ring-fenced for local infrastructure, paths and roads. Cllr Smith to prioritise highways projects and request funding from the County Council as necessary.

14/05 Village Design Statement

A request was received asking the Parish Council to consider acting as sponsor of a Community-led plan such as a Village Design Statement (VDS). It was agreed that no decisions would be made at this meeting but that further information needed to be gathered. The alternative of a Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) was discussed, with input from County Councillor S Hoare, along with the merits of a Village Design Statement which were presented by Lesley Campbell. Mrs Campbell reported that Graham Newman has offered to produce a background information report. It was agreed this would be useful to read. It was noted that a NAP could have value in the longer term but would not affect any short term development proposals, and that the Parish Council have not included any budget for this in their precept request.

14/06 Finance and Accounts for Payment

- The following cheques were signed:

Oxfordshire County Council	Rent for TOSCC (1.9.13 – 30.11.13)	£500
HMRC	PAYE/NI quarter 3	£470.74
George Murray	Shelves in Town Hall and The Old School	£330
Gartec	Service lift in Town hall	£156
Xtra Hands (Guy Lennon)	Gardening and cleaning	£70
Jacky Allinson	Chair & Vice Chair allowance – Christmas Meal	215.35
Chris Smith	Cemetery upkeep December	£60

14/07 Direct Debit mandates

Direct Debit Mandates for Southern Electric for The Old School Community Centre and The Town Hall were signed.

14/08 Planning applications

13/1743/P/FP	Manor Cottage, Station Rd, Bampton. Erection of detached building comprising garage and home office. OBJECTION. There was no objection to the design however there was a unanimous objection to the prominent location of the building and its effect on visibility.
13/1751/P/OP	1 Bowling Green Close, Bampton. Erection of dwelling with associated parking. NO OBJECTION
13/1739/P/FP	Bangalore, Bushey Row, Bampton. Conversion of garage to additional living accommodation and loft conversion. OBJECTION. There was no objection to the proposed adaptations to the building, however there was unanimous objection to the loss of on-site parking.
13/1778/P/FP	18 Calais Dene, Bampton. Erection of single storey side extension. NO OBJECTION.

14/09 Mercury Court Playing field Report.

There are no new issues to report. The fouling is being dealt with by the lengthsman. Glenn Wright, having completed a RoSPA training course, is to be instructed to inspect playgrounds on a monthly basis if he isn't already doing so.

14/10 ERP folder issue

All Councillors present signed form to say they been issued an ERP folder. Cllr Betty still to sign.

14/11 Highways Report

Subsequent to Cllr Smith's walkabout and discussions with the County Highways Department the following was discussed and agreed:

1. Traffic Calming (repainting of lines, boxes etc.) – the County Councillor will be approached for stewardship funding for the lining team – Priority one.
2. Additional Vehicle Activated Signs - the County Councillor will be approached for stewardship funding for these to be phased over two years with Buckland Road being first – Priority three.
3. Bollards on pavement by Cheyne Lane –as the area is frequently blocked and used for turning the County Councillor will be approached for stewardship funding to move the right hand bollards – Priority two.
4. Map of adopted roads – a contact has been established and roads will be checked on request with applications for such checks limited to the Clerk and Highways reps.
5. 7.5 tonne weight limit of Tadpole Bridge – the signs have been repaired but some seem to be anomalous so a request has been made to check they are all correct. Enforcement is difficult as it is an 'except for access' limit but it is understood that fines are being imposed.
6. Rosemary Lane (incomplete lines at Bridge Street end of Rosemary Lane) – this was not completed as per the order so completion has been requested (no charge).
7. Area outside Church Gate House – this is not highways or registered so is not the direct responsibility of any organisation or individual.
8. Parking Cars on the verge and road on the corner of the Buckland and Aston roads - timber bollards could be put in but this would only protect the verge and people could still park here so

no action to be taken apart from asking the Police to continue to enforce against cars parked too near to the junction.

9. Parking in the Market Square opposite Budgens (extension of yellow lines) – no action as not deemed practicable.
10. Blocked gulley behind Village Hall in the Market Square – been cleared and Lengsthman now regularly clearing drain leading to it.
11. Introducing a phased reduction of the speed limit on Station Road – an official request will be made citing the recent deaths and incidents on Sticky's corner etc.
12. Other:
 - a. The missing and damaged signs will be repaired / replaced by the County
 - b. The missing lit sign on the build out on Station Road will be replaced by the County in due course
 - c. The build outs and some signs are not very visible due to mud and dirt accumulations so the Lengsthman will be asked to clean them.

14/12 Representative for Bampton Community Shop Disbursements Committee

Clr Smith has already agreed to represent the Parish Council on this committee so no discussion was required.

14/13 Correspondence

None received.

14/14 Any other matters for consideration

- A request has been received for reflectors to be put on the bollards along the path behind the village hall. Clr Smith to speak to West Oxfordshire District Council Highways department.
- Clerk to request dog bins for the area outside Mercury Court Play Park and at the entrance to the footpath across the fields off Church Close.
- A new star for the Christmas tree is to be bought from profits from the Christmas Market.
- The electric sockets under the manhole cover for the Christmas tree need repairing.
- The Town Hall lock is to be changed and 10 keys cut. Clr Pursey to arrange.
- **Flooding Report January 2014** - Due to flood warnings and a significant rise in Shill Brook a recce of the sand and bag provisions for Bampton was undertaken. Although large quantities of sand and bags remained at the Pavilion, all sand had been removed from the Fire Station. To ensure security over the holiday period WODC arranged for a tonne of sand to be placed at the Fire Station and the Fire Officer in charge was allocated 60 bags for emergency use.

Although before Christmas the Mill Green path was flooded and the first house suffered some incursion (for which the PC provided 10 empty sandbags) the high risk areas remained relatively dry. However, the Thames flood plan was affected and one property in Buckland Rd was badly affected. This had been protected by a bund but the wall gave way and as a consequence two retired Parish Councillors provided what is estimated to be in the region of 600 – 700 sandbags and 3-4 tonnes of sand. One other householder in Buckland Road requested sandbags and they were provided with 40 empty bags from the now limited stock in the Town Hall.

To replenish stocks the WODC out of hours service was contacted and 20 filled sandbags and approximately 50 empty bags were supplied. These are stored at Cllr Smith's house for managed distribution. Cllr Smith's number was put on the PC answer machine to enable this.

Cllr Smith will continue to monitor / manage the situation and liaise with WODC.

With no further business to discuss the meeting finished at 9.45pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....