

Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr J Kemp (Chairman), Mr I Owen (Vice Chairman), Mrs B Sharpe, Mrs F Hughes,
Mr W Davies, Mr A Faulkner, Mr C Savery.

Shropshire Councillor N Hartin.

3 members of the public.

Mrs N Adams (Parish Clerk)

1 OPEN DISCUSSION

Miss Edwards said that the repairs to the potholes by the station had broken down. The Chairman advised Miss Edwards to use the dedicated "pothole line" telephone number as this was the quickest way to report it.

Mr Owen reported that the photo display at the Memorial Hall had raised £246 for the local CFRs.

The Chairman then closed the Open Meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

The Chairman reported the resignations of Mr Graves and Miss Stone. This would be discussed further under Any Other Business.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As and when required.

4 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman. Mr Kemp was proposed by Mr Owen and seconded by Mr Davies. Mr Kemp said he was prepared to stand again, but would need support from other Councillors, and hoped that Parish Council meetings would be well attended, and include good quality debate. Mr Kemp was re-elected unanimously on a show of hands.

Vice Chairman. Mr Owen was proposed by Mr Davies, seconded by Mr Savery and re-elected on a show of hands: 5 in favour, Chairman abstained.

5 APPOINTMENT OF CHEQUE SIGNATORIES

These were currently Mr Kemp, Mr Owen and Mr Davies. It was agreed unanimously to re-appoint them en bloc.

6 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5.4.16

Approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

7 MATTERS ARISING

St Mary's closed churchyard: steps to Chapel Lawn Road. Two more quotations to be sought. Mr Hartin to speak to Glyn Shaw at Highways re: possible changes to the road/signage.

Land opposite The Tyndings: The Clerk reported she had not had any success in speaking to the Estate Agent. The Chair however had spoken to Halls. He had made the point that the excessive number of "Keep off" signs and placing of tree stumps gave a very negative aspect to that area of the village. The Agent had agreed to forward our concerns to the owner. Mr Hartin to investigate re: felling of the trees.

Parish Council communications: Chairman tabled a documents on Communication Strategy, which will be discussed next time.

Arrangements for Annual Parish Assembly on Wednesday 11.5.16 at 7.30pm. Notices had been put on the boards. Every house would be leafletted by Mr Hartin. The speakers from Shropshire Council had been arranged. Tea and biscuits would be provided by the Parish Council.

Termly Bucknell school report. Chairman to write to the school asking for this.

Tree planting at Daffodil Lane to commemorate HM Queen's 90th birthday. Miss Edwards would put it to the committee at the next meeting on 23.5.16. Mr Davies suggested a Wellingtonia + suitable protection fences. Jonathan Protheroe to be asked to quote for a plaque at the appropriate time. Mr Davies offered to donate the posts and rails for the fencing.

Winter Parish Council meeting venues. Meetings in November, December, January and February would be held at Bedstone. Miss Edwards to inform the Parish Hall committee. Chairman to issue a new list of meetings/venues/dates.

8 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Shropshire Councillor N Hartin. Mr Hartin would give his report at the Annual Parish Assembly, but briefly reported that Shropshire Council still faced serious financial cuts, with libraries, social centres, etc under threat. The council tax rise was needed to fund the adult social care budget, but this would still be under-funded.

Parish Plan Revision Steering Group. There were two main documents: one the questionnaire, and the other a commentary and explanation leaflet. These would be collected from the printer later this week and distributed at the weekend. People were invited to comment at the Annual Parish Assembly next week in addition to their written replies.

Daffodil Lane Development Steering Group. Miss Edwards reported as follows:

"We have negotiated a rental for approximately 4 weeks for the use of the changing rooms as a workshop. The toilet block was to be hired for an under 11's football tournament in the summer.

"We have arranged for the Contractor to cut the grass on the playing field at a cost of £75 per cut, which is the same as last year, with two cuts per month. This work had previously started in April so we had to make a decision or the grass would have been unmanageable.

"Are the Parish Council willing to carry on with the agreement as in the past two years with

paying for alternate months of grass cutting?

"I am planning to give a presentation at the public meeting next Wednesday 11th May.

"Our next meeting is on Monday 23rd May."

After discussion the Parish Council agreed to pay for alternate months of grass cutting, as last year.

The Chairman would attend the next meeting as Parish Council representative.

Mr Hartin advised Miss Edwards to re-apply to the LJC for a grant of up to £250 towards the cost of completing the changing rooms, Mathew Mead would be able to help.

South West Shropshire LJC. The last meeting had been held on 14.4.16 at which Mr Malcolm Pate, Leader of Shropshire Council, and Mr Clive Wright, Chief Executive of Shropshire Council, had both been present and gave an update on the Shropshire Council Financial Strategy 2017 to 2020 and its implications for South West Shropshire. This had been followed by a question-and-answer session.

9 ROADS/STREETSCENE

Bridge by the garage. The General Inspection in June 2015 had recommended that both parapets be raked out and repointed with areas of loose stone reset, particularly downstream left, inside face. This work was scheduled for later this year.

Failed street light: Dog Kennel Lane/Bedstone Road. Clerk to chase.

Damaged street light on Old Post Office. Investigations ongoing. Clerk to contact our Insurers.

"Road Narrows" sign in Weston Road. Reply awaited from Highways.

Status of The Causeway. No definitive answer as yet. Clerk to investigate and report outcome.

10 PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

Implementation of Transparency Code/Assets Register. Nearing completion.

Review of Clerk's salary and conditions. In progress. Chairman and Clerk to meet outwith the Parish Council.

To approve Internal Financial Audit arrangements. Chairman and Clerk to discuss this.

Management of Bank accounts. Clerk still investigating a possible solution.

11 FINANCE

Account balances not to hand. The Clerk undertook to ensure balances were always available in future.

It was agreed unanimously to pay the following:

Mrs N Adams (salary April))	£187.42
HMRC (PAYE April))	£46.80
SALC (subs)		£308.12
Ray Davies (grasscutting etc April)		£324.00
Bedstone & Hopton Castle village hall (hire for meetings)		£16.00

Came & Company (insurance)

£380.82.

Npower had submitted a series of confusing bills to correct previous errors on their part. Clerk to establish the exact sum outstanding.

Incoming:

Precept

£16,000.00.

Forward Budget Plan

Mr Savery tabled an Income and Expenditure account for 2016-17, which was discussed. Clerk to check some of the figures and liaise with Mr Savery.

12 PLANNING

Application No. 16/01404/FUL Porch to front elevation at Redlake Reach, Bridgend Lane. Mr Savery declared an interest. No objection.

Application No. 15/03257/LBC Removal/realignment of part of boundary wall to allow formation of new vehicular access at Weir House, Bucknell, had been granted.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

Spotlight leaflet for May. Distributed to those present.

14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Black wheelie bin for Coxall church. Mrs Hughes said this was needed. Mrs Sharpe and Mr Savery advised Mrs Hughes to telephone Shropshire Council direct.

Disused footpath in Bucknell Wood. Mr Davies declared an interest, and said there had been an item in the Newsletter about reopening this footpath. Clerk advised that unless it had been extinguished it was still in existence despite its poor condition. Mr Hartin to investigate.

Casual vacancies. It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk should proceed with advertising these.

15 DATES AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETINGS

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 11th May 2016 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th June 2016 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Mr Owen gave his apologies.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

JK/NEA

24.5.16

