

BEDSTONE AND BUCKNELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th January 2014 In Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr I Owen (Chairman), Miss B Stone (Vice Chairman), Mr J Kemp, Mr A Faulkner, Mr W Davies, Mr C Savery, Mrs F Hughes, Mr P Davies, Mrs B Sharpe.
Shropshire Councillor N Hartin.
Mr L Cowden, Shropshire Council.
9 members of the public.

SAMDev AND BUCKNELL VILLAGE

Mr Mathew Mead had sent his apologies.

Mr Hartin explained SAMDev policy and the current position with regard to committed development in Bucknell, and also the proposed mixed use allocation at the timber yard/station yard, in relation to permitted windfall developments on small sites in the village.

Mr Andrew Dixon explained the problems with EU directives on phosphate discharge, and stated that Natural England had put a stop on all local developments greater than 10 houses in order to preserve the freshwater pearl mussels found lower down the river.

Following questions from the floor, the Chairman thanked them for their input, and Mr Cowden and Mr Dixon then left the meeting.

The Parish Council reiterated its preference for a build of 70 houses + industrial use on the timber yard/station yard, on a show of hands 7 in favour with 2 abstentions.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr Jackson asked about the sandbags in the station car park from Shropshire Council. It appeared they were for the use of people in the parish whose property was in danger of flooding, but there was no official guidance re: this.

Mr Willson asked why the last Precept application 2013/14 for £10,000 had in fact resulted in £11,867 being received. Mr Hartin suggested this could be because of the way the calculation was made.

There were pot holes by the timber yard, at the entrance to the sewerage works, and in Bridge End Lane. Clerk to report these to Highways.

The Chairman then closed the Open Meeting.
Mr W Davies left the meeting at this point.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr P Davies declared an interest in the SAMDev proposals and the timber yard.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 3.12.13

The date on the Minutes was 5th December, the date should have been 3rd. Subject to this correction, the Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING:

Litter bin at the end of Dog Kennel Lane. After discussion it was agreed on a show of hands 7 in favour, 1 abstention, not to pursue this matter. Mr Hartin to let Miss Stone have the remaining stock of dog fouling notices.

School garden play area. Mr Kemp tabled a sample sign stating that anyone using the play area did so at their own risk, to be fixed to the back fence, and also the wording for two signs stating that only primary school age children and younger should use the play area, these to be fixed to the two gates. The cost for all three signs was in the region of £100. Councillors approved this sum unanimously on a show of hands and Mr Kemp to make further enquiries from other suppliers.

Spring toy. Miss Stone had obtained two further quotes, both greater than Ray Parry's. It was decided to order the "Betty Bee" toy. Clerk to contact Mr Parry.

Circus at the coal yard. The animal welfare authorities had inspected the facilities and said there was no cause for concern. There were 2 lions and 3 tigers, and someone was on site 24 hours a day to care for them.

Houses on Ladywell. Letter had been received from Mr Jake Berriman, Shropshire Housing, stating that details of those applicants who had a 2 bedroom need had been sent to the Parish Council and only if none of these had been suitable would those with a lower bed need be considered. Clerk to reply to Mr Berriman asking that details of all applicants be sent to the Parish Council in future, as Councillors considered that those who were local should have priority on local sites.

After discussion it was proposed by Miss Stone that the Chairman assess any applicants' forms for local connection, with reference to others if necessary. The motion was seconded by Mr Kemp, and approved on a show of hands, 8 in favour, with the Chairman abstaining.

CLUN VALLEY AED/CFR SCHEMES

The Chairman reported that the box for the AED had been installed on the wall at the Sitwell Arms, the cost for this was £19, but the Parish Council would not be charged as the work was done as a favour to the parish by electrician Shaun Dutton. Awareness days would be set up to instruct members of the public how to use the AED.

Following Eddie Jones' departure, the new AED Secretary was Christine Kerry from Newcastle, tel: 01588 640091, email: cvaedsecretary@btinternet.com

The CFR 4x4 vehicle was now in use, fund raising was continuing to cover running costs and supplies.

CHURCH RENOVATION GROUP

Letter had been received from Mr Hay-Campbell again querying the cause of the damage to the wall, but suggesting that the organisation “Caring for God’s Acre – Churchyard Task Team” may be able to help with the repair. Clerk to email Mr Hay-Campbell, copy to Miss Stone, asking that he contact CfGA. The next meeting of the Renovation Group was scheduled for tomorrow, 8th January.

WEBSITE

There was attractive seasonal snow on the Home Page!

Mr Jackson asked for a photograph of the new CFR vehicle + a writeup for the website.

Numbers of people using the website was in the region of 170 per month.

MARCHES CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER BROADBAND

The e-petition to prioritise poor reception areas had raised more than the required 1000 signatures, but it was not thought likely that this would achieve the desired result. Mr Hartin said that Shropshire Council were trying to get more funding.

To be removed from the Agenda.

LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

The next full meeting was scheduled for 13th February. The pre meeting would be held at Edgeton, date to be confirmed.

ROADS:

Causeway trees. One lime tree had come down across the river in the recent high winds, this had been removed as more heavy rain was forecast. Two more trees on the Causeway were in a poor condition and needed to be removed.

Chapel Lawn Road trees beyond the river. These were leaning over the river and would reach the road should they fall.

Chairman proposed asking Bucknell Nurseries and B & J Davies to quote for the following:

- 1 Removing two trees on the Causeway
- 2 Removing lime tree(s) at Chapel Lawn Road.
- 3 Removing leaning trees across the river at Chapel Lawn Road. Chairman suggested that this work be done in exchange for the wood from these trees.

Quotes to be available for the next meeting. Approved on a show of hands 6 in favour, with one abstention.

Shropshire Council can supply free trees as replacements.

Concrete plinths for benches/seats. Colin Carter had agreed to replace/repair the damaged concrete free of charge as soon as the weather was suitable.

Footpath/pavement from Belmont garage to Dog Kennel Lane. To be pursued in the spring.

Flooding at Willow Cottage, Mynd. Still flooding badly. Mr Hartin confirmed that a programme of work had been agreed. There was also very bad flooding in Dog Kennel Lane by the telephone box where manhole covers were being lifted by flood water.

Condition of Bedstone Road. Mr Savery reported that there were a number of potholes, but the flooding situation was better than it had been. There were problems in the narrow part of the road where the hedges were not cut back sufficiently. Mr Hartin to ask Highways to contact the adjacent landowners re: substantial reshaping of their hedges to include high level trimming.

River bridge by Belmont garage. Shropshire Council's general inspection of the bridge carried out last March indicated that it was in a good and stable condition. Some scour under the bridge needed to be filled in and some gravel upstream needed to be removed. This work was in hand.

PLANNING:

There were no applications for consideration.

The following applications had been granted:

No. 13/04401/LBC at The Hall, Bucknell.

No. 13/03807/FUL Change of use from agricultural land to residential at Crossing Cottage, Bedstone.

Shropshire Council had no objection to **Application No. 13/03748/TCA** Tree works at 16 & 17 Bedstone.

NALC BULLYING & HARASSMENT POLICY

The final version was approved unanimously on a show of hands.

STANDING ORDERS

Final version of Items 1 to 4 was approved unanimously on a show of hands.

Draft Standing Orders Items 5 to 10 were approved unanimously on a show of hands.

CORRESPONDENCE

SALC Nomination form for Buckingham Palace Garden Party 3.6.14.

FINANCE:

Bank balances were reported as:

Community current account		£4,061.72
Business Base Rate Tracker account		£10,945.25
Of which:		
Parish Plan account	£1,014.49	
Parish Council account	£9,930.76	

It was approved unanimously to pay the following:

Mrs N Adams (December salary))	£134.80
HMRC (PAYE))	£19.80
Mrs N Adams (expenses)		£210.68
Mr R Davies (grasscutting etc)		£165.00
Bucknell Nurseries (removing tree from river)		£163.00.

Mr R Davies had offered to service and sharpen the mower, rather than take it to a workshop. After discussion this was agreed unanimously.

Review of Clerk's salary.

After discussion it was agreed unanimously to award the NALC recommended increase of 1% backdated to 1.4.13.

The Clerk had also requested that the official hours be increased from 4 per week to 6 per week to allow for the increased workload. After discussion this was agreed unanimously on a show of hands, effective from 1.1.14.

Precept for 2014/15.

The Clerk tabled a discussion document, and after consideration it was proposed by Mrs Sharpe and seconded by Miss Stone to apply for a Precept of £13,000. Agreed unanimously on a show of hands.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th February 2014 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.

IMO/NEA
9.1.14