

BEDSTONE AND BUCKNELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 In Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Mr I Owen (Chairman), Mr J Kemp (Vice Chairman), Mrs B Sharpe, Mr C Savery,
Mr W Davies, Miss B Stone.
Shropshire Councillor N Hartin.
5 members of the public.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr S Davies said that Mr Mike Starr had removed the wheelbarrow from the river.

Miss Edwards reported that the riverbank next to the garage was eroding badly. Clerk to contact Severn Trent, also asking that they clear the gravel above the bridge.

Mr B Hughes explained that his main problem regarding poor drainage over the Mynd was that the “sleeping policeman” at the top of his drive was no longer high enough, following resurfacing of the road. Clerk had contacted Highways, but needed Mr Hughes’ contact details, these Mr Hughes provided. Clerk to pass these on.

Mr W Davies said the salmon ladder had been put in under the Lingen bridge, but the fish were jumping the weir at present and were making their way well upstream. The salmon would doubtless use the ladder in time.

The Chairman then closed the Open Meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr A Faulkner, Mrs F Hughes.
Mr N Hartin (late arrival)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Owen declared an interest in the AED/CFR schemes.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 4.11.14

Under “Any Other Business – Health & Safety for the churchyard in Bucknell”, second sentence to be deleted.

Subject to this correction the Minutes were then approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING:

Bucknell school. Mr Hartin reported as follows:

There were currently 47 children on the roll.

Craven Builders were to build an enclosed front porch and convert the kitchen to a dedicated pre-school room.

An Advent Fair would be held on Thursday 11th December, and a combined school and village carol service on Monday 15th

KS1 children went to Clunbury school for a production of Sinbad, and on Thursday the whole school would be going to Theatre Severn to watch Pater Pan.

The whole school had also been invited to Wigmore school on Friday for lunch. St Mary's was now officially a feeder school for Wigmore senior school and Bucknell children consistently achieved better than average results in SATS tests. The pupils of St Mary's would be singing in the Ludlow Food Centre at Bromfield on Saturday at 2pm.

Condition of phone boxes. Clerk had received no reply from BT regarding cleaning of the phone boxes. Subsequently Mathew Mead had emailed to say that BT had informed Shropshire Council of the intention to decommission a number of public phone boxes, including the one in Bucknell. As a standard policy Shropshire Council opposed all closures of phone boxes, but were keen to hear local opinions. Clerk to reply that mobile phone coverage was very poor in the area and thus the public phone box was necessary.

Parish newsletter. Mr Kemp declared an interest, but reported that the next issue would be out soon.

Code of Conduct seminar. Arranged for Monday 8th December at the Discovery Centre, Craven Arms.

Standing Orders. Final version circulated to Parish Councillors.

Revision of parish plan. Nothing to report at present.

VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk advised that it would be better to wait until after Christmas to advertise this. Website and Facebook page could be used as well as notice boards. Applications to be discussed at the February Parish Council meeting.

CLUN VALLEY AED/CFR SCHEME

Mr Owen said the unit was not in the box at the moment as the heater element had failed.

DAFFODIL LANE DEVELOPMENT

Nothing to report at present.

CHURCH REDEVELOPMENT GROUP

Phase 2 had been completed. The wooden doors had been refurbished and rehung. Another meeting would be held soon.

Health & Safety procedure. Miss Stone to draft this.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF PLACE PLAN

This proved to be rather confusing and it was decided to arrange a meeting with Mathew Mead next week.

WEBSITE

Nothing to report at present.

SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE COMMITTEE

To consider a donation towards the small grant scheme. Rejected on a show of hands one in favour, four against. Mr Hartin explained the idea was that the Parish Council approach local businesses for donations. Most other Parish Councils had donated £50 - £100. This matter to be revisited when more information was available.

ROADS:

Redlake Meadow: Subsidence. Highways had been monitoring this over the past 2 years and it had not got significantly worse. They will continue to keep an eye on it, but do not regard it as a high priority at present. Mr Hartin to inspect the problem.

Pavements. Outside nos. 7 & 8. Moss to be cleaned off and pavement resurfaced next year.

Weston Road repeater sign had been replaced.

Dog Kennel Lane: blocked gully had been attended to.

Refreshing of white lines to be done when the team was in the area.

Old Bedstone Road/B4367. One-way sign needed replacing as it was unreadable.

Location of damaged salt bin, Red Lane. To be confirmed at the next meeting.

Bedstone Road. It was unfortunate that the hedges were not cut back during the recent closure for drainage/resurfacing work.

PLANNING:

There were no planning applications for consideration, nor any decisions reported by planning authority.

Lime tree at the Causeway. Email had been received from Martin Sutton, Natural Environment Team, rejecting Bucknell Nurseries' written assessment of the tree, and stating that Shropshire Council's Tree Officers were of the opinion that the tree was safe.

Mr Sutton further advised that should the Parish Council make an application to fell the tree without further detailed and specific evidence of disease, a Tree Preservation Order would be put in place. Should the tree then fall, Shropshire Council would be open to claims for compensation for loss or damage, these being subject to a number of provisos and caveats. Clerk to seek clarification of these.

Clerk to inform the Insurers of Mr Sutton's email and ask that they reassume insuring the lime tree.

CORRESPONDENCE

"Spotlight" leaflets for December. Distributed to those present.
HOWLTA magazine.

ACCOUNTS:

Account balances were reported as follows:

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| Community (current) account | £6,339.72 |
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| Business Base Rate Tracker account: | | £10,949.44 |
| Of which: Parish Plan account | £1,014.49 | |
| Bedstone churchyard wall donation | £3,000.00 | |
| Parish Council account | £6,934.95. | |

It was agreed unanimously to pay the following:

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| Mrs N Adams (salary November 14) |) | £198.42 |
| HMRC (PAYE) |) | £35.80 |
| Ray Davies (grasscutting etc) | | £300.00 |
| Bedstone village hall (hire for meeting) | | £12.00. |

It was also agreed to pay the following:

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| Npower (energy charge June qtr) | | £204.79 |
| Npower (energy charge Sept qtr) | | £221.65. |
| Clerk to find out why these bills had increased by so much. | | |

Annual review of Ray Davies' salary. After discussion it was agreed unanimously to increase this to the living wage, ie £7.85 per hour.

Financial regulations. Final versions circulated to all Parish Councillors present.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Footpath wicket at the Hales. This urgently needed replacing. Quote from Bucknell Nurseries for £200, Mr Davies quoted £150. To be replaced as soon as possible.

Trees at school garden play area. Western Power needed to trim these 2mtrs clear of the electricity power lines. It was thought they were damson trees.

Mr Davies thanked the Parish Council on behalf of his mother for the expressions of sympathy and donations following his father's death.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th January 2015 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. The Precept would be decided at that meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.