

## **BEDSTONE AND BUCKNELL PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 In Bedstone & Hopton Castle Village Hall at 7.30pm**

#### **PRESENT**

Mr I Owen (Chairman), Mrs B Sharpe, Mr C Savery, Miss B Stone.  
6 members of the public.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr Graves considered that the notice regarding the possible election to fill the Parish Council vacancy had been inadequately publicised, and also that the Minutes should be more available within the parish.

Ring folders containing copies of the Minutes could be available at one or two locations in the village.

Speeding traffic. Mr Graves suggested that “slow down” signs be designed by the children in the school, and these might be more effective. The Chairman said there were several legal requirements regarding road signs, also approval was needed from the police and Highways.

Dog fouling. More poo bags were needed at the garage, Clerk to get some from Shropshire Council Streetscene Department. Mr Graves suggested that the Parish Council provide a waste bin for dog bags. Chairman replied that the difficulty lay in getting Shropshire Council to empty the bins owing to the cost involved.

Miss Edwards said there was an unacceptable amount of dog mess on the playing field including the children’s play area, and it was evident that some dog owners were travelling some distance to exercise their pets. Miss Edwards would put notices on every gate, including the changing rooms site. There was also the possibility to name and shame dog owners, or to ban dogs altogether. Situation to be monitored.

The Chairman then closed the Open Discussion.

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr J Kemp (Vice Chairman), Mr A Faulkner, Mrs F Hughes,  
Shropshire Councillor N Hartin.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13.1.15**

Under “Open Discussion” second paragraph, first sentence to read: “Mr Chambers said that most people were happy with the number of houses on the timber yard provided this was the only development in the village.”

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

#### **MATTERS ARISING:**

**Bucknell school report.** Not available.

**Public telephone boxes.** Nothing to report at present.

**Parish newsletter.** Nothing to report at present.

**Review of Parish plan.** Mr Graves said it was hoped to hold a Steering Group meeting in March.

**Footpath wicket at The Hales.** Clerk to write to Mr Mike Starr regarding the provision of a free replacement through the P3 scheme. However, Miss Stone said that the problem was that the gate was too high off the ground and the sheep were getting underneath, rather than the gate itself being damaged.

**Eroded riverbank/dredging by bridge.** The riverbank had been reported to the Environment Agency, but it was not clear who at Shropshire Council was responsible for the dredging.

#### **VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to find out whether it was officially advisable to restart the procedure.

#### **CLUN VALLEY AED/CFR SCHEMES**

The Chairman said that the AED unit at the Sitwell Arms should be back in service soon.

Nothing to report on the CFR scheme at present.

#### **DAFFODIL LANE DEVELOPMENT**

Miss Edwards said the only item was dogs running free and fouling the area.

#### **CHURCH REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

**Trench arch system.** Mr Hay-Campbell had provided details of the system installed in the churchyard.

Miss Stone asked about a request from the steering group for the Parish Council's promised contribution towards the repair of the church doors. Another copy invoice was required.

#### **SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE COMMITTEE**

**NHS Future Fit.** Request from representatives of the Future Fit scheme to give a presentation to the Parish Council before the end of March. Clerk to reply inviting them to the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, and also extend the invitation to Clunbury Parish Councillors.

#### **ROADS:**

**Street light on the Old Post Office.** Had been reported to the contractor.

**Redlake Meadow: subsidence and pavements.** Nothing to report at present.

**Old Bedstone Road.** New one-way sign had been reported to Highways. A new road name sign was also required, together with repair of damage to a bank on the side of the road.

**Dog Kennel Lane.** Currently closed for road works.

**Bedstone Road.** Clerk to contact Highways re: hedges.

**PLANNING:**

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

**Trees at the Causeway.**

Separate quotations were required for the removal of the horse chestnut tree.

Mr S Woodall, Tree Surgeon, had provided a report on the bores taken from the lime tree. Councillors did not think this would be sufficient evidence for Shropshire Council. It was thought that power cables could be damaged by a falling tree. Clerk to contact Western Power.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

“Spotlight” leaflet for February. Distributed to those present.

Letter from Mr Hay-Campbell inviting the Parish Council to send a representative to a service of dedication on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Mr Kemp to be asked, or Miss Stone to attend.

Email + attachment from the Parish Council’s Insurers re: Public liability – ice and snow. This detailed the reasonable steps which should be taken in order to minimise a claim so that the Parish Council would be covered by insurance.

**The Causeway.** Clerk to contact Highways re: providing a salt bin outside the lych gate as the Causeway gets very icy.

The condition of the salt bin at the station car park had been reported to Highways.

**FINANCE:**

**Account balances were reported as:**

Community (current) account		£6,094.88
Business Base Rate Tracker account		£10,950.80
Of which:		
Parish plan account	£1,014.49	
Bedstone churchyard wall	£3,000.00	
Parish Council account	£6,936.31.	

**It was unanimously agreed to pay the following:**

Mrs N Adams (salary January 14)	)	£198.62
HMRC (PAYE January 14)	)	£35.60
Mrs N Adams (expenses June 14 – January 15)		£471.56
Mrs N Adams (use of home & computer year to 31.3.15)		£100.00
Mr Ray Davies (grasscutting etc)		£204.10
Npower (energy charge December 14 qtr)		£221.66
Npower (energy charge owed from April 14)		£14.45
Bridgnorth & S Shrops Crucial Crew		£63.00.

**Review of electricity supplier.**

Final report not yet available.

**Review of Clerk's salary and conditions.**

Clerk asked for the national salary increase of 1% backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Agreed unanimously.

The Chairman proposed that the Clerk's hours be increased from 6 to 7 per week, backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015, seconded by Mrs Sharpe and agreed unanimously.

Allowance for use of home and computer. Clerk said this should be reviewed, but would make further enquiries.

Clerk's salary and conditions to be reviewed in January each year.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Proposed war memorial.** Nothing further from Mrs S Meredith at present.

**DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 in Bedstone & Hopton Castle Village Hall at 7.30pm. Mr Savery to book the hall.

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

IMO/NEA  
13.2.15