

Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

<http://www.bedstoneandbucknell.org>

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th January 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 C Savery, Miss B Stone, Mr I Graves, Mr A Faulkner.
5 members of the public.

1 OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr Graves said a large vehicle was being parked in Weston Road, partly on the verge and this was damaging the grass. Perhaps Shropshire Council should be approached as it was their property. Miss Edwards suggested that the owner of the vehicle should put down some hard standing. Mrs Sharpe said the recent prolonged rain had caused many such problems.

The Chairman then closed the Open Meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Shropshire Councillor N Hartin.
Mr A Faulkner (late arrival).

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As and when required.

4 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3.11.15

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

5 MATTERS ARISING

St Mary's closed churchyard: steps down to Chapel Lawn Road. The Chairman reported that Mr Williscroft, Building Conservation Officer, Shropshire Council, had suggested repairing the steps "like for like", making good, with a stronger soft-close spring on the gate. Alternatively, the steps could be rebuilt to modern safety standards, which would cost £3,000+. An archeologist would need to be involved.

Clerk to contact the Health & Safety Executive and ask them to make a site visit to assess the situation.

Bucknell school: car park hedge. Clerk to write to the Head Teacher stating that Councillors considered the Parish Council had discharged its duties in this matter.

Common land in the village. After discussion it was agreed that both pieces of common land (Causeway and Chapel Lawn Road) should be researched with a view to the Parish Council registering ownership.

Mrs Sharpe confirmed that there was a small piece of land by the river on the opposite side of the road from the Sitwell, which should also be investigated.

It was unclear whether there was any common land in Bedstone.

Any land registered to the Council would need to be added to the Assets Register.

6 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Shropshire Councillor N Hartin. No report available.

The Chairman of Shropshire Council had resigned. There were serious funding issues.

Bucknell school. The school had not yet reopened following the Christmas holiday.

Parish Plan Revision Steering Group. Mr Graves reported that the smaller writing group had made good progress in developing questions.

It was anticipated that the questionnaire would be issued at the end of February with the aim that SRCC would have preliminary figures for the Annual Parish Assembly in May.

Letter had been received from Shropshire Council stating that this year there would not be an annual review of the Place Plans (which gathered information from Parish Plans).

Clun Valley AED/CFR schemes. Mr Owen reported that there were still problems with the heater in the box at the Sitwell. More volunteers were always welcome.

There would be a photo display on 16th April, proceeds to the CFR scheme, which was still busy.

Daffodil Lane Development Steering Group. Miss Edwards reported that grant funding was still being sought.

Costs for the Recreation Ground were:

Grasscutting - £450.00 (+ £450.00 Parish Council contribution)

Hedgecutting - £86.40

Insurance - unknown as within Hall insurance. Miss Edwards had obtained a cheaper quote, and would inform the Parish Council of the cost.

A volunteer working party was planned for February, materials still to be purchased were timber for the bench seating and floor paint. Final cost for completing the changing rooms was not yet known.

South West Shropshire LJC. Nothing to report at present.

Bucknell newsletter. Miss Stone said that the winter newsletter had been circulated and it should be possible to repay the Parish Council its £200 loan within 12 months.

To be removed from the Agenda.

7 ROADS/STREETSCENE

Street light on Old Post Office. Had been felled by a delivery van from Speed Couriers in Welshpool. Clerk to get it made safe as soon as possible and contact the Company, who had been informed of the incident by their driver.

Flooding in Dog Kennel Lane during the recent heavy and prolonged rain.

Out-of-Hours Emergency phone no. Miss Stone had reported a seriously corroded signpost to the police 101 line as it was likely to collapse. The signpost was removed the same day together with a litter bin attached to it. An emergency telephone number for Shropshire Council was needed for such reports. Signpost and bin would need to be replaced.

8 TREE WORKS

Three trees had been planted opposite the Baron of Beef and one at the Causeway. Clerk to check that the correct number had been planted.

9 PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

Transparency Code. Information continued to be put on the website. It was decided it was not necessary to apply for a grant to help with the code.

Review of Clerk's salary. To be discussed by a Committee of the Parish Council. Also Ray Davies's salary rate to be reviewed annually.

Safeguarding and backup routine for Council records. Clerk reported that Parish Council records were kept in a metal filing cabinet, and periodically old files were taken to Shropshire Archives in Shrewsbury.

Standard Purchase Order system. After discussion it was decided to leave this for the moment.

10 FINANCE

Bank balances were reported as:

Community (current) account		£3,909.06
Business Base Rate Tracker		£10,956.27
of which:		
Parish Plan account	£954.49	
Parish Council account	£10,001.78.	

It was unanimously agreed to pay the following:

Mrs N Adams (salary December))	£374.84
HMRC (PAYE))	£93.60
Mrs N Adams (expenses to 31.12.15)		£230.97
SALC (seminar fees)		£80.00
Mr Ray Davies (grasscutting, etc December)		£235.50

It had been necessary to pay the following between meetings:

Bucknell Newsletter (float money)	£200.00
Mr Ray Davies (grasscutting, etc November)	£314.00.

This action was approved by all Councillors present.

To decide Precept for year 2016/17. Mr Savery tabled budget figures and the Clerk tabled discussion documents and said that there was a total of £823.97 VAT to be reclaimed.

After discussion it was proposed by Mr Owen, seconded by Mr Faulkner and agreed unanimously on a show of hands to apply for a Precept of £16,000.

11 PLANNING

Application No 15/05466/FUL. Change of use from campsite to site for provision of 5 luxury pods, and associated works at The Baron at Bucknell. No objection.

There were no decisions to be reported by planning authority.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

The SAMDev scheme had been accepted and had gone through.

Shropshire Council's "The Big Conversation" - a survey of the public re: priorities in view of the shortage of money in the county.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Parish Council communications. Nothing to report at present.

Annual Parish Assembly in May. It was suggested that tea and biscuits may persuade more parishioners to attend.

Planning Issues: Cllr M Price and Mr I Kilby, Shropshire Council. To be considered next time: possibly invite them to the Annual Parish Assembly in May.

14 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd February in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm

JK/NEA
16.1.16