

# BAWDRIP PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Bawdrip Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip, on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 at 7.30 pm.

**Present: Parish Councillors:** Mr R Williams (Chairman), Mrs S Greaves and Mrs A Williams; **Ward County Councillor** Mr D Hall; **Ward District Councillor** Mr D Alder; Clerk; Graham Jarvis together with fifteen members of the public.

Public speaking time subjects raised included:

- i) **Unpleasant smell in recent days** – Matter had been reported to SDC for investigation, the source was unknown possibly from outside the Parish. Chairman to ask SDC if it were possible to deploy temporary monitoring equipment.
- ii) **Vehicles travelling at dangerous speeds** – All roads within the main village were subject to a 30 mph restriction. Residents were invited to note the registration numbers of any persistent offenders and report details to the Police.
- iii) **School Playing field** – Disappointment expressed the area was not open for community use during school holidays.
- iv) **Former Railway Embankment, North of Shaw's Orchard** – Speakers encouraged the Parish Council to seek ownership from the Developer to preserve the rural aspect and for community benefit. (Also refer to Minute 30 below)
- v) **Planning Application 04/14/00004** – the applicant spoke in favour and answered questions.
- vi) **Play area / Playing Field** – Volunteers invited to Contact Chairman or Vice Chairman. A meeting would then be arranged with interested parties.
- vii) **Bawdrip Life** – Favourable comments on first edition

## 27. **Apologies for Absence and Disclosures of Interest**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Culverhouse (holiday) and Mr G Norman (work commitments). Resolved (unanimously) that both apologies be accepted for the reasons stated. District Councillor Mr Alder disclosed an interest that as a Member of the District Council's Development Committee and he would be unable to comment on any Planning matters.

## 28. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 were presented, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

## 29. **Matters Arising**

- a) **17 b Communication with Village Residents** – Deferred
- b) **21 Health and Wellbeing Grant Scheme 2014/15** – The Chairman mentioned that Stawell Parish Council had installed items of outside adult sized gym equipment – there were no moveable parts. He intended to view the items later that week and report back to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

- c) **25 Police Visit** – The Clerk reported that Inspector Andy Pritchard had agreed to attend the Parish Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

**30. Future Ownership of Railway Embankment, North of Shaw’s Orchard Development**

Further to Minute 19 a – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014; the Chairman reported that following the withdraw of the Somerset Hawk and Owl Trust, the Developer, “Summerfield”, had invited expressions of interest from various parties in acquiring the area which was now mainly woodland. The deadline was originally 27<sup>th</sup> June. After speaking to “Summerfield” the Chairman had requested the Clerk to formally register the Council’s interest pending the matter being discussed at this meeting. After a discussion and taking account of the views expressed during the public speaking period earlier that evening; it was agreed that the Parish Council’s interest in acquiring the land as a community asset be confirmed. The action of Sedgemoor District Council to issue a blanket Tree Preservation Order (reference Bawdrip (No.3) 2014) dated 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014 associated with the area was noted.

**31. Planning Matters**

a) **Applications – the Council’s response to the Local Planning Authority were as follows:-**

i) **04/14/00004/DRT**

Retention of installation of glass doors and safety rail to side (East) elevation at Sunnymeadow, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip, Bridgwater, TA7 8QB.

Applicant: Mr S Walters

**Resolved:** That the Council have no objection to the proposal as submitted.

ii) **04/14/00005/IL**

Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian and formation of all weather riding area at Northmoor Cottage, Bradney Lane, Bawdrip, Bridgwater, TA7 8QD.

Applicants: Mr G B and Mrs K J Davis

**Resolved:** That the application as submitted be supported as the proposal was considered to meet a rural need. However, the support was conditional that there would be no external lighting and that the equestrian activities be non-commercial due to environmental and traffic generating concerns.

iii) **04/14/00006/STP**

Continued use of land to site a mobile home, while dwelling is constructed at land to the North of, Knowle Hill Farm, Crancombe Lane, Knowle, Bridgwater.

Applicant: Mrs C Hudson.

**Resolved:** That the application be supported as the presence of a mobile home was regarded as a deterrent to vandalism.

b) **Decisions notified by Planning Authority: –**

- i) **04/14/00002** – Environment Agency Depot, Bradney Lane – Approved (Delegated Authority)

- ii) **04/14/00003** – Agricultural building, Manor Farm – Approved (Delegated Authority)

c) **Other Planning Matters** - None

**32. Community Speed Watch**

The Chairman reminded those present that the Council owned a Radar Speed Gun funded by a SCC community grant. Any volunteers interested to work in a team of three were invited to contact the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

**33. District Councillor Report**

Mr Alder that the District Council's services were now back to normal following the flooding emergency earlier in the year.

**34. County Councillor Report**

Mr Hall referred to the roll-out of Superfast Broadband, the local Puriton exchange was scheduled have the facility available later that month. SCC had made an application to HMG for matched funding to extend coverage in Somerset and Devon to over 95% by 2019. The next Moors Cluster Group meeting was due to discuss works to improve the A372 following extensive flood damage – an invitation was likely be given to the Parish Council to attend.

**35. Financial Matters**

**The following payment was approved:-**

Bawdrip PCC (Room hire Apr to June) £22.00 - Cheque No. 464.

**36. Roads and Footpaths**

a) **Possible New Bus Stops – Near Fairview**

Pursuant to Minute 23 c – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014; the Chairman gave an account of the site meeting he had attended with representatives of SCC and First Bus. All were in favour of the proposal and it was likely that a shelter would also be provided. SCC would now proceed with the proposal.

b) **Outstanding Works (Road markings under Railway Bridge and damaged railings)**

Pursuant to Minute 23 f - 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014; the Chairman reported that he had visited the local Highway Depot and stressed the urgency of the works. The area was subject to "a second phase survey" which had yet to be concluded. Mr Williams reiterated that he would continue to press SCC for the outstanding works to be undertaken.

c) **Bradney Lane – Flood Damage**

Further to Minute 11a - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014; the Chairman reported that repairs to sections of the road which had sunk due to flooding earlier in the year had been completed.

d) **Railway Bridge**

The Clerk was asked to contact BRB (Residuary) Limited (successor to the British Railways Board) following an observation from a resident. Trees were growing on the top of the bridge, into the fabric and along the bridge's supporting wings on the east side. It was considered that

the prompt removal of the trees would reduce the severity of future maintenance work.

**37. Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that the following items had been received:-

- a) Somerset Association of Local Councils**
  - i) Forwarded from NALC details of DCLG consultation on the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
  - ii) Invitation to contribute to the Rural Housing Policy Review
- b) Sedgemoor District Council** – Polden Hills Cluster Group, papers associated with meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
- c) Somerset County Council** - Somerset Minerals Plan: Development Plan Document up to 2030 – Notice of Submission.
- d) National Grid Plc – Hinkley Point C Connection Project** – Details of application submitted to Secretary of State. Any representation to Planning Inspectorate by 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014.
- e) Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group** – Details of meeting to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July and associated papers.
- f) Blakehay Theatre** – What’s on – May to August 2014.
- g) J Parker’s Whole** – Bulb Catalogue Autumn 2014.

*(These items would be circulated to Members in the blue box)*

**38. Topics for Future Meetings**

- i) Strimmer Project
- ii) Provision of play area / playing field

**39. Date and time of next meeting** – Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting Closed at 8.50 pm

Chairman