

BAWDRIP PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Bawdrip Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip, on Tuesday, 2nd June 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Mr R Culverhouse (Chairman), Mr R Williams, Mr P Clarke, Mrs S Greaves and Mr D Rayner. **Ward County Councillor** Mr D Hall; Clerk, Graham Jarvis together with nine members of the public.

15. Apologies for Absence and Disclosures of Interest.

An apology for absence was received from Ward District Councillor Mr D Alder. No disclosures of interest were made.

16. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 19th May 2015 were presented, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

17. Matters Arising – None.

18. Planning Matters

a) Decision made by Planning Authority and noted.

04/15/00006 – 98 Bath Road Refused: (Committee Decision)

b) Other Planning Matters – None.

19. County Councillor's Report

Mr Hall referred to a recent meeting he had attended where various interested parties regarding the Proposed Hinkley Point C Power Station were present. There was considerable optimism that the project would go ahead.

20. District Councillor's Report – None

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The meeting was then adjourned to receive a presentation from Mr Jack Baldwin, Project Coordinator, Somerset Programme of the Yew Wah International Education Foundation.

Mr Baldwin mentioned that his employer had acquired Knowle Hall (formerly owned by BIBIC) and that subject to obtaining planning consent, which was under consideration by SDC work to modify the buildings and site was scheduled to start towards the end of July. The premises would be used by 45-50 students from China aged between 14 and 17 who would attend Haygrove School. There would also be contact with other local schools. It was thought that seven groups would visit during the academic year; the pupils would be under supervision at all times

The Chairman thanked Mr Baldwin for his talk and the questions answered.

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21. Financial Matters

a) The following payments were approved:

- i) Somerset Playing Fields' Association – Subscription £15.00
Cheque No. 484.
- ii) Sedgemoor District Council – Uncontested Election Fees
£100.00 Cheque No. 485.
- iii) G Jarvis – Clerk's Salary/Expenses/Reimbursements £773.42
Cheque No. 487.

b) The Smaller Authorities (Transparency Requirements) (England) Regulations 2015.

The Clerk reminded Members that the new rules applied to Town and Parish Councils where the annual turnover did not exceed £25,000. The Council already complied with most of the regulations and to fulfil the remaining obligations additional material would be published on the Bawdrip online website.

22. Council owned land – Future Administrative Arrangements

The Clerk reported that the previous Council had resolved to defer a decision on the administration of the two parcels of land in the Council's ownership. Minute 101 a – 6th January 2015 refers.

A briefing paper prepared by the Clerk regarding aspects to consider if some, or all, of the land was transferred to a local newly formed Charitable Trust had been circulated with the agenda. After a discussion it was agreed that Mr Rayner would approach the Woodland Trust or a similar organisation to learn how Parish Councils in a comparable situation had proceeded; Mr Clarke would investigate the implications if the land remained under the Council's direct control. The information would be provided at the next meeting. In the meantime a report that ragwort was growing on the embankment would be investigated and appropriate action taken.

Members also noted the comments in a letter from a resident including concerns about the former railway embankment becoming an allurement for children as an unofficial play area.

23. General Village Upkeep

The Chairman reported that there were a number of areas in the village that would benefit from a tidy-up and there was some uncertainty on land ownership. There was agreement that the Chairman would prepare a schedule of areas of concern and that the topic be discussed at the next meeting.

24. Upkeep of Former Railway Bridge (BWZ 306)

Further to the topic raised during public speaking time on 6th January 2015; the Clerk read an exchange of emails with the Highways Agency. The agency stated that the bridge was inspected annually by trained and competent bridge examiners who had full regard to public safety. The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways Agency seeking the results of the most recent inspection which was believed to have taken place in March.

25. Future Training Arrangements

Further to Minutes 12 and 13 c 19th May 2015; the Clerk reported that confirmation had been received from SALC regarding places reserved for

every Member to attend a “Being a Good Councillor – The Essentials” presentation. Reference was also made to training on Planning matters arranged by SDC, details of which had been circulated previously. It was agreed that all Members would attend the seminar to be held on 16th June.

26. Roads and Footpaths

a) Greenfield Lane

Pursuant to Minute 11 a – 19th May; Mr Williams mentioned that he had sent a further reminder SCC asking that this long standing problem receive attention.

b) Possible Provision of Bus Stops – Woolavington Hill

Further to Minute 11 b – 19th May; Mr Williams reported that he had been told that there difficulties associated with the obligation under Section 106 Agreement to construct a pavement from caravan park to the petrol station which was causing a delay.

c) Water Leak

Further to Minute 11 c – 19th May 2015; a Member reported that the leak had been repaired.

d) Little Wall Lane / Riverbank- Stiles

The Chairman referred to a letter from a resident accompanied by a photograph reporting difficulties in passing over two stiles due to the height from the step. A request would be made for the Footpaths Officer at SCC to examine the stiles when he next visits the Parish.

e) Footpath BW 2/24

Further to Minute 11 e – 19th May 2015; Mr Williams reported that the Footpaths Officer would also inspect the path when in the area. (The path reference was erroneously quoted as BW 2/10 in the 19th May Minute).

f) Grass Cuttings

The Clerk was asked to write to a resident who was regularly cutting a public verge but was believed to placing the grass clippings in a place which could lead to a drain being blocked.

27. Correspondence

a) SALC – Nominations invited for the appointment of two Parish/Town Councillors to serve on the SDC Standard’s Committee.

b) Somerset County Council – Details of Flood Mitigation Fund.

c) PPS Group/ SCC/ EDF – Draft Minutes of Transport Forum held 30th April 2015.

d) EDF

i) Hinkley Point B Power Station - April 2015 Monthly Report.

ii) Hinkley Point C Look Ahead – June 2015.

e) Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner:

i) Press Release – Rural Crime Survey.

- ii) Police and Crime Plan (Sedgemoor) 2015-17.
 - iii) Best on the Beat Awards – Detail of nomination process.
- f) **Centre for Sustainable Energy** – May 2015 Newsletter.
- g) **Somerset Community Council** – Update on Village Agent.
- h) **Sustrans** – Request for volunteers on 17th June to help with repairs to path by Environment Agency Depot.
- 28. Topics for Future Meetings.**
- a) Review of Standing Orders.
- 29. Date and time of next meeting** – Tuesday, 7th July 2015 at 7.30 pm. (to include a time of Public Speaking)

Meeting Closed at 8.47 pm.

Chairman

DRAFT