

BAWD RIP PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Bawdrip Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip, on Tuesday, 4th December 2014 at 7.30 pm.

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

84. Apologies for Absence and Disclosures of Interest

An apology for late arrival had been notified by Ward County Councillor Mr Hall. A pecuniary interest in Planning Application 04/14/00008 was disclosed by Councillor Mr G Norman.

85. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th November 2014 were presented, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

86. Matters Arising

73 a) Railway Embankment and associated land, Shaw's Orchard – The Clerk reported that ownership of the land was transferred to the Parish Council on 13th November 2014. The Council's title was in the process of being registered.

The Chairman reported on a site meeting with representatives of Sedgemoor Volunteer Group, the consensus was to leave most of the land (including the open space) in a natural state - with the aim of creating a wildflower meadow on the grassed slope. Work to "cut and rake" the south bank was in hand. Some work was needed on the north side cutting back some ivy which was pulling on some trees. Although not in the Council's ownership the footpath/bridleway would provide better access to the site. Unfortunately, the path was getting narrow and the Chairman had raised concerns about the condition of the path with SCC on a number of occasions without a response. The matter would be pursued.

The Clerk outlined some of the issues which would have to be addressed if the management of the land was transferred to a new local Charitable Trust and the various forms the Trust could take. It was agreed that the matter be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. In the meantime the Clerk's notes would be circulated to Members.

The Chairman referred to the absence of guards on the culverts which had been mentioned by a resident. One of the culverts was thought to be part of the adopted Highway. It was agreed that the Chairman would approach County Highways, the Developer and possibly SDC to see the installation of guards was part of the planning consent.

87. Planning Matters

a) Applications

i) 04/14/00008/CJA

Prior Approval of proposed change of use of agricultural building to two dwellings at Kings Farm, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip.

Applicant: Mrs B Norman

Resolved: That the application as submitted be supported as the proposal was considered to be an appropriate use for a building no longer suitable for its original purpose.

(Having earlier declared a pecuniary interest, Mr Norman was absent from the room whilst the above item was discussed)

ii) 04/14/00009/CJA

Erection of single storey extension to South elevation of store/shop building to form clubhouse at Fairways Caravan Park, Bath Road, Bawdrip, TA7 8PP.

Applicant: West Country Park Homes Limited

Resolved: That the application as made be supported provided that any external lighting is not intrusive to near-by residents.

b) Decisions notified by Planning Authority – None

c) Any Other Planning Matters - None

88. Council's Standing Orders

The Clerk reported that the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 came in force on 5th August 2014 which amended the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960. As a consequence Paragraph 1 m of the Council's Standing Orders (adopted 11th September 2012) was invalid as previously members of the public had no statutory right to film, take photographs or record council meetings. A suggested replacement text to reflect the change had been circulated with the agenda. A proposal by Mr Williams, Seconded by Mr Culverhouse that the revised text as circulated for Standing Order 1m be formally adopted was agreed unanimously.

89. Financial Regulations

Pursuant of Minute 82 i – 4th November 2014; the Clerk stated that Council's Financial were due for review. A model document prepared by NALC had been obtained and customised for the Parish Council. A draft copy had been circulated to Members by email the previous week.

A proposal by Mr Williams, Seconded by Mrs Williams that the wording of the Financial Regulations as adapted and circulated be formally adopted was agreed unanimously.

90. District Councillor Report - None

91. Financial Matters

a) The following payments were approved:

- i)** Clerk's Salary and Expenses/Reimbursements - £700.71
Cheque No. 471
- ii)** Somerset Wildlife Trust Grant £20.00 – Cheque No. 472

Bawdrip Parish Council – Minutes 2nd December 2014

(Agreed that the payment be made under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972).

(Mr Hall arrived at the meeting)

b) Bank reconciliation statement

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation statement as at 30th September 2014 together with supporting papers. These were examined by Mrs Williams and agreed as correct.

c) Health and Wellbeing Grant 2013/14

Further to Minute 17 a – 3rd June 2014; the Chairman reported that work to construct the concrete bases at the Parish Hall was expected to start shortly. It was agreed that the cheque drawn in April (No. 458) for equipment which, had not been released as similar items were possibly to be donated, would continue to be held.

d) Local Government National Salary Award

The Clerk reported that a notification had been received of the National Pay Award 2014-16 which would apply from 1st January 2015 together with a lump sum payment on 1st December 2014. Full details were in a NALC/SALC Circular which was included in the correspondence bundle. Agreed that the position be noted.

92. Roads and Footpaths

a) Footpath BW2/43

Further to Minute 80b – 4th November 2014 the Clerk confirmed that the defective bridge had been reported to SCC and that an automated acknowledgment received.

b) Temporary Road Closure – Ford Lane, Stawell

Full details were included in the Correspondence bundle.

c) Eastside Lane

A Member expressed concern at a section of the road surface in Eastside Lane. The Chairman said he would investigate and if appropriated report the matter to County Highways.

d) Parish Path Liaison Officer

The Clerk mentioned that a reminder had been received about the vacant position of Parish Path Liaison Officer. In the absence of a volunteer it was agreed to continue the present arrangement whereby if any member of the public notices a defect on a footpath within the Parish to report the problem to any Parish Councillor.

93. Correspondence

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

a) Sedgemoor District Council:

i) Polden Hills Parish Cluster Group details of meeting 2nd December 2014.

ii) Press Release: Improvements to Junction 23 of M5 (Dunball).

- b) Somerset County Council:**
 - i) Somerset Minerals Plan, Development Plan Document to 2030 – Consultation on Main Modifications.
 - ii) Temporary Road Closure – Ford Lane, Stawell from 1st December for 4 days.
 - iii) Guide to Winter Services 2014/15
- c) SALC/NALC:** Details of National Salary Award 2014-16.
- d) Somerset Waste Partnership:** Monthly Briefing – November.
- e) Planning Inspectorate:** Notice of preliminary meeting (19th January 2015 at Weston) associated with application by National Grid for Development Consent for Hinkley Point C Connection Project.

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

94. County Councillor Report

Mr Hall reported that at the Polden Cluster meeting held earlier that evening, the Group had voted in favour of the RLT3 application made by Woolavington Parish Council. (After a brief discussion the Clerk was asked to contact SDC and register this Councils support for the bid). Mr Hall also expressed disappointment that there had been another delay, due to technical problems, for the provision of Superfast broadband to the Village. The target date was now later in the month but could be subject to further delay.

95. Topics for Future Meetings - None

96. Dates for meetings 2015

The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with the Bookings Secretary of the Parish Hall and had provisionally reserved the venue for first Tuesday in the month (other than August) for Parish Council meetings in 2015. As the present Council would be dissolved on 7th May, an extra meeting that month was necessary – Tuesday, 19th had been pencilled-in. Agreed that the provisional arrangements be confirmed.

97. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday, 6th January 2015 at 7.30 pm.
(which would include a time of public speaking)

Meeting Closed at 8.35 pm.

Chairman