

2023-Feb.a.

BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair, Sally Maddox

MINUTES (Draft until signed) of meeting 2023-Feb. 14th February 2023, 8pm in Bicton village hall.

PRESENT:

Parish Cllrs: Richard Brett, Elliott Blackmore, Sally Maddox, Sue Llewellyn, Mandie Lee, Rod Warren, Paul Quartermaine, Deirdre Grennan, Wendy Horan, SC Cllr. Lezley Picton, Parish clerk- Peter Anderson, Police Constable Richard Walters and PCSO Stuart and 8 parishioners.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ALERT, REPORT. PC Richard Walters introduced himself and gave a brief explanation of his responsibilities, which are many and varied; and the area that he covers, which is large.

OPEN FORUM Richard Blackledge, Sam Blackledge and Russ Maxim came to tell us about the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (PBCC) initiative called Rapid Relief Team (RRT). They are active wherever they are needed, at a national, global or a local level, serving food from their symbolic red tents. Stuart Leighton did a litter pick and noticed some untidiness down the side of the nursery at The Four Crosses. Cllr Llewellyn volunteered to speak to the owner. Paul Roberts asked if it is possible to have a smaller recycling bin. The answer is no but it is still allowable to use the original boxes. Sonia Swain has offered to plant holly on their land along the Severnway. The holly could be transplanted from Muriel's Little Wood. Edward Swain has volunteered to lay the Little Wood hedge against Bicton Lane. The Swains have also been planting apple trees.

SC Cllr Picton report: The report from the Boundary Commission, on the SC divisional boundaries, is pending. An award has been received from the Levelling Up Fund for the redevelopment of Shrewsbury Town Centre. Central Government is holding a planning consultation. It is expected that the five-year-land-supply rule will be relaxed or removed, the targets for housing likewise and Neighbourhood Plans will increase in importance. The SC budget has got to find £53m from economies. Adult social care is the largest cost. The viability of a weekly waste food collection is being examined. Some other councils charge as much as £100 per year for the green waste collection, should SC do likewise? There is a deadline of 10th March to apply for a road closure for a coronation party. Making available free home composting bins is a complicated issue and is tied up with food waste. BPC raised its concerns about drainage issues in Bicton and the fact that the SC drainage expert, John Bullis, was not aware of how the drains worked from Bicton Heath; Lezley pointed out that, on planning matters, the SC drainage consultees have said that there are no drainage problems in Bicton. Lezley was asked, if an SC appointed contractor proves to be incompetent can it be 'cancelled'? The answer was yes.

0. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Cllr Blackmore, 5.1, he is a near neighbour.

0.1 **APOLOGIES** for ABSENCE were received and accepted, from: NOTED

2. **VERIFY DRAFT MINUTES**, 2023-Jan, dated 10/1/23. These were signed as a true and accurate account.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 The hedge by the school small gate will be cut next week, during half-term.

3.2 SC did a litter pick on Calcott Lane and in no time it was as bad again.

4. **PARISH MATTERS**

4.1 Lengthsman, report and instructions *Standing Agenda Item*

4.2 Parish footpaths, *Standing Agenda Item* It has been dry. The Severnway to Montford Bridge is passable but way-markers are needed; Cllr Maddox will request these. The tree in the ditch, which Mr. Price has promised to remove, is still there. The muddy part of the Severnway, by the small bridge to the rear of The Crescent, Montford Bridge is still wet. The village hall snicket is still waiting for Paul Butter to have the time to fix it.

4.3 Bicton Lane, kerbs on the corner, a progress report. Matt and Dee Povey have made an arrangement with SC to have a raised kerb and 2 bollards. The previous house owners are looking to make a settlement with Matt and Dee.

4.4 Hedge in front of Lewis Way, who is responsible for its maintenance? It is believed to be the responsibility of SC. It was topped yesterday. Previously BPC had had it cut back but this was to clear the road sign.

4.5 'Tree/shrub planting'; Shropshire Council is giving away trees to parish councils: BPC has received a request, from a parishioner, to plant bird friendly, berry bearing shrubs/etc. It is very late in the season for tree planting. Cllr Llewellyn has space for some trees if they are still available next year, otherwise there is no land available. Only native species should be planted.

4.6 To arrange the affixing of the new Montford Bridge Bus shelter notice board. Tom Llewellyn will be asked to fix it.

5 **PLANNING**

- 5.1 Planning Enforcement , 23/09413/ENF, Development Land At Churncote Off, Welshpool Road, Alleged breach of planning control in relation to hedge removal and inappropriate replacement species. This is where the site offices were situated without permission and evergreen species were planted. Noted.
- 5.2 Planning Enforcement, 23/09382/ENF, Grove Farm. Alleged breach of planning control in relation to the erection of a field shelter. This is a horse shelter, approx. 24 feet x12 which was not fixed to the ground because it blew over. It is now in place again but it is not know how it is fixed to the ground. Noted.

6. **OFFICIAL MATTERS**

- 6.1 Monthly Audit of Accounts and financial report. Bank Statement number 397; £51,426.08 verified by Chairman. Lengthsman fund £2,103; Parish Plan £359; CIL £24,256; BPC reserve £24,659. Move to Lloyds Bank. The clerk spent the initial one hour on the phone but now there are forms to be signed; this application pack only arrived today.
- 6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. Cllr Warren reported that all is safe. Edward Swain has volunteered to lay the roadside hedge.
- 6.3 Street light F on Church Close. Highline Electrical is proceeding with the replacement. The van driver and his insurance company have admitted liability. Noted.
- 6.4 Repairs/improvements are needed to the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) The cost is £1,436.40 could BPC consider paying this? Possibly from the CIL fund? BPC agrees, by a unanimous vote, to make this grant.

7 **PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment**

- 7.1 To reimburse the clerk for the purchase of the Montford Bridge bus shelter notice board. £57.95
- 7.2 Kevin Williams, £88.00, for work in Muriel's Little Wood.
- 7.3 To pay the above accounts 1er Cllr Blackmore, 2er Cllr Quartermaine and agreed.

8. **EXTERNAL ITEMS**

- 8.1 BPC is invited to nominate its chair for a Buckingham Palace party, but note; Shropshire can only send two representatives. Cllr Maddox agrees to her name going forward.

9. **EXTRA INFORMATION** Any *Additional Information* not specified on the agenda.

- 9.1 A new grit bin for the corner of Bicton Lane is needed.
- 9.2 Bicton Lane needs the road sweeper to pass along.

10. **NEXT MEETING** due to be held on Tuesday 14th March 2023. at 8.00pm in Bicton Village Hall.

MEETING CLOSED 9.59 pm.
2023-Feb b