

2022-Nov.a.

BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Sally Maddox

MINUTES (Draft until signed) of meeting 2022-Nov. 8th November 2022, 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 and 3 parishioners.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ALERT, REPORT. BPC is signed up to **West Mercia Police Neighbourhood Alert**. This month there were 17 alerts ranging from “Police urge motorists to slow down” to “Weekly fraud update”. There was also a newsletter from the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion and also a six monthly newsletter from our Police Constable, Simon Lewis. If anyone would like to receive all of the reports then please contact the clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Paul Roberts suggested that the Holyhead Road could be made safer and traffic slowed by narrowing the carriageway.

Stuart Leighton has made enquiries for a lockable notice board for Montford Bridge bus shelter. The Wood-turners are too busy to make one. He has found a 90cm x 60cm board for £126. The clerk is asked to do some more research.

Jonathan Elford, of Plum Cottage, explained the planning situation and how it had evolved. The work is now complete, the cars are parked off-road, SC is satisfied that all is as it should be and Jonathan and his family are now intending to continue to live there.

SC Cllr Picton report. The report from Shropshire Councillor Lezley Picton was, as usual, comprehensive. This month’s report ranged over; coping with uncertainty caused by the national political turmoil, conferences, budget difficulties, (Inflation is costing SC an extra £9m!), the Westminster ‘mood music’ is worrying, the ‘Integrated Care System’ for the NHS (where is the money to come from?), the NWRR (North West Relief Road), 20mph outside schools, rough sleepers and drug problems cost £20m, the constituency boundary review, and waste and recycling.

0. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

2. **VERIFY DRAFT MINUTES, 2022-Oct, dated 11/10/22** . These were accepted as a true and accurate account and were duly signed.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 The head of Bicton school has agreed to the hedge by the small gate being reduced in order to aid visibility and the safety of children leaving through it. BPC has agreed to pay for the work. Cllr Blackmore will arrange it.

3.2 The hedge that had grown in front of the road signs on the Holyhead Road has been cut back.

3.3 Paul Butter is working on a quote for the improvement of Bicton Pool.

3.4 Various pools in the parish are exceptionally low; Oxon Pool and Swain’s Pool particularly. This may be due to the dry summer just past.

4. **PARISH MATTERS**

4.1 Lengthsman, report and instructions *Standing Agenda Item* Kevin has cleared the Shepherd’s Lane to Calcott Lane footpath.

4.2 Parish footpaths, *Standing Agenda Item* The footpath past Matt Egerton’s house has become very narrow and it would not be possible for a tractor to use it. The Severnway is very muddy and heavy tractors have damaged it. More stone is needed; Cllr Blackmore will liaise with Shona Butter. The Severnway at the Montford Bridge end is all mud and the footpath is lost. The Severnway gate by the Old Vicarage is worse than ever; Cllr Maddox will report it.

4.3 Steam Rally traffic problems. Comments from Sherry Woolgrove, Civil Resilience Team Leader at SC:

. *“We are investigating with National Highways. I have spoken to our Highways Manager and there is a real concern for safety, from them, on this impact on our network. I think out of this a meeting to discuss the traffic management plan with organisers, National Highways and Shropshire Council Highways to discuss how the organisers actively manage the traffic throughout the event is important. It may be that they don’t actively monitor the traffic, and that is key to ensuring traffic flow. Hopefully with a few improvements it will be better next year.”*

Informally it has been reported to BPC that the contractor who was supposed to control the 4-way traffic lights was asleep in his van and the light sequence was such that it impeded the flow of traffic. Also next year it is proposed to close Preston Montford Lane.

- 4.4 Report on Bicton Lane bad-bend lorry problems. The chicken lorries have been coming-and-going at night. It is claimed that this is necessary because of avian flu. The driver training video has not been made because it needs to be done in daylight. Matt and Dee Povey have requested insurance details from the farmer and so far they have not been told. The clerk is requested to research if there may be a legal route towards solving this problem.
- 4.5 The Right of Way (ROW) map has been supplied by SC at no cost. Noted.
- 4.6 Should there be a survey of all the hedgerows in Bicton? Cllr Warren's research concludes that since 1843 75% of Bicton's hedges have been grubbed up. To produce an up-to-date survey and map would take a team and a lot of time and at the moment neither is available. To remove a hedge needs planning permission; removal without this permission is something for SC to enforce.

5 PLANNING

- 5.1 22/03543/FUL housing development at Bicton Heath; amendment to have 4 extra houses. The amended plan is not available on the SC website. There are still no bungalows. The drainage still runs through Bicton village. This amendment was only received, by BPC, today. The clerk will ask for an extension of the response deadline.

6 OFFICIAL MATTERS

- 6.1 Monthly Audit of Accounts and financial report. Bank Statement number 394 and also 393 which had not arrived for the last meeting. Verified by Chair. The clerk had filled in the Environmental Maintenance Grant application form; the meeting approved this and the chair signed it. The clerk had researched internet banking and Cllr Quartermaine is also going to check out Lloyds Bank.
- 6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. Cllr Warren reported that all is safe. He has cut some of the growth on the boundary with the field; this has let in the light and air.

7 PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment

8 EXTERNAL ITEMS

- 8.1 SALC AGM Fri 11 November 6pm by zoom. Cllr Lee has volunteered to attend this.

8.2 Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 13th November 2022 BPC is invited, please reply.

On Sunday 13 November the Mayor, Cllr Elisabeth Roberts, will lead a civic procession with units of HM Forces and Service organisations from Shrewsbury Castle. The procession will leave the Castle at approx. 10:20 am following the route of Castle Gates, Castle Street, Pride Hill, Mardol Head and St John's Hill to The Quarry. The procession will be led by music from Shrewsbury Brass Band. Weather and family permitting Cllr Grennan will attend this.

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

- 9.1 The exterior area around the Four Crosses Nursery has become untidy and weedy. It is understood that the gardener has moved on. Also the yellow lines have not been completed.

10. **NEXT MEETING** due to be held on Tuesday 13th December 2022. at 8.00pm in Bicton Village Hall.

MEETING CLOSED 9.59 pm.
2022-Nov b