

2020-Dec.a.

**BICTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman Richard Brett

**MINUTES** (Draft until signed) of meeting 2020-Dec 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 8pm by zoom.

**PRESENT:**

*Parish Cllrs:* Richard Brett, Elliott Blackmore, Sally Maddox, Sue Llewellyn, Mandie Lee, Rod Warren, Paul Quartermaine, SC Cllr. Lezley Picton, Parish clerk-Peter Anderson, 7 parishioners.

**At 7.30pm before the BPC meeting started** Kate Ballinger and Hannah Roy gave a presentation about 'NHS Engagement Strategy'. This strategy has many strands but it boils down to asking us "What would a good NHS look like?" and "What kind of two-way communication with the NHS do we want?" BPC is reassured that such a positive, forward looking strategy is in progress.

**POLICE REPORT** The report is now for 'Bicton Rural' and does not include Gains Park. (Cophorne Rural and Gains Park had 144 incidents). This is the report that is sent to BPC; *Bicton Rural 11 incidents. Assault 1, Criminal Damage 0, Burglary residential 1, Theft from vehicle 0, Harassment/stalking 0, ASB nuisance 0, ASB personal 0, ASB environmental 1, Concern for safety 2, Domestic incident 2, Threats to kill 1, Suspicious circumstances 0, Civil dispute 1, Sexual offence 0, Highway disruption 1, RTC 0.*

**OPEN FORUM**

The work on clearing the Grange Bank footway has been interrupted because the workers have been moved to other more urgent jobs but they are expected to be back in January.

The hedge by the car park at The Crescent has been cut.

A badger survey has been done at the SWSUE housing development at Bicton Heath. Usually this means that work will soon start; but this development is currently waiting for revised drawings for the 345 house application. SC Cllr Picton will check out what this all means.

**SC Cllr Lezley Picton report:** SC has a winter support service for those in extreme need. The covid-19 rate in Shropshire is half of what it was last week and there is hope that we may be moved down to tier 1. It is most important that everyone who is eligible should get a vaccination against seasonal flu. We are all encouraged to 'shop local' to support local businesses. The Grange Bank work teams are doing other essential work and are expected to return in January. Lezley will check the progress on the planning enforcement issue at the Brethren's shop. A question about the attenuation pools at the Bicton Heath development has been sent to the head of drainage at SC. BPC sent season's greetings and many thanks to Lezley for the work and support that she gives to Bicton.

**0. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

0.1 Cllr Maddox, 7.5, it is a refund for the zoom fee for this meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES** for ABSENCE were received and accepted, from: Wendy Horan, Deirdre Grennan, NOTED

2. **VERIFY DRAFT MINUTES**, 2020-Nov dated 10/11/2020 were signed as a true and accurate account.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 BPC's support, for the TPO on the trees, at the site of the Bicton Heath service station planning application, has been sent to SC.

3.2 BPC has not had a reply from SC about a site meeting on the Severnway to discuss improvements. The clerk will chase this up.

3.3 Cllr. Lee sent a brief report on the SALC 71st AGM, held 20 November 2020 at 6pm via Zoom, 63 participants. Jonathan Owen, Chief Executive of NALC gave a presentation, the slides are available. All SALC officers will stay the same for another year following a proposal from Ray Wickson, Chairman. SALC current fee per elector up to 3,500 electors an increase of 1p from 35p to 36p. Over 3,500 electors an increase of 1p from 36p to 37p. The increase is mainly for indemnity insurances and to keep up with inflation.

3.4 The access to Oxon Pool still confuses some visitors, Cllr Lee will prepare and affix a simple notice to guide people to the correct gate.

3.5 The road sweeper has still not visited Bicton Lane.

3.6 The leaves, on the footway and against the wire netting at Oxon Hollow are getting worse, Cllr

Llewellyn has reported this to SC.

3.7 The oak trees, on Shepherd's Lane, which were reported as needing attention, actually look to be very sound. Cllr Blackmore and David Pannet will give them another visual check.

3.8 The lengthsman has cut the overgrowth on the Calcott Cottage footpath.

3.9 The gathering of water on the road at Montford Bridge is exacerbated by the seemingly unnecessary drop kerbs. Cllr Blackmore will contact Ian Walshaw at SC to see if anything can be done.

3.10 The Severn River Partnership meeting, by zoom, on 25/11/20, did not satisfy all of the participants. The information presented was sketchy, vague and questionable. It only addressed the NWRR implications and ignored other concerns such as 'what will be the upstream effect?' and 'how are the properties in Melverly going to get flood insurance?'

3.11 Is the footpath to Bickley Coppice a right of way? It is marked as such on the tithe map, but its present status is uncertain.

#### 4. PARISH MATTERS

4.1 Lengthsman, report and instructions *Standing Agenda Item*

4.2 Parish footpaths, *Standing Agenda Item* The description was 'wet and horrible and best avoided'.

4.3 Grange bank footway clearing. The plan is to leave the surface as it is and to spray off the weeds next growing season. The hedge needs a hard cutting back; Cllr Blackmore will engage a contractor.

#### 5 PLANNING

5.1 20/03074/FUL Oxon Touring Park , Formation of new field access SC Decision: Refuse. Noted.

5.2 20/04702/AGR | farm store | The Oaks Farm Shepherds Lane. This is a 'permitted development'. BPC is notified but is not able to comment. Noted.

5.3 20/03515/FUL The Bungalow , Calcott Lane, Erection of detached storage garage, plant room and home office, SC Decision: Refuse. Noted

5.4 20/04541/FUL Land South Of Holyhead Road, Bicton, Erection of two storey block of 28No extra care apartments with a bridge link to the west wing of The Coppice and 26 elderly persons bungalows for affordable rent. BPC objects on the following grounds.

1, Access for the care village was originally promised to be through Clayton Way.

2, Access off the B4380 is dangerous, it is a 60mph road and narrow to boot.

3, The access in to The Coppice is problematical and dangerous and this, being so close, will amplify the danger.

4, There is no footway on the south side of the road so pedestrians will have to cross the 60mph carriageway.

5, The promised cycle lane is not in prospect.

6, There are no street lights on the B4380.

7, The only convenient and safe access will be by car. This reliance on the car is not 'sustainable'.

8 Even when people are forced in to car use there is not enough car parking so it is inevitable that at times there will be parking on the 60mph B4380. (This same issue was predicted for The Coppice and has turned out to be the case. There is not enough parking for its everyday use and when an event is held cars are parked on the B4380.)

9, This site is close to the Severn Trent water abstraction point and the ground water here overlies bedrock and forms part of the catchment for the water abstraction.

10, Further building and hard surfaces will urbanise this area in the sense of affecting the water run-off and exacerbating flooding problems.

11, The SWSUE work is already causing drainage problems and the work so far done for 14/00246/out (20/00307/rem) is not in line with its permissions and is already threatening to overload the shaky drainage arrangements.

12 The bus service is poor with no more than one bus per hour.

13, There are no on site shopping facilities or other services.

14, The proximity to the NWRR, (some bungalows will be within 50m of the NWRR,) will mean that residents/occupants will have to permanently keep windows shut against the noise and air pollution.

15, Sharing the site with offices/commercial will increase the traffic flows and parking problems.

16, The development is very urban (in a countryside setting) crowded and there is no room for a tree belt to reduce noise and pollution.

17, SAMDev is under review at the moment and the results of that review could well be that developments such as this are no longer desirable, needed or sustainable.

18, The roads are narrow and the spurs have no turning points. Waste collection lorries and emergency services will struggle with this.

19, The offices/commercial in particular will present an urban/ industrial front in this countryside/rural setting.

20, The medical centre will further increase the traffic flow and cause parking problems as the only access is by car. This is not sustainable.

5.5 20/04544/OUT Commercial development, land south of Holyhead Road, Outline application for the erection of health/medical office accommodation, to include access. BPC objects on the following grounds.

- 1, This is an outline application and it is too vague to be able to draw any reasonable conclusions from it.
- 2, The site is part of the Severn Trent water catchment and the water table over-lies bedrock. The water abstraction point is close by and is in danger of being affected.
- 3, This will urbanise the area and all the hard surfaces will increase the water run-off which will lead to flooding and is not 'sustainable'.
- 4, The access is off the B4380; at this point it is 60mph, no street lights and no foot-way or cycle lane on the south side. This will lead to increased reliance on the car at a time when car use is being discouraged. Increased reliance on cars is not considered to be 'sustainable'.

5.6 20/02969/VAR 1-85 (inclusive)The Coppice, Holyhead Road, Bicton, Variation of condition Nos. 16, 17 and 18 attached to planning permission 14/05707/FUL dated 28 April 2015 to include the addition of a mortgage exemption clause to these conditions. SC Decision: Grant Permission. Noted.

5.7 Waters Edge Cottage Preston Montford Lane, 20/05005/FUL, Erection of a first floor side extension and single storey rear extension.

Bicton Parish Council objects to this application because there is no drainage assessment.

- 1, The stream, which is close-by can flood at times.
- 2, There are drainage problems around the B4380/Grange Bank area anyway.
- 3, The drainage from Churncote/Bicton Heath/planning applications 14/00246/OUT and 20/00307/REM is not resolved yet and is likely to create problems towards Bicton village unless the water is diverted towards Montford Bridge.
- 4, The proposals by the Severn River Partnership to restrict the flow at the NWRR will inevitably cause more upstream flooding.

## 6. OFFICIAL MATTERS

6.1 Monthly Audit of Accounts Bank Statement number 371 £40,408.26 and was verified.

6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. All is safe. There is some normal growth which needs trimming: Rod will do this.

6.3 I am writing to you on behalf of Kinnerley Parish Council following our last Parish Council meeting. at which we resolved to build alliances with other affected Parishes about the proposals for a flood barrier north of Shrewsbury. in conjunction with the building of the NWRR. BPC is interested in this alliance in order to learn all of the possibilities and the implications thereof. Also a report of the 25/11/2020 Severn Partnership meeting about the flood defences. See 3.10 above.

6.4 The BPC precept will need to be submitted to SC in January. Now is the time for BPC to prepare its budget in order to set the precept. A detailed budget will be presented at the next BPC meeting but in principle BPC plans for it to follow previous prudent guidelines and should not show an increase unless absolutely necessary.

## 7 PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment

7.1 Kevin Williams, lengthsman duties, Nov. £74.00 chq 209

7.2 Street light electricity, Oct-Dec. £147.46 chq 210

7.3 Clock repairs £730 plus vat = £876.00 (The PCC will refund to BPC £730.00) chq 211

7.4 Clerk's salary Oct-Dec, £1,493.00 chq 212

7.5 Sally Maddox, refund for this meeting's zoom fee. £14.39 chq 213

7.6 The above payments were agreed. Cllr Blackmore has the cheque book and he will arrange for the cheques to be signed.

## 8. EXTERNAL ITEMS

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

9.1 A few more SmartWater kits have been dispensed by Cllr Maddox. It will be mentioned in the newsletter BPC report that kits are still available.

9.2 Some posters have appeared on lamp posts. Technically this is fly posting but if they are temporary (a few days) and for a local event the authorities tolerate them.

9.3 Some youths, in cars, have been congregating in the village hall car park and then speeding off; usually on a Saturday and Sunday evening. The police have been informed.

10. **NEXT MEETING** due to be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021. at 8.00pm in Bicton Village Hall? Or zoom.

MEETING CLOSED 9.53pm  
2020Dec b