

2015-Jan.a.

**BICTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman Richard Brett

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING 2015-Jan** Held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015. 8pm in Bicton Village Hall

**PRESENT:**

*Parish Cllrs:* Richard Brett, Elliott Blackmore, Roy Bound, Wendy Horan, Sally Maddox, Sue Llewellyn, Deirdre Grennan. Martin Davies Parish clerk-Peter Anderson. Plus 9 parishioners,

**OPEN FORUM**

Sonia Swain asked what is happening to the Bicton Plan. The chairman explained about 'The Way Forward for Bicton'. It has not been possible, for many reasons, for the Bicton Plan Steering Group to make any progress. The looming general election will possibly bring in a new government and new regulations so it is best to wait and see what happens.

Nick Paterson asked about the 'Community Speed Watch' initiative. This will require 6 volunteers from the parish. The clerk will ask for these in the newsletter report.

Stuart Leighton reported that the parking situation on The Oval has improved slightly after the intervention of CSO Keith Hadfield. It seems that parking on a pavement is not illegal.

Police report; Crime remains low in Bicton although there was some anti social behaviour, criminal damage and two road traffic collisions. Also there was a burglary on Racecourse Lane, this is outside Bicton, but it is very close.

Cllr Overall sent his apologies with a note saying that he has nothing to report.

**0. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

0.1 Cllr Davies in 4.2, he is the lengthsman.

1. **APOLOGIES** for ABSENCE were received and accepted, from: SC Cllr. John Overall. NOTED

2. **MINUTES** 2014-Dec of previous meeting held on 9/12/14 were confirmed and signed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 Sign directing traffic to Wags and Whiskers. The land owner is reluctant to allow a large sign to be erected. The proprietors are making more effort to give clients precise directions.

3.2 Litter picking; Cllr Maddox has researched the cost of equipment and the health and safety rules. Enough equipment for 6 pickers will cost around £150.00. Cllr Horan proposed and Cllr Davies seconded and all agreed that Cllr Maddox should proceed with this purchase on behalf of BPC.

3.3 The street light, which belongs to STC, opposite Ellmar, on the Welshpool Road, is still not working.

3.4 The road-sweeper occasionally sweeps Bicton Lane, which still gets very muddy. Cllr Horan contacts SC directly. SC's Perry Muir told her that there *may* soon be some money available to re-surface Bicton lane.

**4. PARISH MATTERS**

4.1 Bicton Primary School *Standing Agenda Item* The headmistress has applied for a grant to install a defibrillator outside the school.

4.2 Lengthsman, report and instructions *Standing Agenda Item* Martin has been poorly and has not been able to install the second bench yet.

4.3 Parish footpaths, *Standing Agenda Item* Cllr Maddox reported that the footpaths generally are not too bad but are very sludgy. Tom Llewellyn, who now works for SC footpaths dept, said that jobs that need doing will be 'red flagged'.

4.4 Lorries accessing the chicken farm on Bicton Lane. The night of 30/31 Dec was very bad. Mark Gethin, the farmer, has sent a letter of apology and explanation to resident Lyn Paddock. There was some emergency in the supply chain and chickens had to be harvested in a hurry. He regrets that he did not phone residents to warn them. There is a gentleman's agreement that there will be no night harvesting

**5. PLANNING**

5.1 Access on to Shepherd's Lane, 14/04566/FUL. BPC previously objected to this. New information has been provided and BPC was asked, by the SC planning officer, to reconsider the matter. It has still not been explained satisfactorily to BPC why this access is needed. The applicant states that it is needed for maintenance of the land but the landowners have very good access already. BPC maintains its strong objection to this application on the grounds of road safety.

5.2 Land to the east of Preston Montford Lane, 14/04747/OUT, SC refused. The SC planning officer has refused this application on the grounds that it is outside SAMDev. Noted. BPC is now

- optimistic that no application that is outside SAMDev will be allowed unless there are very special reasons, that BPC can agree with, for allowing it.
- 5.3 Land adjacent Grange Cottage Holyhead Road, 14/05204/REM, access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. BPC objected to an open market house on this site in the first place because it is outside SAMDev but SC granted outline permission anyway. An affordable house or farm workers cottage on this site would be acceptable but what is proposed is very big and disproportionate to the site, the area and the neighbouring property. The balcony will also overlook the neighbouring property. The total proposed floor area will be 370 square metres. The average house is 110 square metres. BPC strongly objects to this application.
- 5.4 Demolition and creation of hard standing, Dairyscope, 14/04715/FUL. This has become an actual application. BPC has no objections but does have some comments. The whole of this site needs tidying. A hedge should be planted to screen the site. Off road parking should be provided.

## 6. OFFICIAL MATTERS

- 6.1 Monthly Audit of Accounts Bank Statement number 297 £18,691.64, verified by Chairman.
- 6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. Cllr Maddox reported that all is safe.
- 6.3 To set the 2015/16 budget and precept. It was decided to set a precept that would cover expenditure for 2015/16 and build the reserve to the NALC recommendation of one year's expenditure. This makes the precept figure £11,643.00, proposed Cllr Bound, seconded Cllr Llewellyn and agreed unanimously.
- 6.4 'The Way Forward' an approach to planning the future of Bicton. The chairman explained about 'The Way Forward for Bicton'. It has not been possible, for many reasons, for the Bicton Plan Steering Group to make any progress. The looming general election will possibly bring in a new government and new regulations so it is best to wait and see what happens. It was decided that when the time is right a fresh start is needed; to this end the present plan steering group is disbanded; this is proposed by Cllr Bound, seconded Cllr Davies with all in favour. All the plan group volunteers were thanked.
- 6.5 The police precept is set to increase by 1.99%. Noted.
- 6.6 The clerk has checked with BPC's insurers and volunteer litter pickers are covered, subject to the usual, common sense, health and safety rules. Noted.
- 6.7 Community Speed Watch, briefing notes. This is a West Mercia Police initiative. There are set rules and regulations. The first of which is that 6 volunteers must come forward to the parish council. These will be asked for in the Bicton newsletter.
- 6.8 Smith of Derby has offered a discount on the church clock maintenance if several years are paid in advance. BPC has decided to decline this offer.

## 7 PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment

- 7.1 Street light electricity, Oct-Dec 2014, £292.63 chq. 978
- 7.2 Church clock repairs, £654.00 979
- 7.3 Bicton village hall, hire for PC meetings, £204.00 980
- 7.4 Payment of the above accounts, proposed Cllr Maddox, seconded Cllr Grennan and agreed.

## 8. EXTERNAL ITEMS

9. **EXTRA INFORMATION** Any *Additional Information* not specified on the agenda.
- 9.1 Dog waste is regularly being deposited on a lawn in Church Close, perhaps some notices would help to prevent this.
- 9.2 The clerk is asked to enquire of SC if any dog waste bins are available.
- 9.3 It was suggested that the bus dropping off passengers at the Four Crosses cross roads is dangerous as it is an unauthorised stop. The general opinion is that a bus can stop anywhere in the country-side and this may be the best place for passengers alighting as they are somewhat shielded from the traffic.
10. **NEXT MEETING** to be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015. at 8.00pm in Bicton Village Hall

MEETING CLOSED 10.10 pm  
2015-Jan.b.

**NB, These minutes are draft until they are signed.**

