

2025-Aug.a.

BICTON PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman Elliott Blackmore

MINUTES (Draft until signed) of meeting 2025-Aug. 12th Aug 2025, 7.30pm in Bicton village hall.

PRESENT:

Parish Cllrs: Elliott Blackmore, Sally Maddox, Sue Llewellyn, Mandie Lee, Wendy Horan, Steve Griffin, Edward Swain, SC Cllr Ed Potter, Parish clerk-Peter Anderson and 6 parishioners

NEIGHBOURHOOD ALERT, REPORT.

OPEN FORUM

Alan Boyd reported to the police the speeding incident on Calcott Lane, mentioned in the last minutes, but it is considered to be a minor offence and has not met the threshold for prosecution.

Stuart Leighton remarked upon the parking problems at The Crescent, Montford Bridge. Ed Potter has looked into this and there are no parking restrictions. Stuart also asked about the money spent on the Four Crosses planters; he was reassured that this is a legitimate and reasonable expense; the enhancement this brings to the whole parish, especially in light of the Best Kept Village Competition makes it most worthwhile.

Heather James has been told by the SWSUE sales office that Calcott Lane will be widened at the Welshpool Road end to cope with the extra traffic.

SC Cllr Ed Potter: **There is no change to the NWRR situation**, it is still on hold but unlikely to progress. A traffic engineer has visited Montford to discuss traffic management in the event that there will be no NWRR. **The crash debris** at the Four Crosses has been removed. **SC child services** have been inspected and found to be "Outstanding"! even though the number of cared-for-children has doubled. It should be borne in mind that 18+ people coming out of care also need support. Adult and child care takes 80% of the SC budget. **The highways contract expires in March**; more of the work will be taken in-house and priorities will be set. **There is a balanced budget for this year** but more savings must be made to avoid a section 114 (bankruptcy). **Shropshire does not have a '5 year land supply', so national planning policy guidelines apply** and there is a compulsion to take on some of the Black Country unmet housing need (about 400 houses).

0. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

2. **VERIFY DRAFT MINUTES**, 2025-Jul, dated 8/7/25. Accepted and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

4. PARISH MATTERS

- 4.1 Lengthsman, report and instructions Standing Agenda Item The landowner, Mr Price, has cleaned out the ditches and done a very good job.
- 4.2 Parish footpaths, Standing Agenda Item. On the Severnway, at Swain's Corner, a way-marker is broken. Cllr Maddox will report this to SC.
- 4.3 To consider setting up a working group between the Village Hall and BPC to look at the play park and obtaining grants. Cllr Blackmore will speak to Trevor about this.
- 4.4 To discuss weeds and gutter clearing. The Brethren are offering help in the parish, this may be suitable. Volunteers will be asked for in the newsletter. This item can go on the next agenda.
- 4.5 To set up a rota for walking the parish monthly to check that all is well. The WI walking group might be interested. Cllr Blackmore will have a word.
- 4.6 Severn Trent Councillor newsletter; with information about grants that could be useful for Bicton Pool. Noted. The main problem with renovating the pool is disposing of the spoil and the flax leaved lily that is abundant in it. Gethins may take it. Cllr Blackmore will have a word.

5 PLANNING

- 5.1 25/01466/FUL, one dwelling to the south of Cowpat Barn, Montford Bridge. SC granted. Noted
- 5.2 25/02738/FUL, Rowton Calcott Lane, single storey front extension including garage conversion. For decision. This is a minor development with no detrimental effect to any other property so BPC supports it.

5.3 25/02913/PIP, proposed dwellings North & South of Rossall New Cottages Isle, permission in principle for development of between two and four dwellings on land north and south of Rosall New Cottages.

For decision: BPC objects to this application of the following grounds: The PIP is too vague, it gives scope for later alterations that cannot be envisaged from the PIP description; Any application should make it explicit that there is ample off road parking; Isle Lane already has heavy traffic use which causes danger and inconvenience; there should be no further development of Isle Lane until the speed limit is reduced from its present national limit of 60 mph; in addition to a reduced speed limit there should also be measures taken to enforce the lower limit.

6. OFFICIAL MATTERS

- 6.1 Monthly Audit of Accounts and financial report. Current acc. £78,799.73 Deposit acc. £63,258.22 noted and the statements were signed by the chairman.
- 6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. Cllr Griffin reported that the wood is in good order and all is safe.
- 6.3 Vas, speed Indicator devices, a progress report. There is a fault but the suppliers, Swarco, are on the job and it will be fixed soon.
- 6.4 To accept the resignation of the clerk. After 19 years of service to BPC it is time for him to retire. BPC is advised to appoint an interim clerk to oversee the selection of a permanent clerk. The present clerk will remain for as long as is necessary for a smooth hand over. BPC accepts the resignation and the clerk was heartily thanked for his years of service. Maxine Baker is appointed as interim clerk.

7 PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment

- 7.1 Departing clerk's salary July, August, September, £2046.00
- 7.2 Kevin Williams, lengthsman duties, £317.00
- 7.3 Payment of the above accounts, agreed.

8. EXTERNAL ITEMS

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

- 9.1 The de-fibrillator has been checked.
- 9.2 The results of the Best Kept Village Competition will be announced in October. Many thanks to Cllr Maddox for all her hard work.
- 9.3 There is dog poo everywhere including on the playing field.

BPC went in to a closed session to discuss employment matters.

- 10. **NEXT MEETING** due to be held on Tuesday 9th September 2025. at 7.30pm in Bicton Village Hall.

MEETING CLOSED 8.35pm.
2025-Aug b

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