

2024-Dec.a.

**BICTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** (Draft until signed) of meeting 2024-Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 7.30pm in Bicton village hall.

**PRESENT:**

*Parish Cllrs:* Richard Brett, Elliott Blackmore, Sally Maddox, Sue Llewellyn, Mandie Lee, Rod Warren, Paul Quartermaine, Deirdre Grennan.  
SC Cllr Ed Potter, Parish clerk-Peter Anderson and 3 parishioners.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD ALERT, REPORT.**

**OPEN FORUM.** It was reported that a child had run on to the road, from the small school-gate, in front of a car. The car did an emergency stop and the child was not injured. Cllr Blackmore will have a word with the Head about road safety. Some ideas are; a spring loaded gate and extra signage. Our PC will be told and a plea to parents and drivers will be put in the newsletter.

**The Calcott Lane verges** were cut yesterday. **Shepherd's Lane hedges** have been cut.

**SC Cllr Picton report: In Lezley's absence SC Cllr Potter reported;** SC is consulting about its budget which is going to be an all-party-collaboration. This will give the expected new administration, after the May elections, a sense of ownership. There is a change in government grants and the settlement is uncertain. Over the next 10 years SC will be expected to facilitate the building of an extra 20,000 houses. The National Insurance increase and minimum wage increase will impact care costs to the tune of an extra 20%. Reserves for capital projects cannot be spent on revenue without explicit permission from government. This reserve can only be spent once and then it is gone.

0. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Cllrs Warren, Maddox and Brett, 4.5, they live on Bicton Lane. Cllr Lee, 5.4, she is a neighbour. Cllr Llewellyn, 4.6, Tom is her son.

0.1 **APOLOGIES** for ABSENCE were received and accepted, from: Wendy Horan, SC Cllr. Lezley Picton, NOTED

2. **VERIFY DRAFT MINUTES**, 2024-Nov, dated 12/11/24. Agreed.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 The Severnway at Montford Bridge is still flooded as Rob Embrey has not yet dug it out.

3.2 Welshpool Road markings outside Elmar. The right turn 'lane' is far too narrow. Cllr Llewellyn will get on to SC about this.

3.3 The 'No-Dog-Fouling' posters are awaiting collection from the SC dog warden, Cllr Lee will do this.

3.4 Barrets Homes do not supply dog poo bins.

3.5 Bicton Pool boundary markers. Cllr Blackmore will meet Tom Llewellyn, on site.

4. **PARISH MATTERS**

4.1 Lengthsman, report and instructions Standing Agenda Item Road signs have been cleaned. Kevin did a few yards of clearing Grange Bank footway but it is a considerable task.

4.2 Parish footpaths, Standing Agenda Item. There has been much rain and Cllr Maddox has not been able to walk the paths. The crop has been taken off Chapel Hill but the path has not been marked.

4.3 Bicton Place Plan, Standing Agenda Item

4.4 Crowd-fund Shropshire - Green Spaces and Active Travel Fund. Advice on cycle-ways. Chris Child (Shropshire Wildlife Trust & Energise) has made contact offering his services to support you with any project as follows: "If you are aware of any parish or town councils looking to undertake improvement to their green spaces including cycle infrastructure, I'd welcome an introduction as we have free support and potentially some funding available too."

4.5 Bicton Lane 30mph. Dave Gradwell of SC, has said that the expected cost is £5 to £6 thousand. SC would not be able to start work until the next financial year.

4.6 Grange Bank footway. Elliott and Kevin have had a go at shovelling the soil back; in places the footway is covered to half its width. To do the whole length is a big job. It would be best to cut the hedge off at ground level and when it grows back have it cut at a slant. Tom Llewellyn has given a quote for cutting the hedge off at ground level, chipping the brash and clearing the soil. He expects it to take him and his team a week and to cost no more than £5,800. He can do the work in February. The job needs doing before the spring growth. If no better quote can be found then BPC accepts this quote. Cllr Blackmore and the clerk are authorised to seek quotes and if nothing better can be found they are further authorised to accept Tom Llewellyn's quote.

## 5 PLANNING

- 5.1 24/02986/FUL Southfields, Calcott Crescent, Change of use of existing residential dwelling (C3) to a residential institution (C2) SC Decision: Grant Permission. Noted.
- 5.2 24/02916/LBC Field Studies Council, Preston Montford Field Centre, Replacement 5 sliding sash windows on 1st floor, 6 windows adjacent to external fire escape and replacement external doors to fire escape SC Decision: Grant Permission. Noted.
- 5.3 24/04313/FUL 37 The Oval, Bicton, Front porch extension and solid roof to conservatory. BPC supports.
- 5.4 24/04533/FUL two storey side extension utilising existing utility at ground floor level. Rossendale , Shepherds Lane. BPC supports.
- 5.5 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Cut back by 4-8ft four branches of 1no European Ash (T14) and 1no Horse Chestnut (T9), works (potentially fell) to 1no Cedar (T20) & lift crown to 7ft and shape outer branches to 12ft of 1no Yew (G1) protected by the Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council (Oxon Hall) Tree Preservation Order 2003 (Ref: SA/379). Oxon Hall, Holyhead Road, Bicton, BPC would prefer for the cedar to not be felled but to have a crown lift.
- 5.6 from:- Colin Brady, Fairfield, Preston Montford. With regard to Shropshire Council granting planning for my piece of ground adjacent to my property in Preston Montford Lane , BPC agreed at the original application in 2014 that it was classed at infill and had no objections . I am considering applying again to Shropshire Council for outline planning and was interested in whether BPC would be supportive of my application. The BPC response is; BPC might be minded to support if it met with the SAMDev requirements and if SC granted permission.
- 5.7 Simon Hodgetts, of Cornovii Developments has advised BPC that a planning application has been lodged to build houses at land adjacent to Bicton Park and Ride. He will be invited to the January BPC meeting to explain the scheme.

## 6. OFFICIAL MATTERS

- 6.1 Monthly audit of accounts and financial report. Current acc. £36,657.12 deposit acc. £61,893.44 A Vat refund of £761.78 for 23/24 has been received. Noted.
- 6.2 Muriel's Little Wood, Safety Report, *Standing Agenda Item*. Some pallets have appeared. Rod removed some branches. There is no significant wind damage. All is safe.
- 6.3 Vas, speed Indicator devices, a progress report. The devices have arrived and are being stored in Cllr Llewellyn's barn. The posts are due to be installed in February.
- 6.4 To consider the 2025/26 budget. Cllr Quartermaine presented a draft, some suggestions were made for the final budget to be decided upon at the January meeting.

## 7 PARISH ACCOUNTS for payment

- 7.1 Street light electricity, Oct/Dec £230.82
- 7.2 Swarco Vas (Vehicle Activated Signs) £13,180.08
- 7.3 Church clock maintenance for three years £930.00
- 7.4 Clerk's salary Oct/Dec £1,860.00
- 7.5 Web site maintenance £120.00
- 7.6 Kevin Williams, lengthsman duties, £140.00
- 7.7 Payment of the above accounts was agreed.

## 8. EXTERNAL ITEMS

- 8.1 Cllrs Warren and Lee attended the conference on nature recovery. They have agreed to do a nature recovery plan for Bicton. Someone is available to come to BPC and explain what to do. Grants are available for hedgerows planting and repair. Wildflowers are available.

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

- 9.1 The de-fib has been checked.
- 9.2 The 'No Digging' signs for Muriel's Little Wood are being prepared by Sue.
- 9.3 The 'slow' signs painted on the tarmac on Isle Lane are worn away, the clerk will report this.
- 9.4 The Road markings at Four Crosses are worn away, the clerk will report this.
- 9.5 The north bound service bus is no longer turning right, off the A5, in to Montford Bridge because of the danger.

10. **NEXT MEETING** due to be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025. at 7.30pm in Bicton Village Hall.

MEETING CLOSED 9.20pm.  
2024-Dec b