



Bruton Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25th August 2015 in the Bruton Community Hall

Present: Councillors: Anderton, Baker, Brownlow, Carey-Downes, Gasson, Hall, Hughes, Hunt, Hutchinson, Marsh, Pawsey and Pickering
Councillor Crawford arrived after item 5.

In the Chair: Councillor Hall

15/062 Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th July 2015

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th July 2015 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Resolution Adopted 12-0-0

15/063 Declarations of Interests

Councillor Baker declared a personal interest in item 11 "Pavilion at Jubilee Park" as her father is chairman of the football club.

15/064 Apologies for Absence

There were none.

15/065 Public Question Time

Annette Pitman asked that the temporary "road narrows" sign in Park Road become permanent.

15/066 Action Points from Previous Meeting

The Clerk reported on the action points from the previous meeting. The purchase of the memorial bench for the churchyard is still on-going. A meeting has been arranged to visit Martock Parish Council on Tuesday 1st September at 10am. Adoption of the phone box is on the agenda.

At this point Councillor Crawford joined the meeting.

15/067 Reports from Committees

a) Planning Committee Meeting 12th August 2015

It was proposed and seconded that Council adopt the recommendations of the Planning Committee.

Resolution Adopted 13-0-0

b) Services and Amenities Committee Update

There was nothing to report this time.

i) Trees and bushes growing through Jubilee Park Wall

Councillor Hall and Ian Stephen recently undertook an inspection. Ivy needs removing from the wall and advice is needed on removal of some of the trees in the vicinity to prevent further damage to the wall. It was considered that some remedial work is required as soon as possible. The Clerk will organise for the stone mason and grounds maintenance contractor to meet to discuss the best way forward.

c) Transport Committee Update

The minutes of the Transport Committee Meeting held on 3rd August 2015 had been previously distributed. In particular, Councillor Brownlow reported the following:

- Committee would like to apply for 8 Traffic Regulation Orders as highlighted in the minutes. **It was proposed and agreed that these items be submitted.**
- There is uncertainty over the availability of the Small Improvement Grants but Committee is trying to get some schemes together and have put forward 8 projects for initial consideration.
- Councillor Brownlow met with Anna Groskop and a member of the Cuckoo Hill residents association to discuss the entrance to the proposed new development at New House Farm. It is hoped to meet with Colin Fletcher to discuss the highways issues on the Frome Road as a whole.
- One volunteer has now been trained to operate the SID. A meeting with Dave Grabham from County Highways will take place on 27th August, after which the scheme should soon be up and running.
- Speedwatch is now ready to start with 15 people having volunteered.
- It has been confirmed today that a limited number of trains to and from London will be now be stopping at Bruton.

15/068 Memorial Bench

Mary Staib, who has led the fund raising for the memorial bench for Mr. Hick, was invited to speak outlining ideas for the new bench. A company selling replica railway benches has been approached and the family are happy with the design. There has also been an overwhelming positive response from the town residents. The Clerk will liaise with Mary to organise the purchase and instalment of the bench at the Plox bus stop.

15/069 Electricity Supply to Offices

The Clerk had consulted with David Bishop who had investigated alternative electricity suppliers for the museum. As a result the Clerk had contacted Extra Energy for a quote for the Clerk's Office and the Community Office. A one year contract shows a considerable saving on current rates with British Gas. It was therefore proposed and seconded that the electricity contract be switched to a one year contract with Extra Energy as from 18th September 2015.

Resolution Adopted 13-0-0

15/070 Review of Communication Strategy

Councillor Anderton presented the draft Communication Strategy document. Discussion took place regarding the use of the Dove Magazine and it was generally agreed that, although extremely good, the magazine was not read by everyone and the cost involved to deliver to every household would be prohibitive. Councillor Pickering produced a copy of the Town Council newsletter which pre-dated the Dove and will investigate the costs involved to produce something similar now.

After further discussion it was proposed and seconded that the Communication Strategy document be adopted.

Resolution Adopted 13-0-0

15/071 Adoption of Phone Box

Although an e-mail had been received with an idea for use of the phone box, the Facebook response had been disappointing. It was reported that Ken Dominey had organised the replacement of glass that had been broken and that another resident had offered to paint the outside. Councillor Marsh clarified that, if adopted, the phone box would be for tourist rather than functional use. Councillor Anderton will check with BT whether or not we are allowed to paint the phone box at this stage.

15/072 Pavilion at Jubilee Park

Council had previously been sent early preliminary plans for a new pavilion at Jubilee Park. The plans show that any trees taken down would be replaced and that it is hoped the building would be self-sustainable. At this stage Council is happy to support the idea of a new pavilion and would be happy to offer help if required. It was agreed however that there needs to be an “umbrella” organisation to cover all Jubilee Park projects to encourage the different organisations to talk to each other. Consideration could be given to the Bruton Community Partnership taking leadership.

15/073 Town Work Plan – review and exceptions reports

The Chairman presented the work plan. Councillor Pickering will meet with James Divall to discuss the satisfactory completion of Riverside Walk. The wild flower area has received good feedback and possibly a sign should be placed by the area. An inspection of the trees in the memorial garden has taken place with Ian Stephen.

15/074 Reports:

Town Councillors – Councillor Brownlow reported that the meeting in Martock on 1st September is open to all. The pavement at Cox’s Close has still to be completed by Yarlington. The Chairman has tried to contact Yarlington, but has had no response. Cars parked on the grass in Quaperlake Street beyond the Bruton (Unionist) Club are causing problems.

Councillor Marsh reported that Bruton United Football Club has won the Somerset FA Charter Standard Development Club of the Season 2015 Award. Congratulations were given.

Councillor Hutchinson reported she had completed an inspection of the playgrounds. Eastfield is now overgrown and the Clerk will instruct the grounds maintenance contractor to weed the area.

County Councillor and District Councillor Groskop – Nothing to report this time.

Chairman – The Chairman reported that he has undertaken a tree inspection with Ian Stephen. Some of the trees in the churchyard need work and Ian Stephen has kindly agreed to do some of this for free. The yews in the Churchyard will be measured to try and age them. A letter has been sent to the wind turbine appeal to reiterate Council’s objection to the project. An application for an award for a resident has been sent. A fund raising event is to be organised on behalf of Bruton Community Partnership and suggestions for projects are requested.

15/075 Items for next agenda

Newsletter. Councillors are asked to forward items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 21st September 2015.

15/076 Accounts for Payment

1	K F McCarthy	Salary – August 2015	£1029.65
2	HMRC	Tax/NI – August 2015	£169.23
3	BT	Internet Services	£52.80
4	Bruton Community Hall	Hire of hall for meetings x 5	£75.00
5	Vodafone	Phone bill to 31/7/15	£20.24
6	Three Counties Tree Services	Grounds maintenance July 2015	£1868.40
7	Three Counties Tree Services	Maintenance of Durslade Garden	£360.00
8	Grant Thornton	2015 Annual External Audit fee	£480.00
9	H G Oram	3 x manure to Community Garden	£75.00
10	British Gas	Electric bill for Clerk’s office	£60.97
11	Steve Turner	Mileage-attend SID training course	£31.25
12	LGRC	Fee-Clerk attend IT training course	£150.00
13	Three Counties Tree Services	Grounds maintenance August 2015	£2012.40
14	K F McCarthy	Expenses-products for loo/bin bags	£6.98

Resolution Adopted 13-0-0

15/077 Correspondence

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Jackie Brooks | Providence Place/Tolbury Lane |
| 2. | Alistair Telfer | Cycling on Berkeley Gardens footpath |
| 3. | Mary Staib | Rubbish in Higher Backway |

Discussion took place regarding cycling on the footpath at Berkeley Gardens. However it is believed that this footpath is not adopted and therefore unlikely that there is an enforceable by-law in place.

Members of the Council considered these matters in the exercise of their functions: Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability): Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

Action Points

1. Organise meeting with Stone Mason/Grounds Maintenance Contractor – Clerk
2. Submit items for TRO - MB
3. Organise memorial bench – Clerk
4. Switch electricity account – Clerk
5. Investigate costs of newsletter – LP
6. Check with BT re painting phone box – SA
7. Contact Grounds Maintenance Contractor re Eastfield - Clerk