



Bruton Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28th October 2014 in the Bruton Community Hall

Present: Councillors: Bowell, Brownlow, Coldman, Hall, Marsh, Perkins and Pickering
In the Chair: Councillor Hall

14/098 Minutes of the Meeting held on 30th September 2014

Council considered amendments put forward by Councillor Shipp in his absence. However it was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2014 are a true and accurate record and should be adopted accordingly.

Resolution Adopted 7-0-0

14/099 Declarations of Interests

Councillor Marsh declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 8 "Football Club".

14/100 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Baker, Crombie, Hunt, Hutchinson, Rubbo and Shipp.

14/101 Public Question Time

Mrs. Pitman reported that the weight limit sign in Park Road has still not been replaced. The give way sign in front of the park at the Godminster crossroads cannot now be seen because of overgrowth.

Mr. Griffiths, Chairman of the Greener Bruton Community Group spoke about the monitoring of HGV's in the town and offered the Community Groups help with photographing and recording lorries in the town. Mr. Griffiths also suggested that signs placed at Nunney Catch to warn of the weight limit in Bruton are not visible enough. Councillor Hall thanked Mr. Griffiths for his offer of help and will make arrangements to meet him at a later date.

14/102 Action Points from Previous Meeting

The Clerk reported on the action points from the previous meeting. A copy of the road traffic order for Church Bridge, believed to date from 1964, will be produced for the next meeting. The cycle rack has been relocated to Station Road car park and the directional signs for this are to be ordered. Another public toilet sign has been ordered from SSDC and Councillor Pickering will be talking with Gordon Fry to identify a new site for the sign. The problem with leaf blowers in Lower Backway has now been resolved. All other items are on the agenda.

14/103 Reports from Committees

a) Services and Amenities

i) Office Refurbishment

The office was closed for a week commencing 6th October 2014 for refurbishment work. Although work is still not complete, it is progressing well with the painting, electrics and flooring in the Clerk's office complete. The flooring in the front office is due to be completed at the beginning of November. A folding shelf for the window display was considered and the builder will be asked to quote. It is hoped that the kitchen and public toilet will also be decorated in the future and this will be discussed at the next Services and Amenities meeting.

ii) Litter Bins

The Clerk reported on a recent meeting with Nick Allen of Streetscene which was held to discuss the replacing and relocating of litter bins. The following was agreed:

- Streetscene will move the bin by the Packhorse Bridge, which is not greatly used, and place it next to the one on the picnic area where there is a problem of excessive litter.
- A new bin is needed to replace the bin missing from Viney's Yard.
- The small bin in the High Street by the Convenience Store can be replaced by a bigger bin.
- The current small bin in the High Street can be relocated to outside the Unionist Hall.
- Streetscene will empty any future bin considered necessary at the Station Road car park.

It was proposed and seconded that two litter bins be purchased to be used in Vineys Yard and the High Street.

Resolution Adopted 7-0-0

iii) Road/Pavement Cleaning

At the meeting with Nick Allen it was also agreed that SSDC would arrange for the cleaning of Higher and Lower Backway, and this has since been done. An attempt will be made to clear the High Street of parked cars before this area is cleaned. The Clerk will liaise with the police.

iv) Mill Dam

A grant of £4,200 has been received for the Mill Dam project and Councillor Pickering has agreed to lead on this project. Councillor Coldman suggested that the money should be used in part to clear the vegetation and improve the surface of the path. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss ideas with Friends of the Riverside Walk.

b) Friends of Riverside Walk

Councillor Bowell reported that as yet no design has been forthcoming for Riverside Walk. However the sculpture from Giles Penny will be ready for January 2015. Councillor Marsh suggested that an official unveiling should be arranged. Councillor Pickering spoke of the overgrown ivy and brambles on the river wall and this will be discussed at the next Services and Amenities Committee Meeting.

c) Highways

Councillor Brownlow expressed his shock and great sadness at the recent death of David Hick after a hit-and-run accident in the town.

The following was reported:

- The recent SID results were discussed which showed that only 20% of motorists were keeping within the speed limit, with an alarming 135 vehicles being driven at over 50mph!
- Councillors Brownlow and Shipp took part in a recent webinar where it was stated that a speed limit advisory scheme in Cambridge had cost approximately £3,000 per mile. It is expected that a similar scheme in Bruton would cost less.
- Councillor Brownlow was invited to attend a recent meeting between BASII and David Warburton. Mr. Warburton has promised to investigate the possibility of the A359 being downgraded to a B road.
- Consideration is being given to employing a lollypop lady for the junction by the library.
- It has been noted that cars are still driving very fast past Durslade Farm.

- Councillor Shipp has requested feedback from his spreadsheet recently sent to all Councillors.
- Councillor Shipp recently met with Friends of Bruton Railway Station to discuss additional access to the station. A meeting was also held with Network Rail who reported that although there is spare capacity on the Bruton line, there are currently no extra trains to fill the gap.
- The speed watch initiative is proving very disappointing.

i) Tractors

Councillor Pickering spoke of concerns with the current legislation for tractor drivers, believing the minimum age of 16 to be now too young to drive the size of tractors seen on the roads today. The driving test has not changed in the last 30 to 40 years. It was agreed that if the facts could be accumulated then this item would be discussed at a future meeting with the possibility of sending a letter to the Ministry of Transport.

14/104 Policing Matters

Councillor Hall reported on a recent meeting held with the Headteachers of schools in Bruton who were worried about drug dealing and general disorder in Lower Backway. It was therefore proposed and seconded that drugs be included in the PACT priorities to replace the monitoring of HGV's.

Resolution adopted 7-0-0

A request has been received from PCSO Tim Russell for Council to support a move for a roundabout at the Grove crossroads. Councillor Marsh stated that, before giving support, Council should ascertain whether using funds for this project would prove detrimental to other projects in Bruton.

14/105 Football Club

Councillor Marsh explained the background to a request by the football club for Council to assist with the administration of the resurfacing of the cricket wicket at Jubilee Park. Three quotations will be obtained.

At this point Councillor Marsh withdrew from the meeting.

It was proposed and seconded that Council commission the work for the resurfacing of the cricket wicket at Jubilee Park, the cost of the work to be covered by a donation from the football club.

Resolution adopted 6-0-0

At this point Councillor Marsh re-joined the meeting.

14/106 Cemetery

It was proposed and seconded that a request for the future scattering of ashes on the Dovecote be agreed.

Resolution adopted 7-0-0

14/107 Town Work Plan – review and exceptions reports

The Chairman presented the work plan. A cleaner for the public toilet in the Dovecote Building has been recruited. Window stickers for the participating businesses in the public toilet scheme are to be ordered. Work on the town website has started. An invoice for the interim payment has been requested but not yet received. Councillor Marsh stated that it should be clarified who the web master will be.

14/108 Reports:

Town Councillors –Councillor Coldman reported that he attended a recent meeting of the Winibus. There is now a bus based in Bruton and the organisation currently has 6 drivers, a healthy bank balance and is operating well. Councillor Coldman also reported that new gates have been placed on footpaths in Trendle Lane and Brick Hill.

Councillor Pickering reported on a meeting held recently with Alice Workman to discuss the Durslade Community Garden. A new notice board is to be supplied by the gallery and another six compost bins and additional plots are to be set up with the gallery to help with funding. Signage on the footpath to the gallery will be made more visible to dissuade visitors from using the road. A gate on the footpath has been altered to prevent the possibility of cows escaping onto the road.

County Councillor and District Councillor Groskop reported that she has had meetings with colleagues at County Council to push for a 20mph speed limit in Bruton. It is not possible for the town to erect its own signs on the highway, however other towns have put signs in the windows of properties adjacent to the road. There is still a problem with faulty lights on Quaperlake Street. A new pavement at Cox’s Close is still to be built. A resident at Batts Field has requested that a style on the footpath be replaced with a kissing gate. Money for a defibrillator in the town has been raised.

Chairman – Councillor Hall reported that he attended a meeting of the MTIG in Frome to discuss the Town Plan but was disappointed that the talk did not prove very relevant to the needs of Bruton.

14/109 Items for Next Agenda

Allotments. Access permits for HGVs. Councillors are asked to forward items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 17th November 2014.

14/110 Accounts for Payment

1	K F McCarthy	Salary - October 2014	£992.83
2	HMRC	Tax/NI – October 2014	£164.72
3	British Gas	Electricity bill to 2nd October 2014	£622.98
4	Bellitudo	Water bill contribution re public loo	£77.57
5	Julian Shave	Grounds maintenance Sept/Oct 14	£973.80
6	Julian Shave	Grounds maintenance Oct 14	£1135.80
7	Councillor Steve Hall	Expenses to attend meeting in Frome	£13.50
8	K F McCarthy	Expenses–cleaning products for loo/ Window diary for office	£10.98
9	Julian Shave	Trim car park hedge	£48.00
10	Vodaphone	Phone bill to 30/9/14	£19.40
11	SJH Carpets Ltd.	Fit and supply carpet tiles in office	£415.55
12	Gartell & Son Ltd.	Phase 2 pitch works at Jubilee Park	£14,386.00
13	Somerset Rural Youth Project	Commissioning of youth worker	£3,000
14	Julian Shave	Additional weedkill	£284.40
15	Councillor Steve Hall	Mileage to attend meeting in Frome	£13.22
16	Greg Mainstone	Disposal of office rubbish/furniture and relocation of bike rack	£258.00
17	Bruton Community Hall	Hire of hall for meetings x 4	£60.00

Resolution Adopted 7-0-0

14/111 Correspondence

1.	Tincknell Fuels Ltd.	Weight restriction access permits
2.	Clerks & Councils Direct	Magazine - November 2014
3.	Chilton Cantelo School	Invitation to new nursery launch

The Clerk was instructed to write back to Tincknell Fuels Ltd. stating that access is allowed when delivering to the town but that using the town as a short-cut was not permitted.

14/112 Engine Shed

A request had been received from the Community Hall Committee to use the Engine Shed for storage. Councillor Pickering will talk to the Committee before any decision is made.

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. Road traffic order for Church Bridge – Clerk
2. Identify site for new toilet sign – Councillor Pickering
3. Folding shelf quote – Clerk
4. Redecorate kitchen/loo – Services and Amenities Committee
5. Purchase two litter bins – Clerk
6. Liaise with police re High Street cleaning – Clerk
7. Tractor information – Councillor Pickering
8. Window stickers – Clerk
9. Write to Tincknells – Clerk
10. Investigate engine shed request – Councillor Pickering