



# Bruton Town Council

## Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2015 in the Bruton Community Hall

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

*Councillor Hall stated that item "18 Rental Charges for Jubilee Park" is no longer to be taken under confidential business.*

### **14/145 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January 2015**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2015 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

**Resolution Adopted 8-0-0**

### **14/146 Declarations of Interests**

There were none.

### **14/147 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Baker, Crombie and Hunt.

### **14/148 Public Question Time**

A question was put as to whether there were any proposals for a safer exit to Plox from the Riverside Walk.

### **14/149 Presentation by Mr. Mark Merer**

Mr. Merer presented the Landhouse Project scheme to the meeting, stating that he is now close to submitting the application for planning permission, with the aim of tonight's presentation being to give further opportunity for public input and discussion. A few adjustments have been made since the presentation held in the museum with there now being 67 houses proposed, of which 35% will be affordable housing. Local people would have first priority. Street scene pictures were presented to Councillors and any feedback is welcomed.

Robin Squires from Acorn was introduced and he explained that they wish to deliver a quality scheme that is right for the town.

Mr. Merer stated that the houses will be very economical to heat with the houses being built in two phases, probably taking 2 years to complete. There will be a footpath to link the site to the town.

A question was asked as to the affordability of the affordable housing and it was stated that 60% will be marketed on a half rent basis with the rest being shared ownership.

It was acknowledged that increased traffic could be a problem and this, together with the drainage/flooding issues had been the negative feedback received.

A member of the public questioned the size of the gardens and Councillor Hall explained the planning procedure. Street lighting was also questioned.

County and District Councillor Groskop stated that she would like to see all Section 106 money given to Bruton and hopes that the Developers will listen to recommendations made by the Town Council for the provision of footpaths.

Everybody was encouraged to use the Landhouse website where the opportunity to give feedback is available.

Mr. Merer and Mr. Squires were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

#### **14/150 Action Points from Previous Meeting**

The Clerk reported on the action points from the previous meeting. Options are still being considered for a bench at the bus stop in Plox. Jon Gawler from Yarlinton Homes has been contacted about the footpath over the Railway Bridge and he has stated that he is awaiting technical approval from Somerset County Council. All other items are on the agenda.

#### **14/151 Reports from Committees**

##### **a) Planning Committee Meeting 10th February 2015**

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

**Resolution Adopted 8-0-0**

##### **b) Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting 11th February 2015**

It was reported that a meeting had been called due to the collapse of part of the stone wall at Jubilee Park. Thanks were given Greg Mainstone who had cleared the stone from the road at very short notice.

It was proposed and seconded that Council approve the recommendations of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

**Resolution Adopted 8-0-0**

##### **i) Internal Audit Report**

The internal audit reports for quarters 2 and 3 prepared by Emma Miller were read to Council by the Clerk. No issues have been raised.

##### **c) Highways**

###### **i) Roadside bollards in Patwell Street/Parking at Church Bridge**

Councillors Brownlow and Shipp reported on a meeting held with the proprietor of Church Bridge Stores and Colin Fletcher from Highways with the following in particular being discussed:

- Parking on Church Bridge is currently unrestricted and a Traffic Order will be needed for any time restrictions.
- A disabled bay on the bridge is to be considered, together with the removal of the disabled bay outside the current Post Office.
- A solid line to be painted on the road to enable loading at the bottom of Grove Lane.
- Parked to be reduced to one hour by the bus stop with parking on the other side of the bridge to remain unrestricted.
- A raised area by the bus stop.
- Cycle parking to be created.

A further meeting with Colin Fletcher has been arranged for this coming Thursday.

Councillor Shipp reported on feedback for the Transport Work Plan but this will be held over until after the election in May.

Cole Road will be closed from 9th March 2015 22.00 to 0600.

##### **d) Riverside Walk**

Councillor Pickering reported on recent funding success for the project. Worked commenced on Monday 23rd February with two teams sent in from SSDC, with the bridges to be made safer and the footpaths improved. The newly installed memorial bench is to be relocated from its previously agreed position.

#### **14/152 Community Office Electricity Bill**

The Clerk explained that this issue has now been resolved with the previous bill for £2,940.72 having been reduced to a credit of £282.30. British Gas has also given £50.00 as a gesture of goodwill thereby increasing the credit to £332.30.

#### **14/153 Defibrillator for Town**

It was proposed and seconded that the cost of a new defibrillator installed in the town be included on the town insurance.

**Resolution Adopted 8-0-0**

#### **14/154 Pruning of Churchyard Trees**

It was proposed and seconded that Council cover the cost of pruning the Churchyard trees with quotes to be obtained by the Church Warden for future consideration.

**Resolution Adopted 8-0-0**

#### **14/155 Community Clear Up Day**

A letter received about this scheme will be sent to Tricia Rawlingson-Plant.

*At this point Councillors Marsh and Pickering declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the next item and withdrew from the meeting.*

#### **14/156 Rental Charges for Jubilee Park Pavilion**

It was reported that inconsistent charging for the rental of the Pavilion had been noted. After discussion it was felt that more transparency was required and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Pavilion Trust asking for its policy on charging.

*At this point Councillors Marsh and Pickering re-joined the meeting.*

#### **14/157 Town Work Plan – review and exceptions reports**

The Chairman presented the work plan and in particular the following was reported:

- Revisions sent by Highways for the Cole Road scheme have been incorrect and duly returned. An e-mail from Louise King of the Engineering Design Team has stated that changes to the scheme has meant an independent road safety audit has to be done on the design prior to issue.
- £4,000 has been reallocated to the 20mph scheme from the library project. It was noted that a scheme for 20mph was originally given highest priority in a document prepared by Bruton-The Way Forward in 2006.
- The Friends of the Riverside Walk has now been renamed the Riverside Walk Working Party.
- The Neighbourhood Plan has now been handed over to the Bruton Community Partnership.
- SSDC has indicated that the transfer of land for the play area at Cuckoo Hill is now in the hands of a solicitor. A meeting is to be set up with Robert Parr from SSDC to discuss the design of the play area.
- It is hoped that the website will be up and running by the end of March 2015. The problems of updating the website were discussed.
- Bruton Community Partnership meets on alternate Thursdays at 9am and everyone is welcome to attend. A bank account still needs to be set up and the question of governance needs to be agreed.

#### **14/158 Reports:**

**Town Councillors –Councillor Shipp** reported that Huish Lane is being used by motorcycles. The Clerk will report to the police.

**Councillor Brownlow** spoke of tyre marks on the pavement in Quaperlake Street which may possibly have been caused by tractors.

**Councillor Perkins** reported that a new litter bin is still required for Gants Mill Lane.

**County Councillor and District Councillor Groskop** reported on the illegal parking on the verges in Quaperlake Street. A meeting has been arranged with the Somerset Guild of Craftsman who are seeking a new home. Complaints about the lights at Cuckoo Hill cannot be actioned as the land still belongs to the developers. The County Council has made savings of £21m this year and there will be no increase in Council Tax for 2015/2016. Problems with gulleys and potholes have been reported. Congratulations were given to Sexey's School for having the best results in the South West.

**Chairman** – There was nothing further to report this time.

#### 14/159 Items for Next Agenda

Saturday bus routes. Churchyard trees. Councillors are asked to forward items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 23rd March 2015.

#### 14/160 Accounts for Payment

1	Wessex Water	Water bill – Jubilee Park	£17.30
2	SSDC	Planning fee for Riverside Sculpture	£192.50
3	K F McCarthy	Salary – February 2015	£986.74
4	HMRC	Tax/NI – February 2015	£160.60
5	K F McCarthy	Expenses–Loo rolls/stamps/photocopy	£15.70
6	Sherborne Window Cleaning	Clean office windows	£19.80
7	Community Council	2015/2016 subscription	£40.00
8	Phil Simpson	Website development	£500.00
9	ICO	Data Protection Registration	£35.00
10	Greg Mainstone	Clear road of stone from collapsed wall	£200.00
11	E.M. Accounts	2nd & 3rd Quarter Internal Audit	£100.00
12	BT	Internet Services	£50.40
13	Vodafone	Phone bill to 31/01/15	£18.64
14	SLCC	Subscription 2015	£149.00
15	British Gas *	Electricity bill	£241.89
16	W. Caines	Hedge trimming – Bruton Cemetery	£180.00
17	K F McCarthy	Purchase of 2 x cabinets for LIC	£115.00
18	Post Office	Stamps–100 x 1st class/100 x 2nd class	£115.00

\*This payment has now been approved for payment after a query was made at the last meeting in January 2015. A query about a previous payment made to Opendium has been resolved and the payment approved.

#### Resolution Adopted 8-0-0

#### 14/161 Correspondence

1	British Weights & Measures Assoc.	Units of measurement – garden allotments
2	Somerset Guild of Craftsman	Seeking a new home
3	SSDC	Health Walks Directory – Setting up a group
4	Football Foundation	Final grant information
5	Friends of Bruton Railway Station	Thank you letter for grant
6	Tim Cook	Bruton Youth Club (e-mail)
7	SSDC	Water Management Community Event
8	SSC	Cole Road Update (e-mail)
9	Mrs. Ramsey	Cheque for memorial bench
10	PCSO Russell	Monthly police report
11	SCC	Road closure – Cole Road
12	SSDC	Acknowledgement of planning application

**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) Add defibrillator to TC insurance-Clerk 2) Write to JP Pavilion Trust re charges-Clerk 3) Meeting with Robert Parr re Cuckoo Hill play area-LP 4) Report Huish Lane motorcycle activity to Police-Clerk