



# Bruton Town Council

## Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26th April 2016 in the Bruton Community Hall

Present: Councillors: Anderton, Brownlow, Crawford, Hall, Hood, Hughes and Jones  
In the Chair: Councillor Hall  
In attendance: County & District Councillor Groskop  
The Clerk

*It was agreed that in future the County & District Councillors Reports be taken before "Reports from Committees".*

### **15/192 Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th March 2016**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th March 2016 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

### **15/193 Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Hood declared an interest in item 7b.iv) dog bins.

### **15/194 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Baker, Carey-Downes, Marsh, Pawsey, Phillips and Pickering.

### **15/195 Presentation by Robert and Lucy Carter**

Robert and Lucy Carter were welcomed to the meeting and gave a presentation to Councillors on their ideas for town branding. They explained the considerations behind their ideas and hoped to achieve some consistency over artwork and logos. Examples were put forward and Councillors stated they are happy at this stage for ideas to proceed forward. The Communications Committee will consider the finalised ideas at a later date. Robert and Lucy were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting.

*It was agreed at this point to bring forward the SID's report*

### **15/196 Transport Committee – SID's Report**

Steve Turner gave an update on the latest SID's report:

- Speedwatch has now monitored 4227 cars in 15 sessions with 21 cars reported in March and 15 cars in April. It is believed the reduction in reporting is due to the significant improvements on Cole Road. Rush hour is now being targeted.
- Areas with changes of circumstances are now being targeted with 3 sessions on Cole Road to monitor changes since the road improvements. Based at the Cole grass traffic island, traffic was found to be significantly slower, 25-28 mph being the average with only 2 drivers exceeding 35 mph whereas 8 drivers were identified in 3 sessions prior to the improvements. The support of PCSO Tim Russell has been extremely helpful.
- Speedwatch sessions and the siting of the SID provides useful data on traffic movements and speeds. A Speedwatch session in the High Street will improve data on traffic speed prior to improvements. Council is asked to request for any particular data on traffic movements.

- Lorrywatch sessions are to start from May to identify lorry registrations and it would be helpful to have some sessions on the High Street. These would not need to be run by Speedwatch trained volunteers. Lorry numbers can then be passed on to PCSO Tim Russell to follow up.
- It is hoped that funding will be available for speedwatch signs.
- During the road closure a SID was placed in Shute Lane and surprisingly showed a decrease in traffic from 753 cars per day to 703.
- The SID is currently placed by Sexey's school, and this will enable comparison between the current speeds and historical information.
- More volunteers are still needed.

#### **15/197 Public Question Time**

There were no questions this time.

#### **15/198 Action Points from Previous Meeting**

The Clerk reported on the action points from the previous meeting. The SSDC invoice has been paid and Community Kids has been informed of Council's decision regarding its grant application. Councillor Brownlow is to meet tomorrow with John Nicolson to discuss the gulleys in St. Catherine's Hill. The town website has gone live and the skate park signs have been delivered. The cantilever swing and leaflet holders are still to be purchased. All other items are on the agenda.

#### **15/199 Reports from County and District Councillor**

Councillor Groskop reported. A number of complaints had been received about traffic speeds in Wyke Champflower and Dropping Lane. Concern was also expressed over an article in the Western Gazette which seemed incorrect. SSDC has now appointed a temporary Chief Executive. It is hoped that work on the Cuckoo Hill play area will now begin and Rob Parr has been asked to work with the Residents Association. Streetscene has been asked to clean the town before the Packhorse Fair at the end of May.

#### **15/200 Reports from Committees**

##### **a) Planning Committee**

##### **i) Planning Committee Meeting 30th March 2016**

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

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

##### **ii) Planning Committee Meeting 13th April 2016**

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

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

*A short recess was called for the plans to be considered for the next item.*

##### **iii) Planning Application No. 16/01439/FUL – Park Wall, Dropping Lane**

It was reported that there had been a site meeting. After discussion it was proposed and seconded that the application be recommended for approval.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

##### **b) Services and Amenities Committee Meeting 18th April 2016**

Councillor Hughes reported on the meeting held on 18th April 2016. In particular the following was reported:

- A meeting was held with Rob Parr who has some interesting ideas for the Cuckoo Hill play area. A preliminary outline plan will be prepared and then a meeting will take place with the Residents Association.
- Ideas for fund raising for the “Man on a Bench” sculpture were put forward. Collection boxes will be purchased and placed around the town. Giles Penny is to design a fund raising barometer and Elisabeth Balfour has volunteered to assist with raising sponsorship.

### **Youth Club**

It was proposed and seconded that Council adopt the recommendations of the Services and Amenities Committee to consult over the future of the Youth Club on Facebook and in the Dove and, in the absence of demand or interest, the equipment currently in storage be given to Castle Cary or Wincanton Youth Clubs.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

### **Station Road Car Park**

It was proposed and seconded that Council adopt the recommendations of the Services and Amenities Committee that the quotation received from Greg Mainstone to repair the car park surface be accepted.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Services & Amenities Committee meeting held on 18th April 2016 be approved.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

#### **i) Baby Swing Seats at Jubilee Park**

It was reported that the cradle swing seats are in need of repair. It was proposed and seconded that one new swing seat and one set of straps be purchased.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

The current seats will be temporarily removed until the new equipment can be installed.

#### **ii) Basketball Hoop**

The basketball hoop at Jubilee Park is well used, although inconveniently sited in the car park. It was therefore proposed and seconded that investigations should be undertaken into moving the basketball hoop to the tennis court.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

#### **iii) Footballs in JP Play Area**

Councillor Hall reported that complaints had been received about footballs being kicked into the play area. A possible solution is the erection of temporary nets. Councillor Hall will discuss with the football club.

#### **iv) Dog Bins**

It was proposed and seconded that two dog bins be purchased, with one to be situated at the Eastfield/Cuckoo Hill boundary and the other at the top of St. Catherine’s Hill.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

#### **v) Vines**

It was reported that the vines planted in Riverside Walk have not been very successful. Council considered whether to remove the vines and their supports or whether to keep the supports and replant with native plants. Councillor Crawford will consult with the allotment group and the Horticultural Society.

**vi) Cycles Events in Town**

Councillor Hughes expressed his concerns about the speed of cyclists in the town during a recent cycle club event. It was reported that the club had not applied for permission from SCC to run the event. Councillor Brownlow will write to John Nicholson with Council's concerns.

**d) Transport Committee**

Councillor Brownlow reported that Cole Road has finally re-opened. There have been two complaints from motorists who have reported their cars scrapping on the speed bumps. This will be investigated by Highways. The work to paint lines in Shute Lane for pedestrian access is now with the contractors for scheduling. A meeting with John Nicholson is to take place and the recent works in Darkey Lane will be discussed. The resurfacing of Quaperlake Street will now not take place until the 2017/2018 financial year. A meeting is to take place at Kings School to discuss Fin McNab's proposals. BCP has confirmed they will refurbish the road signs. A recent incident involving a lorry has prompted calls for a width restriction. Speedwatch volunteers have reported incidents of abuse from motorists which have been passed on to the PCSO.

**i) 20mph Signs**

It is believed that advertising of the scheme will now take place on 28th April. BASii would like the opportunity to personalise the 20mph signs by holding a competition to design a logo. Although Council would not want to slow the process down with personalised signs, it was proposed and seconded that BASii be given the go ahead to hold a competition.

**Resolution Adopted 5-1-1**

**e) Communications Committee**

**i) Committee Membership**

The following Councillors have agreed to serve on the Communications Committee: Councillors Anderton, Baker, Brownlow, Hall, Hood, Jones and Pawsey.

**ii) Website Governance**

Councillor Anderton reported.

It was proposed and seconded that in future the governance of the website be undertaken by the Communications Committee.

**Resolution Adopted 7-0-0**

**15/201 Bruton Community Partnership**

Councillor Anderton reported that there appears to have been a misapprehension between the Council and BCP regarding website governance. Unfortunately the guidelines of the BCP and the Council's standing orders are not compatible and therefore the tendering process will need to start again, this time following procedures set out in standing orders.

Council is extremely grateful to Elisabeth Balfour and Matt Rawlingson Plant for their input to the website and also to BCP for the funds raised. The BCP have requested and will be given a breakdown of funds spent.

**15/202 Town Plan**

Councillor Hood reported on documents previously distributed. It is intended to conduct a survey in early October with the hope that one of the schools in the town will help with the distribution and the analysis. Historical information will be used and a regular slot in the local newspaper will hopefully be obtained. A £1,000 Community Grant has been secured from SSDC. Councillor Anderton will help with market research.

### 15/203 Asset Transfer of Dovecote Building

Councillor Hall reported on a meeting held with SSDC on 5th April. All the information needed is not available at the present time but it is known that £28K has been quoted for roof repairs. A breakdown of these repairs has been requested by Councillor Hall in order to obtain alternative quotes. It is also known that a fire alarm will be needed for the building. Councillor Hood stated that it seems sensible for the Town Council to manage this public space rather than SSDC and Councillor Jones stated that the business model seemed sound. Councillor Hall will arrange another meeting with SSDC to discuss further.

#### i) **Community Council for Somerset Course**

A course for managing buildings under trustee ship is to take place on 26th May. Councillors Brownlow, Hall, Jones and the Clerk will attend.

### 15/204 Town Council Representative on Community Kids Board of Trustees

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Community Kids Board of Trustees asking that a Town Council representative be on the Board.

### 15/205 Council Stand at the Packhorse Fair

Councillor Hood reported that the BCP and Bruton Trust have, as yet, nothing planned, and therefore most of the Stand could be used for the Town Plan. Councillor Hughes would like to use the stand for "Man on a Bench" fund raising and the Jubilee Park Development Programme. Councillor Crawford will set up a rota.

### 15/206 Town Work Plan – review and exceptions reports

The Chairman presented the work plan which has now been updated.

### 15/207 Reports:

**Town Councillors – Councillor Crawford** reported that the path to the Durslade Community Garden is still very muddy.

**Councillor Brownlow** reported that thefts had taken place at Church Bridge Stores and Aidan would like to set up a scheme of sharing CCTV footage. Councillor Brownlow attended the Frome Annual Town Meeting and also met with members of Bruton Trust and Historic England to discuss the rural pathway along the Abbey Fields.

**Councillor Jones** reported that he was attending the next Frome Town Council meeting with Councillor Hood.

**Councillor Hood** is to meet with the Carters to discuss the town branding. He has also spoken to Julia Gasson about a social media survey on traffic issues that BASii are undertaking.

**Councillor Hughes** reported that the Cuckoo Hill play area maintenance grant from the developers will be £45,000 over 10 years.

**Chairman** – The Chairman reported that the observations date for the planning application for the expansion of the biodigester at Wyke Farms has been put back due to the Town Council having not originally been consulted.

### 15/208 Items for next agenda

Councillors are asked to forward items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 23rd May 2016.

### 15/209 Accounts for Payment

1	Guest Fire & Security	Maintenance charge 1/4/16-31/3/17	£84.00
2	SSDC	Final payment for Riverside Walk	£3,600.00
3	K F McCarthy	Salary – April 2016	£1288.80
4	HMRC	Tax/NI – April 2016	£332.62
5	NALC	LCR Magazine subs 2016-2017	£17.00
6	Vodafone	Phone bill to 31/03/16	£21.23
7	SSDC	Dovecote Building rates 2016/17	£1427.80

8	SSDC	Station Rd car park rates 2016/17	£580.80
9	Howard Smith	Clear drainage pipe - Darkey Lane	£100.00
10	Howard Smith	Clear mud from Darkey Lane bridge	£30.00
11	Three Counties Tree Services	Grounds maintenance - 29-30/3/16	£639.00
12	Three Counties Tree Services	Grounds maintenance – 11-12/4/16	£1078.20
13	S Richards	Clean office windows	£39.60

### Resolution Adopted 7-0-0

#### 15/210 Correspondence

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|----|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | JPP & Youth Club Trust   | Notice of AGM 27th April 2016 |
| 2. | SSDC                     | Bruton Playdays 2016          |
| 3. | Yarlington Housing Group | Soakaway in Jubilee Park      |

**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. Purchase collection boxes – Clerk
2. Youth Club consultation on Facebook/Dove – SA/SH
3. Contact Greg Mainstone re car park – Clerk
4. Purchase cradle seats – Clerk
5. Investigate moving of basketball hoop – SH
6. Speak to Football Club re nets – SH
7. Purchase dog bins – Clerk
8. Check with allotment group/hort. society re vines - JC
9. Contact John Nicholson re cycle event – MB
10. Go ahead to BASii for competition – MB
11. Breakdown of funds spent to BCP – Clerk
12. Contact Community Kids re TC rep. - Clerk