

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2006

PRESENT

The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor; Councillors Baddeley, Booth, Brown, Deaville, Gibson, Hall, Hart, Jackson, Jones, Lovatt, Meredith, Redfern, Rogers, C Stone, D Stone and Walley.

The Town Crier introduced the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Administrator. Rev'd Dr Phillip Lockett led members in prayer.

58.06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Meredith declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 64.06; his travel expenses and a personal interest in Minute 57.06; as a governor of Biddulph High School
Councillor Lovatt declared a prejudicial and personal interest in Planning Minute 103.06; she had spoken to the applicant and an objector (a personal friend)
Councillor Booth declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 64.06; her lunch

59. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and reasons accepted from Councillors J and K Harrison
Councillors Adams was absent from the meeting.

Councillor Proudlove gave retrospective apologies; his agenda was delayed in the postal strike, arriving two days after the meeting.

60. MINUTES

Councillor Hall had declared a prejudicial interest not a personal interest.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 November 2006 were approved.

Minute 50.06 - Councillor C Stone noted that she is an employee of Knypersley First School

61. COMMITTEE MINUTES

- a The Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 21 November 2006 were approved.
Minute 77 add 'Moor First School'.
Minute 83 - The Town Administrator had received an e-mail from Carol Masheter, who says she no longer has the authority to proceed at this time. Councillor Ron Locker is to investigate and report back.
- b The Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Committee held on 5 December 2006 were approved.
Minute 56a - if the proposed amendment to Standing Orders is approved, public speaking will come into force at the February meeting.
Minute 56b - this is not an exclusive list, other reasons may be allowed at the discretion of the Town Administrator.
Minute 59 - Councillor Meredith to report at the next meeting.
- c The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 5 December 2006 were approved.

62. BIDDULPH PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

No approved Minutes were available.

63. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Nothing formal, civic duties had been carried out in accordance with the Diary.

64. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

a The following accounts were approved for payment:	£
SPCA – Seminar, 25 October	60.00
SPCA – AGM lunch	9.25
SMDC – service charges 2006/7	12702.00
Fenns - stationery	41.83
Folium Press - newsletter	243.00
Electro Hire & Supply – Christmas Lights	276.16
Lewis Plant Hire Ltd – Christmas Lights	331.06
Town & Country Markets Ltd – Christmas Lights	160.00
Mr J Robinson – refund (General Purposes Minute 68.06)	635.15
Petty Cash	33.28
Staffs County Council – pension contributions	474.80
Inland Revenue	971.22
Salaries -	1805.68
	534.69
D Allcock – lengthsman/town burial ground work, Dec	472.94
Acorn Signs – A527 boards, Christmas	176.25
Lamps and Tubes Ltd – 1 st half, as per quotation	2187.85

b Half Yearly Internal Audit

Arising from half-yearly audit of 7 December:

Re April 06 Accounts for Payment – to D W Lovatt for 1st half of grass cutting - cheque amount shown in Minutes was £1440.00 – actual payment was £4140.00. Retrospective approval required.

The Auditor's Report was received.

65. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1 FINANCE/ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

The meeting to set the budget for the 2007/08 financial year will be held on Thursday 11 January 2007 at 7.00pm. (Members: the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Cllrs Brown, Gibson, Hall, J Harrison, Jackson, Proudlove and Rogers.)

2 CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON AND MARKET

Copy of Mr Harris's reply to letter sent in criticism of organisation of Christmas lights received (tabled).

3 MOORLANDS TOWN PARTNERSHIP

Email received from Conservation Officer re proposed project to install lighting in alley at rear of John Street/High Street. I would propose that this be included on the January General Purposes Committee agenda.

4 QUALITY COUNCIL

Barry Holland (SPCA Training Officer) has offered to attend a meeting to discuss the Town Council’s application.

5 PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Letter received from school governing body objecting to the recent job evaluation.

6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN PRESENTATION

Invitation received for one member to attend the above, to be held at Moorlands House at 9.30 am on Wednesday 24 January 2007.

7 GRANTS

Thanks received from the Biddulph & District Historical and Genealogical Society, plus a copy of their latest book ‘The History of Biddulph’; Biddulph Swimming Club; St Lawrence Friendship Club; St John’s Church; Biddulph Moor Parish Church and Rotary Club of Biddulph and the Victoria Centre.

8 DRAFT EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL PLAN

Additional consultation on housing provision received.

9 CITY OF STOKE ON TRENT LDF

Statement of Community Involvement received.

10 CHRISTMAS WASTE & RECYCLING INFORMATION

Copy received.

The Administrator’s Report was received.

The Mayor extended his best wishes to everyone for the festive season and invited all to join in with refreshments following the General Purposes meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.27pm

Signed Date