

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 JULY 2007

PRESENT

The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Baddeley, Betts, Davies, Deane, Deaville, Gibson, Hall, Harris, J Harrison, K Harrison, Hart, Jackson, Jones, Proudlove, Redfern, Sheldon and Walley.

The Town Crier introduced the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and the Town Administrator. The Town Crier introduced Rev'd Martin Cannam who led the meeting in prayer.

21.07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No notifications had been received.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Deane, Harris, J Harrison, Jackson, Jones and Sheldon all declared a personal interest in Minute 29b - grants

23. APOLOGIES

Apologies were given and reasons accepted by Councillors Adams and Shaw.

24. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 June 2007 were agreed and signed.

25. COMMITTEE MINUTES

- a The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 19 June 2007 were agreed. Reference Minute 21.07, no response has been received.
- b The Minutes of the Meeting of the Grant/Finance Committee held on 3 July 2007 were agreed.
- c The Minutes of the Meeting of the Civic Committee held on 10 July 2007 were agreed. Councillor Walley attended the meeting. Reference Minute 14.07, the Twinning group thingy have finalised the mosaic design.
- d The Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10 July 2007 were agreed.

26 BIDDULPH PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

The Minutes of the meeting held 23 May 2007 were received.

27. VACANCY – BIDDULPH NORTH WARD

Advertisement of the vacancy has been carried out. The date by which an election must be requested is 1 August. The Town Council must decide whether it wishes to request poll cards, should an election be called.

(Approximate costings of election as follows: staffing £1,200; postal votes £700; premises, printing, count, RO costs £1,500 = £3,400. Poll cards would be in the region of £2,000.)

It was proposed by Councillor Jackson that poll cards should be requested if an election is called, seconded by Councillor J Harrison. All were in favour.

28. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor circulated a sponsorship form on behalf of Sgt Evans who will take part in a cycle race on 22 July.

29. ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

- a) The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
Acorn Signs – Festival, A527 boards	240.88
Vemedia Reporter, layout & design	90.00

- Festival, brochure design	155.00
Midshire Business Systems Ltd - copier	80.75
D Ingman – internal audit & annual return 2006/7	148.50
SMDC – lease of room 8	175.00
- rent of allotment land	100.00
ABB – footway lighting maintenance & electricity (Apr-Sept)	882.59
Petty Cash	25.19
Staffs County Council – pension contributions	487.31
Inland Revenue	988.58
Salaries -	1890.92
	497.89
Derek Allcock - Lengthsman work, June/July	700.00
Heads (Congleton) Ltd – notice, Casual Vacancy	26.79

b) **Grants Payments (S.137)**

Biddulph U3A	850
Samaritans	1000
Biddulph Sports Council (ongoing)	250
Staffs Moorlands Scout Holiday Homes	200
Biddulph & District Youth Orchestra	900
Biddulph Moor Village Hall Management Committee	1,000
Biddulph Trefoil Guild	150
Christ Church, Biddulph Moor	500
Biddulph Afternoon Townswomens' Guild	350
Biddulph Moor Community First Responders	2,000
Biddulph Citizens' Advice Bureau	11,550
Biddulph Moor Midweek Special (Parents & Tots)	300
Knypersley Ladies Group	250
Air Ambulance	1,000
Victoria Centre	500
Biddulph & District Guides	250
CVS – Volunteer Centre	1,500
Art at the Arms	300
1 st Biddulph Moor Rainbows	250
1 st Gillow Heath Brownies	150
Knypersley Cricket Club	250
Biddulph Moor Community Committee	1,000
Biddulph Moor Evergreens	500
	<u>25,000</u>
Biddulph In Bloom	10,000

30. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1 BRIC Fun Day – 4 August 2007

Letter received to request that the Town Council agrees to stand as guarantor for the bond for the use of the Church Road playing field, as in previous years.

2 Chamber of Commerce/Business Group Re-launch

Communication received from the Town Centre Co-ordinator to inform the Town Council of the re-launch meeting for the Chamber of Commerce/Business Group on Monday 30 July. Whilst it is appreciated that there is much interest in the launch, Mrs Humphreys has respectfully asked that attendance is limited to businesses only for this first meeting.

Councillor Jackson, on behalf of the Regeneration Executive; it was vital that this was successful and that it gets off to a good start. He looked forwards to having contact with them, as their input was needed. He had been very pleased to hear of the re-launch.

3 Staffordshire Police

Briefing document on terrorism received for distribution.

4 Biddulph Citizens Advice Bureau

Copies of the Annual Report 2006/7 received.

Further copies are available on request.

Councillor Jackson remarked that the report was well worth looking at, some of the work undertaken in the past 12 months included debt counseling; debtors in the Biddulph area experiencing difficulties owe in the region of £3.6 million, a 64% increase from last year. Money reclaimed in benefits etc amounted to £_ million. He thanked the volunteers for a tremendous job.

5 Biddulph Male Voice Choir

A member of the public has donated a copy of photograph of the Biddulph Male Voice Choir, taken in 1932, to the Town Council.

6 Victim Support Staffordshire

A letter was received today requesting assisting with funding. I propose to write back and enclose a grant form for next year.

The meeting closed at 7.21 pm

Signed Date