

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2007

PRESENT

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

41.07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No notifications had been received.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sheldon declared a personal interest in Minute 46b, being involved with Market Town Initiative projects, but retained right to speak

Councillor Proudlove declared a personal interest in Minute 46b he is similarly involved with MTI

Councillor Rogers declared a personal interest in Minute 49, as Chair of the Town Council's Tourism Committee.

43. APOLOGIES

Apologies were given and reasons accepted by The Mayor, Councillors Gibson, K Harrison, Jackson, and from the Town Crier and the Town Centre Co-ordinator

44. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21 August 2007 were agreed and signed.

45. COMMITTEE MINUTES

a The Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 21 August 2007 were agreed.

b The Minutes of the Meeting of the Grant/Finance Committee held on 11 September 2007 were agreed.

c The Minutes of the Meeting of the Civic Committee held on 11 September 2007 were agreed.

46. BIDDULPH PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

a Traffic Regulation Order – Proposals (Phase 1B) for approval. (This amends the previous order re Wharf Road, received at last meeting.)

b Application for match project funding of £3,000 received from Groundwork, to come out of regeneration funds and already allocated (not the General Fund). This was Approved in principle subject to clarification and more details. It was reported that Dr Wardle had confirmed that the District Council also want to contribute.

c Town Centre redevelopment: it was proposed that this item is discussed as a confidential item following the meeting of the General Purposes Committee. This was Agreed

47. CASTLE VIEW ROUNDABOUT – LICENCE TO PLANT

Draft Licence received from County Council following request from Community Pride Co-ordinator for permission to improve the above roundabout. (The Town Council would hold the Licence on behalf of Community Pride.) The Town Administrator has received assurance that the planting would be low maintenance. Concern was expressed about the space required for Refuse Collection vehicles to manoeuvre. It was moved that this item be taken to the next meeting of the Civic Committee, and brought back to the October meeting of the Town Council. The proposal was agreed in principle, subject to a suitable planting scheme and liability. Further information was requested on the legal position of the Town Council.

48. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- a. The Deputy Mayor reported that the Mayor's Line Dancing event was well attended.
- b. Biddulph Business Group will meet at 6.00pm on Monday 24 September 2007 in the Council Chamber. An open invitation was given to all Town Councillors to come along on a non-participation basis

49. ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

a The following accounts were approved for payment:	£
Wood Mitchell Printers Ltd (2008 calendar, to be refunded by District Council)	1756.63
VeMedia – postcards (Tourism)	16.14
Mr B Harrison – Park La allotment site (new keys)	4.35
Petty Cash	23.52
Staffs County Council – pension contributions	487.31
Inland Revenue	990.22
Salaries -	1886.63 447.67
Selquin Ltd – display cabinet for promotional items	546.38
Derek Allcock - Lengthsman work, September	230.00
– Burial Ground - empty & replace skip	150.00
VeMedia – additional postcard reprint	6.16

b Audit of Accounts for year ended March 2007

The District Auditor had suggested that the Town Council purchases a computer programme to carry out risk assessment in future years. This was discussed with the Internal Monitor and purchase of the following approved:

DMH Solutions Ltd	91.87
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50. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

a Community Funding

Councillor Jones has contacted me to say that he has been invited to meet with a representative of Japan Tobacco, which has a large fund of money to donate to worthy causes and is keen to engage with local Councils and Community Groups. Projects such as: - Adult Education, Homelessness, Youth Projects and the Arts are eligible.
Councillor Harris strongly disagree, encourages Third World exploitation. Councillor Shaw to accompany Councillor Jones subject to diary restrictions.

b Well – Congleton Road, Whitemore

Does anyone have any information regarding the car accident during which the well near the railway bridge was damaged? I have contacted the Conservation Officer about this and the information would be useful.

c Staffordshire Moorlands Street Trading Review

Views sought on proposals to remove some restrictive conditions and to consider the extension of street trading to include other areas (than Leek) of the district. Responses requested by 2 November.

d Fairground

Several members of the public have contacted me to complain about the operation of a fair on land adjacent to Meadows Way. I understand that this is being monitored closely by the District Council and the police and that it is to operate for ten days only. *Owner of the land has given permission. Situation being monitored by Councillors Baddeley, Davies, Hall Proudlove and Walley*

e Twinning Anniversary/Mosaic

A letters of thanks was received from the Twinning Associations of Biddulph and Fusignano for the funding assistance given by the Town Council. Regarding the mosaic, I have received an email from the artist to say that he would not like to see it covered over as it is designed to be outdoors and would be spoiled by a cover.

f Licensing Act – Rijo Coffee Shop & Juice Bar, 2-4 Tunstall Road

Notification of an application for a premises licence for live & recorded music and the sale of alcohol received from the District Council. Any observations required by 27 September.

g CAB Fundraising Dinner

I have been asked to remind everyone about this event, taking place on Monday 8 October and for a very good cause! Tickets from the CAB & Councils Connect.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Signed Date