

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2006

PRESENT

The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor; Councillors Adams, Baddeley, Booth, Brown, Deaville, Gibson, Hall, J Harrison, K Harrison, Hart, Jackson, Jones, Redfern, Rogers and D Stone.

Rev'd Martin Cannam led members in prayer.

50.06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M Roberts declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 56 – re-imbusement for catering supplies.

Councillor Brown declared a personal interest in Minute 56, as a member of the Methodist Church.

Councillor Hall declared a personal interest in Minute 56, as a member of Biddulph Rotary Club.

Councillor D Stone declared a personal interest Minute 57.1 as a school governor, also his wife is an employee of Biddulph High School.

Councillor Jackson declared a personal interest in Minute 57.1 his wife is an employee of Biddulph High School.

51. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and reasons accepted from Councillors Lovatt, Meredith, Proudlove and Walley and the Town Crier.

An apology with no reason was received from Councillor C Stone.

52. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 October 2006 were approved.

53. COMMITTEE MINUTES

a) The Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 17 October 2006 were approved. Minute 72: letter received from Mr P Wardle: Cabinet approval had been given, the position was to be advertised following expiry of call-in conditions

b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Committee held on 14 November 2006 were approved.

c) The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 14 November 2006 were approved. Numbering amended.

54. BIDDULPH PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE

The notes of the meeting held on 14 September 2006, plus the summary of the Annual Meeting of the Biddulph Partnership held on 20 October 2006 were received.

55. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

a) The Mayor had received a letter of complaint regarding graffiti on Footpath 45. This is being dealt with through the District and County Councils. Councillor Redfern asked that the Community Police Officers are asked to keep an eye on this area as it is becoming a problem.

b) The December meeting is to be brought forward by one week. Refreshments will be served following the meeting and it was moved to invite volunteers - names to be given to the Mayor.

56. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts have been received for payment:	£
SMDC – contribution to Town Centre Co-ordinator Project 2006/2007	5,000.00
<i>Time period unclear. It was moved that payment be deferred for one month for clarification to be obtained.</i>	
The Royal British Legion – wreath	25.00
Mr D Lovatt – 2 nd half grass cutting contract	4140.00
Siemens Financial Services Ltd – risograph rental	293.75
Npower – Christmas lighting	13.64
Chains and Lifting Tackle – anchor point inspection	681.50
LITE Ltd – tree lights	418.89
Petty Cash	43.66
Staffs County Council – pension contributions	474.80
Inland Revenue	978.24
Salaries -	1812.25 437.11
Travel expenses	13.18
D Allcock – lengthsman work, Oct/Nov	534.62
D Lovatt – annual tree pruning, Churchyard	1,400.00
Councillor Roberts catering, switch-on	100.00
Councillor Meredith – travel expenses	20.20

Additional Grants (S.137)

It was agreed that the grants would be paid subject to General Purposes Committee approval.

Biddulph Music Festival	800.00
Christ Church, Biddulph Moor	500.00
Methodist Church – Victoria Centre	500.00
Biddulph Rotary	2386.00
Biddulph Moor Royals Football Club	308.00
Art at the Arms	156.00
Biddulph & District Historical & Genealogical Society	500.00
St Lawrence Friendship Club	450.00
1 st Biddulph Methodist Rainbows	250.00

1 st Bradley Green Brownies	250.00
St John's Church, Knypersley	500.00
1 st Gillow Heath Brownies	250.00
Biddulph Amateur Swimming Club	1000.00
St Lawrence Youth Group	500.00
Biddulph Retired Person's Association	100.00

57. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1 Biddulph High School – County Council Job Evaluation

An email has been received from staff at the High School expressing their concerns regarding the outcome of the recent job evaluation.

It was noted that this also affects most other County Council establishments.

2 Cheshire County Council Adopted Statement of Community Involvement for Planning Matters

Information on adoption received from Cheshire County Council.

3 Carols & Mince Pies - Concert

An invitation has been received from Douglas Macmillan Hospice to a free open air concert at Trentham Gardens from 4.00pm on Sunday 10 December.

4 Staffordshire County Council Statement of Accounts 2005/6

Letter received with information that the Statement of Accounts is now available on the County Council website at:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/yourcouncil/publicservices/statementofaccounts/

5 Support for Town Centre Co-ordinators

Letter received from Ian Jackson, Principal Economic Regeneration Officer at the District Council, requesting that the Town Council considers including a contribution of up to the value of £5,000 in its 2007/08 budget towards the Town Centre Co-ordinator project.

Councillor Roberts asked about the cost; had been £9,000 previously. Leek and Cheadle pay £3,000 and £4,000 respectively. Councillor Hall suggested that an itemised bill is requested. Councillor Jackson suggested that the District Council be recharged for use of the office space.

6 Council Chamber

Response received from Head of Property Services to say that a technical survey of the Chamber is to be carried out to obtain an estimate for work to improve the summer/winter temperature of the room.

Councillor Hart suggested a timescale be requested from Mr Rhodes and that soundproofing be included in the estimate.

7 Date of next meeting

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 December.

The Administrator's Report was received.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Signed Date