

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2023, 6.30PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

PRESENT:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| • The Mayor:
Councillor J Garvey | • Councillor A Lawton |
| • Deputy Mayor:
Councillor C Perkin | • Councillor W Rogers |
| • Councillor J T Jones | • Councillor C M Smith (Chair) |
| | • Councillor N R Yates |

Councillors Yates was in attendance but did not sign the attendance sheet.

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Councillor J Salt
- Mr James Connolly – Biddulph Chronicle

65. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for:

- Councillor E E Baddeley (Absent)
- Councillor J Davies
- Councillor K J Jackson
- Councillor A J McLoughlin
- Councillor J P Redfern (Absent)
- Councillor S Rushton (Absent)
- Councillor G Swift (Absent)

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations: None.
- b) Other Interests: None.

67. MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on 17 January 2023 were **agreed**.
- b) The Notes of the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on 18 January 2023 were **received**.
- c) The Notes of the Health and Wellbeing Working Group meeting held on Wednesday 8 February 2023 were **received**.

68. TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL WORKPLAN FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKING GROUP

The Chief Officer noted that there was a change of focus for the SEND Working Group, which had evolved into the Health and Wellbeing Working Group. The Chief Officer tabled the draft Health and Wellbeing Working Group work plan, it was discussed.

Councillor Salt requested that the Town Council involvement with SEND provision be added, training for autism awareness and the dementia action plan.

Councillor Jones has reservations around employing a support worker.

Councillor Perkin agreed with the Working Group development and suggested that the Working Group should focus on the core items that can be achieved. Councillor Harper agreed.

The Chief Officer reported that one of the gaps identified within the Biddulph Works Together meetings is that people do not have access to low-level support services. It was reported that Citizens Advice is only open 2 ½ days and have lost many volunteers.

Councillor Rogers entered the meeting at 7pm

69. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON EMERGING CORONATION ACTIVITIES AND TO CONSIDER TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS

The Chief Officer tabled the upcoming events planned for the Kings Coronation weekend. There was a discussion around the events across each of the wards. Councillors felt it was unlikely that people would want to watch the Coronation

at the Town Hall. The focus of activities should be on the Sunday; the Big Lunch and Concert day. Councillor Garvey noted that there was also a Mayoral event planned for this date. Councillor Yates wondered whether other more inclusive events should also be considered.

The Chief Officer stated that grant funding is available to cover expenses. Councillor Harper suggested a gift to be given to the young people of Biddulph to commemorate.

There was a discussion around a time capsule. The Chief Officer stated that funding for this was allocated in the Jubilee funding from Awards for All. It could be buried at the time of the Coronation to commemorate the Jubilee, covid memories, etc.

70. TO CONSIDER A NEW DATE FOR THE BUSINESS EVENT

There was a discussion around the businesses who should be invited to a networking event.

A date of Friday 31 March was suggested; the Chief Officer will draft a letter to be sent to the businesses.

71. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON BIDDULPH WORKS TOGETHER PROJECTS

The Chief Officer reported that after the initial data was received from the groups involved, at least 1200 people within the community have been helped.

The Chief Officer reported that the Biddulph Works Together sessions have been expanding in terms of the range of people who attend; the meetings are creating a space where beneficial conversations are taking place.

The next meeting will decide who wants to continue and what funding is required.

Councillor Yates questioned whether the Staffordshire Moorland funding has been awarded from any of the groups, and would like to see 'Biddulph Works Together' continue to enable groups to network.

Councillor Salt suggested an idea that a colleague had put to her about a volunteer award scheme; Bronze, Silver, Gold.

72. TO CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF TOWN CENTRE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC TOILETS AT WEEKENDS

The Chief Officer reported that she has been locking the public toilets for the past 5 weeks. Due to the anti-social behaviour increase in the town, it is unfair to ask a volunteer to take a risk in closing the toilets at the weekends. It was proposed by Councillor Jones, that the toilets are closed at the weekend, seconded by Councillor Lawton.

Councillor Lawton stated that Sainsburys has a toilet available at the weekend.

Councillor Yates suggested this should be reviewed regularly. There was a vote; agreed. Councillor Garvey voted against.

Councillor Harper proposed that this should be implemented forthwith; seconded by Councillor Jones and agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.04pm.

Signed..... Date.....