

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

**PRESENT:**

- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor A Parkes
- Councillor Proudlove
- Councillor W Rogers
- Councillor J I M Garvey (Chair)
- Councillor N Yates

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Mrs Margaret Warman - Compliance and Governance Officer
- Mrs Angela Williams – Administration Officer
- Councillor K Jackson

Councillor Garvey recited the disclaimer regarding the recording of the meeting.

**39. APOLOGIES**

- Councillor C Smith
- Councillor J Salt
- Councillor K Harper (Absent)
- Councillor Hopkins
- Councillor S Fletcher
- Councillor Kisicki (Absent)
- Councillor Wood (Absent)

**40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**41. MINUTES**

- a) To **sign** the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on 17 October 2023

**Agreed and signed.**

- b) Please **note** the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Working Group planned for 12 October 2023 was not quorate.

**Noted.**

- c) To **receive** the notes from the Health and Wellbeing Working Group on Monday 16 October 2023.

**Received.**

- d) To **receive** the Notes from the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on 18 October 2023

Noted a name amendment for Reverend Yanyan Case. **Received.**

- e) To **receive** the Notes from the Christmas Events Working Group meeting held on 6 November 2023

**Received.**

## **42. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

The Chief Officer reported that the Christmas Lights have gone up throughout the town and that everything is ready for the event in preparation for the light switch on.

## **43. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON POTENTIAL ARTS AND CULTURE ACTIVITIES IN THE NEW YEAR**

The Chief Officer reported that a meeting was held with the team from Outside who are eager to encourage people to experience arts activities.

The Chief Officer explained that there are different opportunities to work alongside Outside, such as with a film club, supporting the Station Road project, Garden Festival, Food Day, Children Book festival at the Old Hall etc.

The different projects were discussed and it was suggested that a networking supper in Spring 2024 would be beneficial, aimed at existing arts organisations. There would also be a new Strategy developed by the District Council; the team would support this.

## **44. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE OLDER PEOPLE'S FEASIBILITY STUDY WORK**

The Chief Officer stated that the questionnaire is now live and published via Facebook, there are also paper copies available.

The Chief Officer explained that Potteries Moneywise and NHS groups will be joining officers in the various venues to assist people with completing the questionnaire.

The Chief Officer invited Councillors to attend and drop in.

Councillor Jackson suggested to invite the Disabled Facilities grant at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

The Chief Officer stated that the data will be shared with partners and the findings will be published in the new year, this will help to define the priorities as a Town Council.

#### **45. TO CONFIRM TREE PLANTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2023**

The Chief Officer confirmed that tree planting will take place on Sunday 3 December, meeting on Moorland Road near the Leisure Centre at 10.30am.

#### **46. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LIBRARY OF THINGS PROPOSAL**

The Chief Officer presented an update on the Library of Things; she questioned whether this should be allocated within next year's budget.

There was discussion around the positives of the project and that it would be a great asset for the community.

It was proposed by Councillor Proudlove to meet with the group in Buxton who have successfully developed this type of project; it was also discussed to apply to the shared prosperity fund for grant funding, seconded by Councillor Yates. All **agreed**.

#### **47. TO CONSIDER A BUDGET FOR THIS COMMITTEE FOR 2024-25 (2023-24 INFORMATION TO DATE ATTACHED)**

The Chief Officer reminded members that a number of projects that were budgeted for in 2023-24 were funded by Reserves.

Councillor Yates questioned whether the community events relating to energy saving could be funded in the next year.

Councillor Jackson questioned whether more funds could be allocated to heritage and restoration, for projects such as the mining lanterns.

Councillor Garvey requested a line be added to the budget for storage, and suggested a significant increase to the events budget.

The Chief Officer wondered whether a scheme to improve shop frontages might be a possible project in 2024-25.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

*In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, the Council is to determine which items, if any, should be taken with the public excluded.*

### **48. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE STORAGE OPTIONS**

The various options were discussed. It was agreed to move the agenda item to the Finance Strategy and Management Committee for a decision.

The meeting closed at 8.14pm.

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