

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING,
BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY 21 MAY 2024, 7.15PM
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

PRESENT:

- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor J I M Garvey
- Councillor Hopkins
- Councillor K Jackson
- Councillor A Parkes
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor J Redfern
- Councillor W Rogers
- Councillor J Salt
- Councillor C Smith (Chair)
- Councillor N Yates

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

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

1. ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Councillor Yates called for nominations for the election of Chair, Councillor Jackson nominated Councillor Smith for a second year; seconded by Councillor Rogers. There were no other nominations. All **agreed**.

Councillor Rogers nominated Councillor Garvey as the Deputy Chair; seconded by Councillor Jackson. All **agreed**.

2. APOLOGIES

- Councillor Kisicki (Absent)
- Councillor K Harper (Absent)
- Councillor Proudlove

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations:
Councillor Salt declared her pecuniary interest in relation to item 7 and would leave the room.
- b) Other Interests: None.

4. MINUTES

- a) To **sign** the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16 April 2024
The minutes were signed by Councillor Smith having been received at Town Council. All **agreed**.
- b) To **receive** the Notes from the Biddulph Works Together meeting held on Wednesday 1 May 2024
Proposed by Councillor Jackson; seconded by Councillor Garvey. The Notes were **received**.

5. TO APPROVE THE DRAFT OLDER PEOPLE'S STUDY DOCUMENT AND CONFIRM NEXT STEPS

The Chief Officer had circulated a draft report for the over-50s project; it was noted that the Town Council had received UK Shared Prosperity Funding to complete this project.

The Chief Officer gave a brief outline of the report; the study highlighted recommendations, which were discussed.

The Chief Officer explained that there is funding left from the allocation that can be put towards a launch of the study.

Councillor Salt congratulated officers on an exceptional piece of work. She mentioned some edits, one being to complete more intergenerational work. It was noted that this report would be a key bit of evidence to support future work.

Councillor Jackson questioned whether there is scope to bid for more funding from the shared prosperity funding to support intergenerational projects.

There was a discussion around housing requirements and whether a piece of work could be completed to gain a greater understanding of this.

It was proposed by Councillor Yates to circulate the document via email to identify that the Town Council feel in a strong position to complete a study on the housing requirements; seconded by Councillor Garvey. All **agreed**. There was a discussion around considering environment, dementia and the design of spaces for those with disabilities, for potential shared prosperity fund bids in the future.

It was **agreed** to finalise the document and share with partners.

6. TO CONFIRM ONGOING DISCUSSIONS IN RELATION TO CCTV PROVISION

The Chief Officer reported that she had recently chased this up with the Community Safety Team but had not received any response.

Councillor Salt proposed to await the District Council's response before approaching Ben Adams (Police Fire and Crime Commissioner) and for the Chief Officer to chase again; seconded by Councillor Yates. All **agreed**.

It was discussed that in an event of a refusal for additional funding, it could be added to the precept and the costs of CCTV could be covered by the Town Council.

Councillor Lawton stated that in relation to the Station Road project, there must be a security camera.

Councillor Redfern noted that CCTV is only a deterrent and had some concerns about monitoring.

Councillor Garvey felt that a CCTV Working Group would be beneficial and proposed to invite the Police Crime Commissioner to the next Town and Community Committee meeting. This would depend on feedback from partners.

7. TO CONSIDER BIDDULPH WORKS TOGETHER PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. Biddulph Town Council widely publicises its work on the BWT project, with the hope of encouraging more local authorities to do the same by sharing the report, producing a how to guide for local councils, and giving presentations to neighbouring authorities.

Councillor Jackson questioned how this piece of work would be implemented.

11. Biddulph Town Council continues to supply food parcels and support its 'fuel bank'.

It was noted that this would have a financial implication.

12. Biddulph Town Council explores the opportunity to recruit a person who can help community members navigate the issues linked to poverty and isolation and bring them back into the community to access support services on offer.

13. Biddulph Town Council continues to encourage the building of community networks and it endeavours to co-produce services with the needs of its community in mind.

This concludes the consideration of recommendations from the report.

Councillor Salt declared an interest in this item, and left the meeting.

It was agreed to accept the recommendations in principle, each recommendation will require further information and be added to the respective Committees for discussion in further detail.

It was proposed by Councillor Yates to keep Biddulph Works Together as a standing agenda item and report any progression on these recommendations; seconded by Councillor Redfern. All agreed.

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE IN RELATION TO THE STATION ROAD BENCH AND CURRENT PARKING AREA

The Chief Officer reported that the project is moving forward well; both Kingsfield First School and Biddulph Youth and Community Zone have completed their art work.

The Chief Officer reminded councillors that their session will take place on Monday 3rd June, 4pm until 6pm, in the Council Chamber.

The Chief Officer stated that the fencing around the plot will be erected within this week.

In relation to the parking area, this will be discussed at a later stage.

The Chief Officer explained that the estimated finishing date for the bench is pre-September 2024.

Councillor Salt questioned whether there has been progress in engaging the young people. The Chief Officer explained that Antony, from Biddulph Youth and Community Zone, has offered to complete this piece of work.

Councillor Salt suggested that PCSOs engage some of the young people also.

Councillor Smith questioned whether the Roaches school would be interested in taking part. All these options would be considered.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE 'SAFE PLACE' SCHEME

There was a discussion about a Safe Place project; the Chief Officer questioned whether the Town Council would be happy to move forward with piloting this project for the District Council within the Town Hall.

All agreed.

10. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON 2024 EVENTS

The Chief Officer reported that Biddulph's first Garden Festival was very well received. She reported that the talks were sold out, and the High Street stalls and shops were happy with the footfall.

The Chief Officer stated that this Saturday is the 'Future You' event. There are lots of partners coming to talk about various ongoing food and health projects. There will be a chance to create a stock motion film provided by Film Hub. The Chief Officer explained that the event will have healthy activities, fitness advice, cooking demonstrations and health checks.

The Chief Officer stated that the event planned for D-Day will take place on Saturday 1st June. There will be a silver band and two choirs; the Chief Officer explained that the ticket pricing will be kept low at £5 per ticket. This is possible due to the grant received from Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.

The Chief Officer stated that on Thursday 6th June, the Town Council will also host events and activities throughout the day for D-Day 80. The Town Crier will complete his official cry at 8am. The Chief Officer reported that the 'Lamp of Peace' activity will take place at 9.15pm.

The Chief Officer stated that the 'Prayer Breakfast' event will take place on Thursday 27th June, led local churches. The event starts at 7am in the morning, it consists of a speaker, prayers and includes a breakfast.

It was noted that on Saturday 29th June the CATE (Craft and textile event) will take place, and thereafter on Saturday 6th July the Launch Day for the Biddulph Festival will take place.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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