

**BRADFORD ON TONE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JULY 2019**

PRESENT

Mr D Venn (Chairman), Mr A Brodie, Mr C Ellis, Mr P Haines, Mrs K Herdman, Mrs L Sidhu, Mr D Smith

Nine members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Mr Venn – minute 5.3 and minute 6.4.1

Mr Smith – minute 6.1 (planning site meeting 13.5.2019)

3. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Vicky Henderson's latest report, which covered May 2019, indicated no incidents in the Bradford on Tone area.

Councillors reported that an electric bicycle had recently been stolen from a residence in Bradford on Tone. Mr Haines asked that the PCSO's report should include all traffic accidents, no matter how small, so that the Parish Council would in the future have a detailed record to put to the County Council when requesting safety measures.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2019

The minutes, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as correct. The proposer was Mr Brodie, seconded by Mrs Sidhu.

5. UPDATE ON ITEMS IN MINUTES

5.1 Recreational Facilities in Bradford on Tone

Mr Brodie said 280 questionnaires had been distributed and 70 replies received. Of those replies 23 opposed recreational facilities, 36 were in favour, 5 referred only to the associated planning application and 6 were undecided.

Councillors discussed the best way to spend the Section 106 monies that were available to the Parish Council, but which had to be spent by 2021. Mr Smith said a community hub was needed. Mrs Herdman suggested a community space for everyone to enjoy.

Mr Brodie said that enquiries had been made of land at Heatherton Park with a

possible offer put forward by a landowner. After discussion Councillors agreed to continue to investigate suitable sites and include Mr Smith on the working group.

## 5.2 Public Footpaths WG 3/4 and WG 14/1 Bradford on Tone to Nynehead

Mrs Sidhu reported progress was slow. An engineer from Somerset County Council had produced a basic drawing for a new bridge. The formal design work needed to be completed and checked in line with Highways standards. Funding for the project had not been decided. The County Council were currently financing the design work. They would obtain prices for the job, with a view to discussing financial contributions with the landowner. He was looking to have the whole route investigated as a diversion.

[Mr Venn left the room for the next item and Mr Haines took the chair]

## 5.3 Bradford Bridge

The Clerk had prepared a history and current situation of the bridge and a copy is attached as Appendix 1.

Councillors discussed various options, including ornate metal posts instead of the current wooden ones, installation of CCTV, withdrawing the Exemptions List and a proposal to write to all landowners/occupiers with land on one or both sides of the bridge, asking if they needed to use the bridge, for what reason and with what kind of vehicle.

Councillors suggested that villagers be vigilant and report to the police (non urgent 101 calls) with details when they see any damage being caused to the bridge or posts. It was agreed to await results from Somerset County Council concerning the assessment of the weight capacity of the bridge before considering further action.

## 5.4 Heatherton Park Wood Projects

Further to minute 10.4 of the May 2019 meeting Councillors agreed, by a majority, to sponsor a tree at the Woodland Trust project at Heatherton Park. The cost would be £25 and a cheque would be signed at the September meeting.

There are two Woodland Trust projects. One is the planting of a traditional hedge to enclose a newly created community garden and allotment. This will be in the corner of Tim Everett's 8 acre field adjacent to the Heatherton Park Studio car park, and the 1.25 acre woodland is to be planted adjacent to the Heatherton Park House driveway.

The second is the planting of a woodland commemorating the centenary of the end of World War 1. Both projects are for the benefit of local people to experience and enjoy and will be a legacy for the future.

## 5.5 '20 is plenty' signs in Bradford on Tone

A number of these signs had been removed from the village. Somerset County

Council said they had been removed because they were unauthorised signs, and permission had not been sought to erect them on the public highway. Councillors expressed concern that signs had also been removed from private property.

Councillors agreed that measures must be taken to curb excessive speed through the village, particularly between the 30 mph speed limits at the Oake side and entering the village from Heatherton crossroads. The Clerk would ask Somerset County Council what local remedies could help reduce speed.

#### 5.6 Collapsed ditch at Hele

Somerset Highways would be carrying out drainage works which would entail a temporary closure of the Hele Road from 2 to 7 September 2019.

### 6. PLANNING

#### 6.1 Minutes of the meetings held on 13 May and 1 June 2019

The minutes, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as correct. For the 13 May meeting the proposer was Mr Brodie, seconded by Mr Ellis. For 1 June meeting the proposer was Mr Haines, seconded by Mr Smith.

#### 6.2 Applications

6.2.1 07/19/0003 – erection of two detached dwellings with associated works and pedestrian access to possible site for village play area on land to the west of Regent Street, Bradford on Tone. Parish Council met 13 May 2019 and objected as per minute in 6.1.

6.2.2 07/19/0004/T – notification to fell two ash trees and to carry out management works to two horse chestnut trees within Bradford on Tone Conservation Area at Bradford Court, Bradford on Tone. Parish Council met 1 June 2019 – no objection.

#### 6.3 Decisions

None

#### 6.4 Other planning matters

6.4.1 E/0083/07/19 – alleged breach of planning conditions and change of use of agricultural barn to events venue at equestrian centre, Bradford on Tone. A member of the public who lives adjacent to the equestrian centre attended this meeting to explain the problems experienced when events occurred.

#### 6.5 Electronic working for Parish Council planning applications consultations

The Lead Planning Case Manager for Somerset West and Taunton Council had confirmed that after 1 August 2019 Parish Councils would no longer receive paper plans for planning applications. Everything would be processed online.

The Clerk said that he currently sends the planning application paperwork to the Chairman and these plans are used on site visits. Bradford on Tone Parish Council does not own a projector or laptop. They have paid for a printer. He said that submitted plans contain all the detail required to complete any development and therefore reducing this from A3 to tablet size ran a significant risk that vital details would be missed or unnecessary objections lodged. The Clerk felt there would be problems, as did a number of other parish councils.

Councillors asked the Clerk to see if funding was available from Somerset West and Taunton Council for the purchase of a projector and screen. However, the Parish Council currently made site visits with plans where necessary and this process had proved successful.

7. Village Hall Committee

Mr Smith reported on his first meeting on 10 July as the Parish Council representative.

8. FINANCE

8.1	<u>To consider approval of the following accounts for payment</u>	£
8.1.1	Clerk's salary June/July	858.48
8.1.2	Clerk's expenses June/July	149.01
8.1.3	Clerk's working from home allowance 2019/2020	200.00
8.1.4	Somerset Association of Local Councils – affiliation fees 2019	170.37
8.1.5	SALC Councillor Essentials Training – David Smith	25.00
8.1.6	Magic Webs Ltd – website updating March 2018 to June 2019	150.00 (inc VAT 25.00)
8.1.7	Viking – typing and photocopying paper	90.54 (inc VAT 15.09)
8.1.8	AR Computing – printer toner dual pack	89.00 (inc VAT 14.83)
8.1.9	Bradford on Tone Village Hall – hire of Chant Room 8 May 2019	16.00
8.1.10	Anthony Smith – payroll services 2017 – 2019)	120.00 (inc VAT 20.00)
8.1.11	Somerset Playing Fields Association – affiliation fees 2019	15.00
8.1.12	Cartridge Save – imaging drum (already paid by Clerk)	79.33 (inc VAT 13.22)
8.1.13	Magic Webs Ltd –renew website domain name 2 years	24.00 (inc VAT 4.00)

On the proposal of Mr Brodie, seconded by Mrs Herdman, it was unanimously agreed to approve these accounts for payment.

8.2 Income

8.2.1	Interest	0.56
-------	----------	------

8.3 Bank balance and reconciliation statement

After the above transactions have been taken into account the Parish Council's bank balance totalled £12931.14 (+£232.82 VAT repayment to come).

8.4 External Audit

No further information was required by the external auditor for the Parish Council's accounts for 2018/2019.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING  
(All emailed to Councillors)

9.1 Somerset West and Taunton Council – review of Local Plan

9.2 Hinkley Point C – any local areas that may be affected by the development

9.3 Speeding traffic between railway bridge and Hillfarrance – two pets and a deer had recently been killed by speeding traffic and Somerset County Council had been asked if speed restrictions could be imposed. Somerset County Council responded that there have been no personal injuries along this section of road in the last five years. So any changes in the speed limit would be a very low priority for them.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE CIRCULATION OF AGENDA  
(Emailed to Councillors).

10.1 SWT Consultation on draft of new Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Licensing Policy

10.2 SWT Consultation on draft of new Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Licensing Policy

11. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

11.1 Heatherton Park bus shelter A38

A pane had been broken for some time and needed replacing. The Clerk had asked SWT to replace it. [The old Taunton Borough Council had a responsibility for bus shelters]. No response had been received so another request would be made.

12. ITEMS OF CONCERN

None

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 18 September 2019, starting at 7.30 pm in the Chant Room, Bradford on Tone Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

B801m