

## Minutes of the meeting of Bridford Parish Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present – Cllr. Padgham (Chairman); Cllr. Purser; Cllr. Topley; Cllr. Gallagher; 7 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk); Cllr. Marriott. County Cllr. Brook.

***Presentation of the Allotments Cup to this year's winners. Francis Leversedge presented the cup to Judy and Lou the winners of the 2023 Allotments.***

### 1) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes. (Standing Orders 3e and 3f).

Reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Cllr. Padgham presented an update regarding the proposed closure of Pound Lane.

Parishioner commented that one of the most difficult attributes was the duration of the proposed works.

Cllr. Purser commented that there will need to be access for those living on the hill. Other comments received and noted to be forwarded to Highways.

Bridlepath at Lowton at top down to Woodlands is blocked by a tree.

### 14) PLANNING – moved up the agenda for parishioners to comment.

**Planning Applications** - Dartmoor National Park has asked for observations from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- i. 0361/23 Erection of temporary agricultural workers dwelling with associated works, Westcott Dairy Road from Plaston Green to Plaistow Green, Bridford.

Observations from the Parish Council submitted by email.

**Council are concerned that this temporary agricultural workers dwelling will become a permanent dwelling contributing to increased traffic flow on narrow Devon lanes. We do not consider this to be sympathetic to the landscape and it is not clear why this temporary dwelling is actually required.**

### Planning Decisions

- a) 0223/23 Siting of temporary rural workers dwelling, erection of agricultural building and yard (revised proposal) Coombehead Farm, Bridford.  
REFUSED

### 2) Co-option to Council – October agenda.

### 3) Apologies For Absence: District Cllr. Swain.

**4) Declarations Of Interest:** In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

**5) District and County Councillor Reports** – Cllr. Purser little to report – support sessions on the cost of living crisis; these sessions are available to all. Refuse fleet has come to the end of its life and needs to be replaced – no alternatives to diesel refuse lorries at this moment in time. Hopefully smaller vehicles will be going electric. 18 houses for Ukrainian families are to be built with monies from the Governemnt. County Cllr. Brook arrived at 7.44pm. Bridford are interested in 20mph signage and are already signed up to the 20mph scheme. There are financial pressures on Devon County Council. This may mean more cuts

to save on finances, possibly as much as £25 million. Important to get the roads fixed as soon possible such as Pound Lane.

Cllr. Purser asked about the mobile library service. The decision to close the service has been called in for further discussion later in the autumn. Cllr. Brook will suggest that Devon CC look at a smaller vehicle. Cllr. Gallagher raised the increasing need for childrens support in the county and the lack of available funding going forward. Cllr. Brook will take this forward.

#### **6) Chairman's Report (for information only) –**

Paul French, from the TV gardening Club, very kindly agreed to judge this years allotment competition. Francis Leversedge liaised with Paul and accompanied him on the day. Thanks to both.

Rail at the top of Church Lane. Chair contacted Highways and sent several photos kindly provided by David Price. Clerk also liaised with Highways. Highways said its on their list for next year / in the new financial year.

Footpaths around the village...Dan Tidball has offered to be the PC footpath warden as he regularly walk the pathways. Dan said he will alert the PC and DNP as and when there are any concerns. If PC happy to accept Dan's offer the PC would not have to walk the footpaths on an annual basis. agenda item for next time or just thank dan and accept his offer?

Anne Mayes, Bridford's snow warden, very vigilant in monitoring a road works app and alerting PC when intended works could affect Bridford. Thanks to Anne.

Karen Gervers who runs the clothing bank for the PC requested some laminated notices re what can be put into the clothing bank. Many thanks to Penny our Clerk for providing the notices and to Karen for continuing the run the clothing bank.

**7) Minutes** – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023, and those of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023. These minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**8) Snow Gritter for the Parish** – to receive an update on the current gritter. To agree actions and any associated expenditure. Cllr. Purser proposed to return the gritter for service to Glasdon and then receive an estimate for the repair Cllr. Purser. All in favour.

**9) Bridford Fete** – to receive a report from the Council stall at Bridford Fete in July with parishioner suggestions. Judy reported that questionnaires are out together with the suggestions, to collate and bring to a parish plan review meeting in February. Fete committee have presented the parish council with a cheque for £300. Many thanks to the fete committee.

**10) Twinning** – to consider amended road signage to Bridford incorporating 50 years of twinning. Cllr. Padgham to report. Photos have been sent to Highways of suggestions for proposed signage.

**11) Village Hall** – to receive an update on the registering of the hall with the Land Registry. Gilbert Stephens solicitors have taken on this task – agenda for next meeting for an update.

**12) Allotments** – those giving up and taking over, Clerk to report – move to next agenda.

**13) Mobile Library** – this service is likely to cease very soon. To consider ideas for alternatives. To agree actions and associated expenditure. Monitor this situation.

#### **15) FINANCE**

<b>Expenditure</b>	Bridford Village Hall – PO services	£132.00	BACs
	Village Hall – council meetings	£48.00	BACs
	Locum Clerk July	£202.00	BACs
	Locum Clerk August	£166.03	BACs

Teignbridge DC – election expenses	£282.50	BACs
Hughes refund of allotment deposit	£15.00	BACs

<b>Income</b>	Bags to School	£55.00	Cq
	Playing Field Group	£179.63	Cq
	Allotments	£30.00	Cq

**Bank Reconciliation and Statement**

Council resolved to accept the accounts. Proposed by Cllr. Padgham, all in favour by show of hands.

**16) Change of bank** – due to a lack of action on Santander, to agree to withdraw funds from the Santander Bank in the form of a cheque and deposit same in the new current account at Unity Trust Bank. Proposed to write a cheque for the max amount in the current account. Agreed by show of hands. Clerk to action.

**17) Parish Clerk** – to receive an update from Cllr. Gallagher regarding the job description/application form/advert for a replacement permanent clerk for Bridford.

Job description to be circulated to all councillors for their comments.

**18) Teign Valley Community Hall** – to consider the request from the Hall Committee for an appointee to represent the Council on their committee. Not at present as Council not at full capacity.

**19) Clerk's report**

- i. Highways have listed the fence at the top of Church Lane to be repaired in the next financial year – ie from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. That is the best date so far.
- ii. VAT claim for refund for 2022/2023 year for £447.21 has been submitted online.
- iii. In order to keep the PAYE system open, nil returns have been submitted online.

**Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only)**

Cllr. Gallagher sprayed top of BMX track with mould/lichen repellent; needs a brush to finish it off. Could Graham Dicker trim the edges of the BMX track. Cllr. Topley to action.

Cllr. Topley update on the volunteers for the village garden. Parish plan targets review to add to the next agenda.

Cllr. Marriott – the bus shelter has been painted/the illustrated board is up as well as the noticeboard. There is going to be a launch on the 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm. There are litter grabbers and hi-vis vests in the garage – these will go to Cllr. Padgham for storage.

**Items for Information** - The next council meeting will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....

Date.....

**Emails sent since the last Council meeting.**

DALC news bulletin 32 (sent 27/07)