

# BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Bayton Parish Council held in Bayton Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014

**Present:** Cllr Blount (Chairman), Cllr Salisbury,  
Cllr Clarke, Cllr Carver, Cllr Miles, Cllr Rochelle

**In Attendance:** Clerk, 11 Members of the Public including Avis Pounder (Head of Bayton School), Chair of Bayton School Governors), Clerk to Governors and one other Governor. District Cllr Chris Dell, County Cllr Ken Pollock.

1. **Apologies:** None. Cllr Salisbury left meeting at close of item 7(b) to speak to Bayton School Head, this was agreed with Chairman prior to start of the meeting.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. **Register of Interests** – No changes declared.
  - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – All Cllrs - item 7(a) due to all Cllrs having a potential benefit from this expenditure. Item 10c Planning 14/00422/FUL – Cllr Miles due to applicant being a friend, Cllr Clarke due to resident raising objections being a friend.
  - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – as above.
3. **Dispensations** –
  - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
    - **Dispensations granted** – All Cllrs were granted a Dispensation in April 2014 until May 2015 for all matters in item 7(a). Cllr Clarke wishes to speak and vote on Item 10c Planning 14/00422/FUL – it was agreed to grant this dispensation to Cllr Clarke until May 2015.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes.
5. **Minutes** of Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
6. **District Cllrs report** – Attended meeting, report at end of minutes.  
**County Cllrs report** – Attended meeting, report at end of minutes.
7. **Progress reports for information:**
  - a. **Defibrillator Machines** – One training session has been held with West Midlands Ambulance Service and a request for other sessions has been made but not known when a volunteer will be available. After discussion it was agreed to look at costs for paying for further training and paying for disposable face masks.
  - b. **Bayton School issues** -
    - Telecottage** – Two residents who were most involved in this project are now deceased and no paperwork can be found to verify details. It was agreed no further enquiries to be made.
    - Academy Status** – Avis Pounder spoke on process of obtaining Academy Status –Bayton Governors have put application into Diocese, this is at the request of the Diocese, Governors have discussed the matter many times, 52% of schools in Worcestershire already academies, felt now is the right time to consider matter further, as a Church School it can only cluster with other Church Schools, Diocese would oversee the scheme, no Local Education Authority after April 2015 so school will have to purchase services from someone, feeder schools will remain the same as now, community would be involved in full public consultation at the appropriate time.
    - Mowing of Recreation Ground (circulated)** – School Head had requested this be put on agenda so there was a publicly recorded minute of the matter. Letter received by School from resident voicing concerns regarding school use of ground but school not willing to fund mowing. Head felt the Parish Council should be made aware of this letter as the Parish Council have granted funds for mowing in past. The contents of the letter had been noted by the Cllrs. No long term agreement had ever been entered into by Parish Council or by Bayton School to fund mowing, it was a year by year agreement.
8. **Reports on Meeting attended by Clerk or Councillors:**

Bayton Village Hall AGM October - Chairman, Clerk and Cllr Taylor attended. Chairman stated he was very disappointed with the meeting. Parish Council representative for 12<sup>th</sup> November meeting is Cllr Salisbury. Clerk attended WCC Conference 28<sup>th</sup> October, details circulated by email.
9. **Finances:**
  - a. **Payments made** – Hollands Coaches (13weeks) = £180.00.
  - b. **To report receipts since last meeting** – None.
  - c. **Bank Reconciliation** – Signed for October 2014. Balance agreed as Current Account = £15892.67. Investment Account £0.30, no new statement received, balance to be transferred to Current Account.

## BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

d. **To consider request for precept for 2015-16** – a budget was circulated, matter to be decided at January 2015 meeting.

### 10. Planning:

- a. **Plans circulated since last meeting** – None
- b. **Decisions received since last meeting** – see item 15 below.
- c. **Plans for comment on tonight** –

**Cllr Miles left meeting.**

**14/00422/FUL – Land adj Pucknells Farm, Hollywell Lane, Clows Top, DY14 9NS** – Location of static caravan behind a large agricultural shed on agricultural land for occasional family use – after much discussion it was agreed by all to object to this application. Concerns were application does not comply with MHDC Adopted Local Plan, applicant could accommodate caravan in curtilage of his own property not on agricultural land, neighbouring field is already a Park Home business and this application could be used to extend that site, inconsistencies in application form and plans submitted, details do not match. Clerk to draft comments for Cllrs approval.

**Cllr Mile returned to meeting.**

### 11. Road report

- a. **Lengthsman** – Leaves/debris being cleared from drains, jetting lorry requested again.
- b. **Any problems to report** – none.
- c. **Updates** –  
Nineveh Road, Houghtons Pole Bridge repairs, Beach Hay Road repairs – no update.  
Carton Farm water on B4202 – no update.

12. **Newsletter** – Draft to be circulated by Clerk later this week.

13. **Financial Regulations/Standing Orders** (Draft form) – Clerk will review these as part of ongoing training.

14. **Correspondence for information** –  
A list of items will be available at the meeting.

### 15. Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting –

**Delegated decision - Planning – 14/01396/LBC – Stone Cottage Bayton, DY14 9LW** – Replace 2 ground floor and 2 first floor casement windows on the south front elevations. Details had been circulated by email and all Cllrs agreed to support this application.

### 16. Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda.

**Agenda items** – Defibrillator Training, Precept 2015-16, Clerks Review. Cllrs agreed to discuss funding mowing of Recreation Ground at the January meeting.

17. Date of next meeting: **TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 7.30PM**

18. **Cllrs agreed to close the meeting to the Public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.**

19. **Oak tree Church car park** – three quotes had been obtained. It was agreed to accept the quote from WSN arboriculture as they were the cheapest by £10.00 and had done work for the Parish Council in the past.

20. **Clerks Review** – held before this meeting with Chairman and Cllr Salisbury. Details to be noted and kept in files. No issues of concern raised.

21. **Meeting Closed 8.46pm.**

Signed----- Date 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015

**Chairman**

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**District Cllr Report** – from Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November to midnight on 20<sup>th</sup> December free parking in Tenbury – Swimming Pool future has been secured after being taken over by new owners, MHDC have agreed to fund for next 5 years, open meeting 19<sup>th</sup> November in Tenbury – Chief Executive (CE) of MHDC will leave and it will become a shared post from 1<sup>st</sup> December with Wychavon CE holding office – Tesco improving car-park on their land in Tenbury and have withdrawn planning application for Bromyard. District Cllr left meeting.

**New Noticeboards** - Resident asked when they would be put up, Cllr Miles has it on list to do.

**WCC Website** - Resident felt it was more difficult to find local area on updated site, also no agenda for this meeting on site, Clerk will contact WCC with query as agenda had been put on.

**Planning 14/00422/FUL** – Hollywell Lane, Clows Top - Resident raised his concerns regarding this planning application. His property is very near to the proposed site of the static caravan. His concerns were noted. He has sent a letter of objection to MHDC.

# BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

### 1. Rural Broadband

WCC is committed to improving rural broadband. The main BT contract is now over a year old and is moving through the various phases planned to be complete in 2016. Recently another £1.1 million has been made available from Whitehall for further expanding broadband coverage. The total of around £4.5 million now includes the money from the third avenue the Council explored, that through Defra. This now goes under the name BDUK+ and will be administered by BT. The County is in process of seeking tenders to extend superfast broadband coverage from 90% to 95% of all residences and businesses. St Michael's College in Tenbury now has their superfast broadband connected via Virgin, despite the delays and I am sure this will make a big difference to the study of their pupils. BT was reminded at my scrutiny panel meeting of the need to service all customers equally. The local manager Ian Binks, has indicated that BT Openreach has instituted a "recovery programme" with the intention of "more consistent provisioning".

The Defra Select Committee is investigating rural broadband coverage and is interested in hearing from those who are badly affected by poor coverage, in particular from farmers who have to report online for various CAP requirements and reporting. Evidence will be taken up to 19th November and anyone with a contribution is urged to write to the select committee.

### 2. Tenbury Public Realm update

Work is scheduled to start on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015, working from the Market towards Crow Corner. Bollards will be erected around the Market itself, to prevent further damage to the overhanging roof.

These will be placed behind white lines that will delineate a virtual footway around the Market itself, so that the bollards can be erected legally, without any change of level of the road surface.

A leaflet describing what is going to happen and various movement restrictions will be distributed in the near future.

### 3. Amenity Site Removal

The Planning Committee passed the plans unanimously on November 4<sup>th</sup> to move the Household Recycling Centre from the town's car park to the Bromyard Road Business Park. The work should take place in the New Year and take about 6 months.

### 4. Parking and Palmer's Meadow

The plans for the overflow car park have been agreed between WCC, the Rugby Club and the Town Council and will provide for two rows of 25 cars each, some extra spaces on the access area and probably 20 more once the amenity site has been moved.

### 5. Parish Conference 29<sup>th</sup> October

A Parish Conference was held on Wednesday of last week at County Hall and a number of points from there may be worth passing on. Your clerk represented Bayton, one of 70 or so parish councillors and clerk present.

The County's priorities are dealing with Adult Social Care and vulnerable children as well as highways. Dealing with vulnerable adults and children takes up roughly half of the £330 million budget of WCC.

The County is keen to move to a commissioning role, rather than being a provider, with provision for scrutiny of the conduct of such contracts as may go outside the council's direct labour. At present the level is about 65% of all contracts and we hope to move to 85%.

The County is aiming to move to a digital future, again looking to reach 85% of all transactions being online. Provision will be retained for those who do not have or do not want to use online access. A digital inclusion task group is examining the ways in which people will be affected by this switch to ensure that no-one is overlooked or neglected.

A series of roadshows, as well as the viewpoint survey, will be run again this autumn to make sure that all who want to can express their views to council officers and members. There will be one in Malvern on the 29<sup>th</sup> November, in Kidderminster on the 6<sup>th</sup> December and at Crowngate in Worcester on the 13<sup>th</sup> December.

The County is running a Project Optimise with councils at all levels to see if we can remove duplication and promote joint working across the spectrum. Three pilot areas have been selected to see how this may work before it is rolled out across the county as a whole.

The WCC website has been redesigned to make it more effective and easier to use, along the lines of the highways defects reporting system. One aspect of this would be to use the County website or link to the independent one run by the local parish and town councils. At present Bayton has an excellent entry on the WCC website, although no contact details are provided for individual councillors, so all contact would need to be through the clerk. Agendas and minutes of Parish Council meetings are available, but Will Redman is still listed as the district councillor.

Worcestershire County Council has been shortlisted for the accolade of "Most Sustainable Local Authority" with five others, in the Public Sector Sustainability Awards.

Those intending to prepare a neighbourhood plan can now access some of a new allocation of £23 million from central government, to encourage more plans to be written. Each one can cost about £20,000, which has deterred many from participating.

**Cllr Ken Pollock**