

# BAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Bayton Parish Council held in Bayton Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015

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

**In Attendance:** Clerk, District Cllr, County Cllr and four Members of the Public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Salisbury, Clarke and Taylor all sent apologies which were accepted by Cllrs.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. **Register of Interests** – No changes declared.
  - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – None.
  - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – None.
3. **Dispensations** –
  - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
    - **Dispensations** – none requested.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes.
5. **Minutes** of Monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 13th October 2015 were agreed and signed by Chairman.
6. **District Cllrs report** – Report given, summary at end of minutes.  
**County Cllrs report** – Report given, summary at end of minutes.
7. **Progress reports for information:**
  - a. **Community Shop Steering Group** – Premises of old shop have been sold. Group are waiting to see if local resident is able to lease shop off new owners.
8. **Reports on Meeting attended by Clerk or Councillors:**

**CALC Transparency Code 12<sup>th</sup> October** (circulated) – Clerk attended and is updating website/noticeboard so PC comply with code.

**Village Hall AGM 29<sup>th</sup> October** – PC representative attended. Old Committee stood for re-election. Details to be circulated.
9. **Finances:**
  - a. **Payments made** – WCALC (Clerks gathering 12<sup>th</sup> October) = £10.00.
  - b. **To report receipts since last meeting** – WCC minibus Grant = £130.00, WCC LM June/July 2015 = £325.00.
  - c. **Bank Reconciliation October 2015** – Signed by Cllr, balance agreed as £18300.08.
  - d. **Budget** (circulated) – Budget to 30th September 2015 and draft budget for 2016-17. Precept to be discussed at January 2016 meeting for final approval.

**Chairman suspended the meeting at 8pm for Member of Public to speak.**

**Coronation Corner Wall** – Money in budget, resident felt it was necessary to extend the wall to tidy the area. There was further discussion and the comments were noted by PC.

**Chairman re-opened the meeting at 8.05pm.**
  - e. **Banking arrangements** – It was agreed to sign new mandate for Lloyds Bank. Clerk will need to be signatory in order to receive statements. It was agreed to have three signatories on cheques, one being Clerk. Cllr Clarke and Cllr Salisbury will not be signatories.
10. **Planning:**
  - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting** – None.
  - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –

**15/01255/FUL – Plowstall Farm, Bayton, DY14 9LY – Siting of static caravan adjacent to existing dwelling for residential purposes.** This application was withdrawn by applicant before PC comments were sent in.
  - c. **Plans for comment on tonight** – None.

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## 11. Road report

- a. **Lengthsman** – Drains/grips need attention.
- b. **Any problems to report** – Church Lane potholes.
- c. **Beach Hay Road** – County Cllr advises the patching done will be followed by surface dressing next year.
- d. **Road Closure Bayton January 2016** – Concerns that the PC were not notified of this work by STW. Clerk has contacted County Cllr and Contractors to see if dates can be changed due to concerns regarding use of narrow rural road as diversion in winter and road closures when school is open.

12. **Bayton Village Hall Bookings 2016** – The Bookings Officer has advised the PC are not required to pay a deposit or complete the Booking Form.

13. **Freedom of Information Publication Scheme** (circulated) – It was agreed to adopt the Scheme as drafted. Clerk to update information on noticeboards/website to comply with Scheme. Clerk to confirm with Cllrs preferred contact details to be published.

14. **Grant Awarding Policy** (circulated) – It was agreed by all to adopt Policy subject to deletion of sentence referring to maximum and minimum amount of Grants. It was agreed applications will be considered as they are received.

## 15. Correspondence for information –

Items available at the meeting – list in folder.

**15/00968/OUT – Shrub Hill Villa, Clows Top DY14 9HR – Erection of one dwelling. Approved by MHDC.**

**CALC AGM 25<sup>th</sup> November** – details circulated, Clerk to attend.

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

**BT Box Bayton** – Clerk is working to fix light, electric supply is not the issue.

**R&B Buses** – Complaints have been received regarding daily bus not running whilst road is being worked on in Mamble. School buses are running as normal. Mamble road closures not notified to Bayton PC.

County Cllr to make enquiries on both issues.

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

**Agenda items** – Community Shop, Precept/Budget.

## 18. Date of next meeting: TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30pm

**Chairman suspended the meeting at 8.40pm for Member of the Public to raise concerns regarding item 11d. Resident apologised for attending late.**

Notes of concerns raised at end of minutes.

**Chairman re-opened the meeting at 8.50pm and closed session was held as below.**

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

20. **Clerks Review** (circulated) - Review held on 28<sup>th</sup> October with Chairman and Vice Chairman.

**Cilca** - Clerk completed all paperwork, awaiting final marking before sending to Examiner.

**Pension Scheme** – Due to changes in law it has been necessary to write to Clerk regarding joining a Scheme. Clerk has confirmed, in writing, she does not wish to join a Scheme. Letters in files.

**Clerk's hours** - Chairman and Vice Chairman recommend an increase in Clerks hours from 6 to 7 per week due to increased workload. This was agreed by all.

No further issues raised. It was agreed by all for Chairman to sign the review as circulated. Copy in files.

21. **Meeting Closed 9.05pm.**

Signed----- Date 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Chairman**

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## Residents' queries –

**Defib Money** – Clerk confirmed £2423.74 is held in Reserved Funds with £2.20 to be added as received this year. Application has been made to BHF for Defib Machine at Bayton Common BT Box as requested by residents. No confirmation of the outcome of this application has yet been received.

**Defib Training** - West Midlands Ambulance Service have advised they will give training every 12 months. Training due in Spring 2016. CPR training can be undertaken on First Aid Courses, details of a free course circulated to residents from MHDC. Clerk looking to organise further CPR training locally.

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**Query regarding people PC have supported during last 12 months** – All payments are listed on minutes which are on WCC website/noticeboards. Payments also listed on Newsletters which are on website. List of payments to be sent to resident.

**Query regarding contact details of Cllrs not being freely available** – Contact details on Newsletter which every resident had in May 2015 and also on website. Clerk to put Cllrs details on noticeboards.

**Road Closure Bayton 2016** (see item 11d) – Concerns were raised regarding using the Ninevah Road as diversion in winter and when School is open. Suggested track by side of School/Hall be used for residents. Parking on School side of village to be looked into. Clerk/Chairman to look into issues raised, see relevant agenda item.

**Dist Cllr Report** – PC comments regarding planning applications to be copied to Cllr for information. Direct contact details for refuse collections to be given to Clerk due to problems with communal bins at times. Council Tax may need to go up as MHDC seeing reduction in income. Free Parking in Tenbury during run up to Christmas. Staff are leaving MHDC and not being replaced, no redundancies being made at present.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

1. **County Council Budget** – WCC need to find another £3.4 million of savings for 2015/16, but the outlook further ahead seems increasingly difficult. We are aware of the desire of central government for local authorities to become self-supporting, so that we have control of our own finances, and not having to rely on a central government grant year by year. This would still require some balancing charges to see that poorer areas of the country are not unfairly disadvantaged. The retention of all business rates will assist in this change, and it will give the Council the opportunity to make further changes, for instance by optimising sales, fees and charges locally, as well as maximising the value of our asset base.

2. **Devolution** - Worcestershire does not intend to link up with any other council. All six District Councils, the County Council and the LEP, among other stakeholders, have agreed that a plan for significant devolution should go to Whitehall for approval. The details of which powers and responsibilities should be devolved are still being hammered out, and the leadership is open to all suggestions that might be forthcoming from residents. In broad terms we would like to see better public service reform and faster economic growth. Certain principles of governance have been spelt out, comprising an all-inclusive public sector and local partner strategy forum, accountable decision making, accountable project delivery, more simple streamlined governance structure and an equal partnership for publicly elected bodies.

3. **Viewpoint survey** - The recent survey and roadshows around the County have yielded some encouraging figures. 82% of respondents are satisfied with the local area as a place to live. There is improved satisfaction with the state of the roads and most people think the Council offers value for money. The top three concerns for respondents at the roadshows were supporting older people when they become unwell, helping people with mental health difficulties more effectively and supporting vulnerable families early to prevent family breakdown.

4. **Positive Activities for Young People** - The decision to end all support for positive activities for young people next April has been rescinded, in favour of tapering down support over the next three years. This removes the threat of imminent closure for Café 27 in Tenbury, among other projects around the County, but still means that other sources of income need to be found to keep these facilities open for the young people they serve. I would like to place on record my appreciation for the work of all those involved with Café 27 and trust that adequate support can be found to see its work continue into the future.

5. **Public Realm Phase 2** - Councillors may have heard the interview on BBC Radio 4 “Today” recently with the Tesco representative, concerning their land sales. It was not clear to me how our site fitted in to this pattern, so I made a request. The essence of the reply is that there is no change at all.

Indeed the following sentence is hopeful: “We don't yet have a start date for our work in Tenbury, but we remain eager to open and start serving the local community, and I will be able to make contact when I have news on timings.” We have been exploring ways in which we might bring forward Phase Two of the Public Realm work along Teme Street, using some other source of finance. This urgency applies most particularly with regard to Tenbury Transport Trust who stand to receive a grant of £95,000 over five years from Tesco, once they go ahead.

6. **Winter Conditions** - The County stocks stand at 17,000 tonnes of salt and the teams are confident that they will be able to keep our roads open in bad weather.

7. **Verge cutting** – WCC has reported that most verges will only be cut once, except for safety reasons for visibility and clearing signage. Please let me know of any cases where we seem to be doing excessive cutting.

8. **Road repairs** - I can confirm that the work done on Beach Hay Road is by way of patching and that surface dressing will follow next summer. I hope the footway repairs for the Leasowes are carried out in the near future, if they have not already been done. Severn Trent are considering re-scheduling the work needed to replace water pipelines in the village. The County highways department are working with Amey. The initial phase of work in Mamble will only take place at the weekends, to avoid disruption of bus timetables, particularly for the school buses. I have requested that in future notification about work affecting Mamble will always be passed to your clerk for dissemination.

**Cllr Ken Pollock**

**Martley,  
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