

BEDSTONE AND BUCKNELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3 March 2009

PRESENT

Mr T Hughes (Chairman), Mr I Owen (Vice Chairman), Mr C Savery, Mr P Davies, Mrs B Sharpe, County Councillor N Hartin, Mr K Jones; Rights of Way Team. Shropshire County Council.
6 members of the public.

PRESENTATION RE: PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The Chairman introduced Mr Kevin Jones, who firstly explained that as the Rights of Way was a small team, help was needed from members or the public to inspect the 5,500 miles of rights of way in Shropshire. In conjunction with the Parish Access Project, the P3 (Parish Paths Partnership) scheme enabled all rights of way in the parish to be walked at least once a year and any problems reported back.

Mr Graves said there was an active P3 group within the parish, led by Mr Mike Starr, and members carried out repairs to stiles, etc. Mr Jones said this was exactly what was required, and that stile kits, etc were available free of charge from the Rights of Way Department.

The Chairman asked about the footpath from the church to Daffodil Lane (FP8) - could gates and dog paddles be provided instead of stiles, which would be more convenient for less able parishioners. Mr Jones replied that access for all was a priority, and would make enquiries.

Mr Owen said that most of the rights of way were well maintained. Mr Chambers said that all rights of way were very well used these days. It was agreed that waymarkers were very important.

Clerk to circulate Mr Jones' contact details to all Parish Councillors and the P3 group.

The Chairman thanked Mr Jones, who then left the meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr Hogg asked for clarification re: council tax when the new unitary authority came into being. Mr Hartin explained that for the first year of the new authority there would be no increase, this had cost £1m. There would be small increases over the next 2 or 3 years.

Mr Chambers said that some of the bollards by the station were missing or damaged. Mr Owen said Highways Maintenance at County were aware of this some months ago. Clerk to report this again.

Mr Chambers said the telephone box badly needed renovating again. This had been done some years ago. Clerk to report this to BT.

Mr Chambers also thanked Mr Corness and the litter picking team, who continue to do an excellent job around the village. This was endorsed by the Parish Council.

Mrs Edwards mentioned the questionnaire from the school which was only relevant to parents of young children. The PTA had also been suspended. This, together with the termination of Parish Council representation on the Board of Governors, had led to the school becoming very introspective, and no longer an integral part of village life. It was also unfortunate that two events were taking place at the school this evening, when the Parish Council meeting was being held. Chairman to speak to the Head Teacher, Mrs A Cook.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs K Law, Mr C Carter, Mrs F Hughes & Mr W Davies.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 3.2.09

Under "Finance" last sentence of first paragraph to end
" ...Parish Plan and School Play Area expenses."

Subject to this correction, the Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

School Play Area Car Park. Chairman had obtained an estimate for resurfacing the car park of £3,400 + VAT. This was approved unanimously. It was hoped the work could be carried out during the Easter holidays.

Allotments. Nothing to report at present.

Land opposite The Tyndings Mt Hartin passed on a letter from SSDC stating that this had been registered in the ownership of South Shropshire District Council and asking for the Parish Council's thoughts about the future of the site. Clerk to reply saying that it should be retained as a bus turning bay, and potholes filled.

Coronation Oak, Bedstone. Nothing to report at present.

ROADS

Bedstone Road. Carriageway edging had been repaired.

Mr Savery reported a pothole near Bedstone School entrance, Clerk to report this.

Salt bins over The Mynd. Mr Savery to investigate and inform the Clerk of sites of existing bins, and where the new ones were required.

Severn Trent had repaired the road by the Baron of Beef, the bridge just beyond was being repaired.

The river by the Post Office was silting up and would be cleared by the County Council towards the end of March.

PLANNING

There were no applications for consideration.

The following applications had been granted:

Nos. 1/08/21344/F & 1/08/21345/LB Extension at Turkey Hall, Baron of Beef, Bucknell.

No. 1/08/21421/F Dwelling and access, and demolition of building at Bucknell Memorial Hall.

PARISH PLAN

Mr Graves reported that the newsletter had been distributed. The questionnaire would be sent out in late spring/early summer.

Chairman requested a copy of the Minutes of the PPSG meeting in December.

DAFFODIL LANE DEVELOPMENT

Mrs Edwards reported that the installation of services to the site should be completed next week, also improvements to the entrance, and money had been claimed for U1is work.

Young people in the village had obtained a grant of £650 for dirt bike ramps for cycles on the hall site, this work to commence when Health and Safety issues had been addressed. Newsletters had been distributed with the Parish Plan newsletters thanks to the PP Steering Group for organising this.

FINANCE

Account balances were reported as:

Community current account	£13,443.93,
comprising:	
Parish Plan account	£2,643.74
Project account	£5,673.15
Parish Council	£5,127.04

Business Base Rate Tracker account £1,925.68.

It was agreed unanimously to pay the following:

npower (energy charge Dec 08 qtr}	£116.76
Prysmian (street light repairs & maintenance contract)	£489.44
Mr Ray Davies (grasscutting etc)	£.345.00
Bucknell Memorial Hall (hire for mtgs)	£30.00
Mr C Carter (repairs to notice board)	£57.00
Bucknell Football Club (donation towards provision of toilets)	£ 200.00

CORRESPONDENCE

South Shropshire District Council letter + enclosed DVD re: Members' Code of Conduct - Predetermination and Bullying.

Shropshire Council letter re: Come and meet Roadshows.

Shrops Council letter + enclosure re: Environmental Maintenance Grant.

Southern Shropshire Partnership letter re: first Forum meeting.

All the above to the Chairman for his consideration.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that the driver of the 9.30am bus was still travelling too fast through the village. Clerk to contact the bus company again.

DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 April 2009 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

THH/NEA

15.3.09