

BAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
Ordinary meeting of the council held on
14th July 2010 at 7.00 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT; Cllr F A C Gray, in the Chair, Cllr R W Norman, Cllr S Radband, Cllr R Smith, Cllr A Smith, Cllr D Turner, D. Cllr M Barrett, Cllr M Dowding ,
APOLOGIES; County Councillor D Seale, Cllr L Mackie Cllr R Wilkins, District Councillor M Booty
IN ATTENDANCE; Mrs S Radband, Clerks to the Parish Council, Mr J Bowler, Mr Steve Dickinson
PUBLIC; 3

10/97 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr F Gray declared a non-prejudicial interest in item 10/99 as he sits on the committee for AGGROW.

10/98 – The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2010 were signed as a correct record. As were the Planning Committee minutes of 29th June 2010.

10/99 Mr John Bowler, of Clanfield addressed the council

Mr John Bowler opened the meeting by explaining that AGGROW stands for the Anti-Gravel Group for Residents of Oxfordshire West. The group was formed approximately 2 months ago and 12 parishes have come forward to give their support. The committee is headed by a steering group made up of representatives from all 12 parish councils or parish meetings. A technical advisor has been appointed, namely CB Richard Ellis Ltd.

He advised that a meeting was held on 12th July 2010, at OCC, to discuss the options being looked at for gravel extraction. The option that affects Bampton the most is option 2 – was originally option 3 – where new areas around Bampton, Clanfield, Alvescot, etc, would be opened up to extract gravel. The so-called dispersal strategy.

He noted that Hanson has bought the mineral rights to various pieces of land around the area and there was another contractor also busy doing the same.

He then went on to discuss funding from the 12 parishes for AGGROW. It is initially thought that approximately £30,000 would be needed to pay for consultants prepare the defence/arguments against, but if the decision is such by OCC that it has to go to public enquiry it is thought that the sum would be nearer £100,000.

The question was then asked if Bampton Parish Council is willing to contribute towards the funding monies needed? If so, how much would Council be willing to contribute? Chair advised that the decision would have to be taken to Council. The initial reaction was that, in principle, council was willing to support, but would like to wait until the meeting on 28th July, until a full decision is made.

It was noted that there is to be a public meeting to be held on 28th July 2010, in Bampton Village Hall.

10/99 – MATTERS ARISING

Dog fouling – Contact has been made with WODC and it is thought that Dog Fouling signs will soon be erected.

Internal Audit – Mrs. Grace Wilkins has agreed to internally audit Parish Council accounts. They are due with BDO Stoy Hayward on 25th June 2010.

Trees in Chetwynd Mead – The lopping of the trees, adjacent to no. 46 has been completed.

ERP Table Top Exercise – A reminder to all Parish Councillors that the ERP Table Top Exercise will take place on 24th July 2010, in the Village Hall at 9.30 am.



Standing Orders – Cllr F Gray has readdressed the Council's Standing Orders. The new draft will be taken to the F & GP (Finance and General Purpose) meeting.

Risk Assessment – A date will be set for the Council to go through the Risk Assessment.

Dead Elm tree – The Elm tree to the rear of 31, The Pieces, Bampton hasn't been removed as yet. Clerk will follow up.

Bampton Website – Bampton Website has been updated and the current, approved, Parish Council minutes are also published monthly for the public to view.

Bampton Town Hall – Cllr S Radband has spoken to WOA, with reference to the supply of water upstairs. They are to have a meeting to discuss if they want water supplied. The removal of the back fire escape was raised. John Shuker Jr. will be approached for advice.

Gate at the Allotments – This has been erected by DNN Ltd and an invoice received.

Market Square – Cllr R Smith, Cllr S Radband and Mr Dave Austin, from WODC, met. It was discussed that highways originally put down the flagstones in the market square not WODC, as was first thought. Mr Austin advised that WODC had a gum-buster machine, but this may damage the flagstones. George, the litter man has been asked to sweep the market square etc. and dustbins could be painted with hammerite to make them look cleaner.

Wish List – Cllr R Smith walked around the village with Mr Paul Wilson, from OCC, highways department. He reported that Bowling Green Close is to be repaired next week and the footpath is also to be repaired up to school. Cllr R Smith indicated that Fox Close was in need of improvements. Mr Wilson informed Cllr Smith that he would no longer be in contact for highways as he was moving departments. His successor is thought to be a Mr Ian Clarke.

10/100 County and District Councillors Report

- 1) District Councillor Martin Barrett addressed the Council, he reported that the District Council was in limbo at the moment as they were waiting to see what the agencies would be losing in the cuts.
- 2) Public participation at planning meetings was proving to be good.

10/101 Finance and Accounts for Payment

Margaret Johnson	£ 49.64	B T – Town Hall	£163.63
Chris Smith	£1031.25	DNN Ltd – allotment gate	£235.00
Thames water	£ 18.17	T A Curtis	£600.00
JASSS Ltd	£ 176.25	B T – Clerk	£117.27
B T - Brenda final	£ 11.79	G Wheldon	£ 60.00
Mr Pete Lewis – Y/C	£ 300.00		

10/102 Salary Clerk

The F&GP proposal to base the Clerks salary on 20 hours per week, and match the LC18 scale of £8.919 per hour, which would mean a salary of £9275.76 per year, was accepted by Council. The change is to be activated 1 August.

10/103 Salary Ray Willis and Pete Lewis

Mr Ray Willis – Recreation Ground Manager. It was proposed by F & GP Committee that Mr Willis's pay be raised to the 2010 budget level, of £4759 per annum. This would be for 15 hours work per week and would also recompense him for the extra responsibilities that he has taken on since the retirement of Mr A Dunbar.

Mr Pete Lewis – Youth Centre Caretaker. It is thought that Mr Lewis spends around 8 hrs per week at the Youth Centre. He is currently paid £100.00 per month for this. The F&GP believes that we need to do something to increase what he is paid – his present remuneration is paltry – but there are budget constraints, and there is the up and coming project to renovate and expand the building to house The Bush Club and Weightlifters, which will mean that he is not likely to have much caretaking

work to do. The F&GP therefore proposed to maintain his salary at his present level, but to pay him a retainer at the same level, while the building works are in progress. He can of course be used for other duties during that period, and Council could use him at The Recreation Ground 'free' to fill in for Ray Willis; but he might also be needed to help organise logistics at the site during the building works as well.

Once the building is complete, the F&GP proposes that we should bring his pay up to at least the minimum wage, which by that time will no doubt be over £6.00 per hour. In addition, the number of hours he works is likely to rise, given the size of the new facility and is likely to be in the region of 15 – 20 hours per week. The proposal was accepted by Council

10/104 Youth Centre Update

Planning for the renovation work has been submitted to OCC. The amount of parking spaces is an issue. It may be that Council will be requested to restrict the size of events that the centre will be used for.

10/105 The Bampton Post Office Update

The new Post Master took over the running of the Post Office on 9th July 2010. A meeting is set for Monday 19th July at 6pm to discuss the change of use of the Town Hall. Cllr's J Allinson, S Radband, R Wilkins and F Gray will attend. Cllr J Allinson will contact Lewis Thomas at John Welch and Stammers, solicitors to get an update on the situation of the lease.

Planning permission will need to be sought for change of use and signage.

10/106 Proposed Minor Alteration to Parking – Broad Street

A letter was received from OCC on 1st July 2010. It was in consultation to the parking restrictions on Broad Street, Bampton, requested by the Parish Council. The proposal would remove the 4-hour parking in the lay-by on the west side of Broad Street, leaving this road without any parking restrictions. Comments were requested by 30 July 2010. Council supported the change. Clerk to advise OCC.

10/107 Mercury Court Playing Field Project

It is thought that the Playing Field Project is nearing an end. Mr Trevor Stewart will be approached about his invoice. Council can then apply for funding monies. Clerk to follow up.

10/108 Planning Applications

Planning application below, considered on 29th June 2010, the comments returned to the planning officer were "No objections".

Application No.	10/0770/P/FP
Proposed Development	Conversion of stables to form dwelling and create first floor studio, ancillary to Manor House, over existing garage. Erection of extension to existing garage block and construct new, 3 bay car port.
Location.	Little Old Stables, Weald Manor, Clanfield Road, Weald, Bampton.

The planning application at Bampton Youth Centre, Church View, Bampton was discussed although no paper work has been received from OCC as yet. The Council, while generally supportive of the development, had some objections to the proposal as it stood. Firstly the Council was concerned about the inadequate number of parking spaces available for the size of the building being proposed, and requested OCC to provide additional spaces. And it was felt that the building materials used for the new building at the front of the existing building was not in keeping with the existing listed building materials.

10/109 Correspondence

No correspondence has been received.

10/110 Any Other Business

Cllr Ian Millar - It was reported to Council that ex-member of the Parish Council, Mr Ian Millar had passed away. Details of his funeral will be circulated to all Councillors when it is finalised.

Standlake Recycling Depot. - It was thought that WODC were banning 4x4 vehicles taking rubbish to the depot. Cllr F Gray emailed our District Councillor, Martin Barrett, and was advised that it was not so; the order related to commercial type vehicles – small vans and the like, which would need a permit if they were used as private use vehicles.


7.5 Environmental Weight Limit

The weight Limit will be going into force soon, probably by 28th July 2010. The signage is being erected on the entrances to the Weight Limit.

Foot Path 1 – Cllr R Smith has a meeting with Oxfordshire County Council, with reference to the cutting back of foot path 1. It cannot take place at the moment as we would be in breach of nesting birds.

Rosemary lane - It was reported that the weeds in Rosemary Lane were getting out of hand. Mr C Smith will be asked to weed kill in the area. Cllr S Radband to follow up.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting finished at 9.15pm.

Signed.....

Date..... 11/8/10.....