

### **Bridgwater Without Parish Council**

A meeting of Bridgwater Without Parish Council was held in St Francis of Assisi Church Hall on Wednesday 30 May 2012

Present Messer's Gillard, Hooper, Hudson, Warner, Tucker and Young and Councillor Hall.

- 638. Apologies received and accepted from Mr Lewis and Councillor Redman.
- 639. Minutes of the meeting held January 25 2012 were signed as correct record.
- 640. Item 618 Jubilee mugs discussed as are expensive, it was decided that clerk should order from best value supplier.  
Item 625 the Bath Road junction with Kings Down has 2 lanes when travelling out of Bridgwater both straight on which causes problem as only 1 lane after junction, the left hand lane should be left turn only, Councillor Hall will look into this. AH, lights seem to be set to favour traffic travelling out of the estate and not traffic travelling along the Bath Road. BG, explained that they were set on demand so will change to allow traffic to flow. Dog bins no reply from Hallam regarding this.
- 641. Report from Councillor Hall, SCC had set a balanced budget which included £24 million savings and council tax had not been increased. Indications that budgets will get harder as economically Europe is in trouble. There are big benefits for us as Morrisons are big employer and the Mulberry are coming to the town, Hinkley Point continues to be positive and want to press ahead with their planning. Local and district councils are pressing for benefits for the town also. There is a technical issue with ground works as asbestos has been found AH, where would this be taken? DH, Avonmouth. TW, asked about the deal reported to have been signed in the press Daily Mail, DH, not signed that was for the earth works, final investment decision is end of calendar year. AH had heard March for the IPC decision. Crandon Bridge lights now working. Bridge over railway complete by March 2013, MY understands there are delays with this, DH, not his understanding but did know that the works around the junction on A38 will take time to complete and cannot be done during the Olympics, and EDF will mean more road changes difficult times ahead. Broad band moving on at a pace cabling in by early 2013. Severn barrage back on the agenda will have huge impact on Somerset. TW, said this must be years away as takes long time for Act of Parliament and this would be required for this. DH, said it was definitely back on agenda and politicians were pushing it. There was a change of council leadership, new leader is Councillor John Osmond who is a lawyer and the deputy is Councillor Hall. MY, expressed his disappointment that county farms were being sold off, DH explained that the original idea of these were to be a stepping stone for farmers but they had moved on. The liberals pledged not to sell but had sold 54 farms, the conservatives had sold 9 and 8 of those to the occupiers, this frees up money to support more people. Somerset pledging to support elderly and venerable adults and children. MY asked about the Quantocks sale, DH explained that the Forestry Commission were leasing this section of land and owned most of the area around it and had asked to buy it as the land was heavily protected the sale was accepted. TW asked about asset stripping, DH, sale of county farms had allowed £10 million to be put into broadband. TW, would books eventually be unbalanced, DH, no. AH, are county responsible for environmental issues, what are their thoughts on power lines? DH, county not comfortable with what is on the table at present,

- routes will be challenged. National grid will do what central government say, costs have to be met and will be passed on locally. AH, Nature partnership meetings run by Somerset Wildlife Trust, thoughts that something has to be done to create balance between what SCC do with the environmental planning process, DH this is more at district level.
642. Highways, filter lights not clear at Crandon Bridge, AH thinks that the LA could be liable, discussion between AH and DH, clerk to email DH with AH information on that junction. Distribution centre directional sign on Bath Road had been altered, clerk to email DH. The new road layout sign just after the Esso garage no longer necessary, clerk to email DH to remove sign. Eastern Ave to Bath Road need warning sign to advise road users that buses use Sovereign Road. Clerk to email DH. Wessex Water have created pot hole after works carried out in Horsey Lane, DH advised link from SCC website for pot holes.
643. Accounts, Clerk salary plus expenses cheque 000259 signed £218.00, discussion around salary, clerk advised she works approx 178 hours pre year which equates to £1.96 per hour, clerks pay in 2009 was £8.82 per hour. MY proposed that clerk be paid £8.00 per hour, AH thought more information should be sought, clerk asked him if he'd like to do that. LT suggested £8.00 per hour from April this year until more information available. Church hall hire paid £91 as last year, cheque 000264. Auditors had mislaid (or it didn't arrive) cheque so duplicate issued cheque 000261 £96.00. Annual accounts statements read and signed as correct.
644. Correspondence, Citizens Advice AGM invite, new member of support staff at Citizens Advice, Zurich insurance advertising information, Police circular.
645. Planning application 09/12/00008/DRT, Erection of extension to the front elevation, Morganians Rugby Club, Chedzoy Lane, Bridgwater, no observations.
646. AOB, People inhabiting the old Briman Timber building Plum Lane, clerk to advise enforcement. Lagoon on land off Horsey Lane not been filled in, clerk to inform enforcement. Cut offs from conifers on junction between Westonzoyland Road and Sommerville Way most likely belong to home owner but need removing, clerk has asked Councillor Redman with help regarding this. Signage at junction of Plum Lane and Dunwear Lane causing obstruction to visibility. Clerk has Councillor Redman for help and will report also to enforcement.
647. Date of next meeting to be advised 18 July 2012.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.