

# Bawdsey Parish Council

## Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.00pm; Bawdsey Village Hall

<p><b>In Attendance</b> – Clls Brian Johnson (BJ) Richard Tricker (RT) Liz Mark (LM) Rawdon Saunders (RS), Jenny Webb (Clerk) Mark Dovey (MD) arrived 7.50pm, SCDC Cllr Christine Block (CB) arrived 7.20pm</p> <p><b>Members of the public:</b> Five</p>	
<p>Apologies: Chris Mann</p>	
<p><i>Meeting called to order by Chair BJ at 7.05pm.</i></p>	
<p><b>1. Open Forum-</b></p> <p><b>2. Chairman’s Welcome and Apologies for Absence:</b> Chair BJ welcomed the four members of the WG who have been working for 3 years to prepare a business case for transferring the amenity land from SCDC to BPC. Apologies received from Chris Mann</p> <p><b>3. Proposal to Co-opt Andrew Rouse as Parish Councillor:</b> Having discussed his CV, Councillors agreed unanimously to co-opt Mr Rouse. Proposed BJ, Seconded RT.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b></p>
<p><b>4. Approval of Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016:</b> BJ noted these had already been passed at the PC meeting of 9th March.</p>	
<p><b>5. Chairman’s Introduction:</b> Chairman reminded the council of the reason a second additional meeting was being convened within 6 weeks, namely that the timetable was being driven by SCDC which requires BPC to submit a letter to them approving the business case in time for their meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April. At this meeting, chaired by a member of Cabinet, SCDC have to approve the BP in their turn. BJ apologised for the lateness of some of the information but expressed full confidence in the Business Plan, noting that it enshrines the concept of the project together with details of income and revenue streams. The project was at a very exciting stage with the possibility of taking over the amenity site for a visitor centre and cafe.</p>	
<p><b>6. Presentation by Chair of the Working Group, Peter Wain, of revised business plan. (This can be seen on <a href="http://www.bawdsey.pc.onesuffolk.net">www.bawdsey.pc.onesuffolk.net</a> )</b> PW explained that SCDC is committed to taking on the expenditure of the water and sewage systems and have set aside £180k for this. However the order for these would be put in by BPC which has already explored contractors. BPC has already chosen but not yet appointed a contractor for pilings, the build and for the water supply but not the sewage. Following advice, a decision about the originally proposed sewage disposal has been reversed. Given the high water table a holding tank instead of an underground tank is deemed to be more suitable as a system of discharge. This is likely to be half the cost of the underground tank although the holding tank would need to be emptied more frequently in the summer months. Tenders to be sought for this work. PW thought that the combined cost of water and sewage was likely to be in the region of £80k leaving the residue of the £180 to go towards the build. SCDC has also approved a grant of £10,000 for</p>	

<p>the capital build; a grant of £25k has been obtained from the Coastal Revival Fund. Suffolk Coast and Heaths have granted £6,000 towards an outdoor classroom and the PC has an outstanding application to the Jewson fund for £10,000 worth of building materials. Local fundraising is on going with a recent donation of £190 from the Easter Egg hunt. The Leader fund is about to open and the PC would be looking for the remainder of the build cost of approximately £65,000 from this source.</p> <p>Regarding the governance of the project, technical issues around the issue of VAT are being explored to see if a CIC is indeed the best form of management. He concluded by recommending that BPC approve the revised BP which now includes the revised financial pages.</p>	
<p><b>7. Discussion on BP:</b> Conversation centred on the danger of any delay in approving the BP given that the change of regime in SCDC since the May elections meant that it was possible that SCDC might not want to continue with transfer of the site. If SCDC did approve the BP, the monies for the water and sewage would be released and the necessary licences would be provided so that the works could begin promptly. The project should be viewed as two strands: the provision of water and sewage and the building of the Visitor Centre and cafe. It was stressed that approval of the plan in theory had taken place at the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> March. The village had endorsed the project by fundraising and giving donations. The level of interest, support and involvement within the community needed to be emphasised. Regarding a governance structure a CIC (Community Interest Company) could apply for a greater amount from Leader funding than a parish council could although a CIC would not be able to claim back VAT. If a CIC was set up, it would just MANAGE but not OWN the Visitor Centre and cafe. The relevant Articles of Association would be formulated to reflect this reality and any specific stipulations of BPC. It would in effect carry on the work of the WG.</p>	
<p><b>8. Proposal a) To adopt and endorse the revised business plan: b) to agree to submit the adopted BP to SCDC and to confirm the Council's adoption of BP as basis for transferring the amenity land from SCDC to BCP.</b> Chairman BJ proposed and Cll RS seconded these proposals. It was carried by 4 votes in favour and one abstention.</p>	
<p><b>9. To propose in principle to set up a CIC, subject to legal advice. The final decision to be taken at May's AGM.</b> This was proposed by BJ and seconded by Cll Liz Mark and carried unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>10. Additional Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:</b> CB informed the council that the final publication of the Site Allocations document was shortly to be published. In a map at the end of this doc, Bawdsey Manor had been taken out of the line of vulnerability relating to coastal flooding. BPC should be ready to object to this omission. <i>A meeting will shortly take place about the concept of dial-a-ride ferry across the Deben throughout the year. It is likely the council will receive an invitation to attend.</i> It was proposed that a meeting be set up with Alex Mann before the start of work on School Meadow</p>	
<p>Next regular meetings of the Parish Council to be held on: <b>Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7pm</b></p>	

Signature: .....

Date: .....

*Brian Johnson - Chair of Bawdsey Parish Council*

Draft until Signed