

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on
Thursday 1st November 2007 in Much Birch Community Hall

Present: Mr D Davies (DD)-Chairman, Mr John Jones (JJ) Mr G Simms (GS) Ms V Short (VS, Mrs M Swift (MS)

In attendance: CSO Fiona Witcher, together with 5 members of the public.

1. To accept apologies for absence

Cllr Richard Smith (Ward Councillor)

2. Declarations of interest on agenda items

Mr D Davies & Ms V Short declared a prejudicial interest on agenda 7

3. To approve Minutes of previous meeting – 4th October 2007

An amendment was made to minutes of 04/10/07 under item 5.1 ref spelling River brook to Wriggle brook. The minutes were then agreed and signed by the chairman.

At this point, the chairman adjourned the meeting to allow contributions from West Mercia Police, and members of the public to speak.

The Chairman then re-opened the meeting.

4. Clerks report back on action items.

SID- Clerk has emailed Andrew Lee Jones of highways reference to Parish Council purchasing their own SID .No correspondence received back. Clerk to contact him again and report back at next meeting.

5. To declare a vacancy for Parish Councillor.

Resolved; that vacancy be declared and elections office to be notified and notices to be put up.

6. HALC

6.1 To consider training sheet

(MS) (JJ) & (GS) to attend training evening on Wednesday 21st November – Highway Patrol- Speed enforcement/traffic calming/lengthsman.

(MS) gave a report from HALC conference (see attached report)

7. To consider survey of Parish Lane residents re: Improvements to lane.

This item was discussed at the end of the meeting due to (DD) & (VS) having a prejudicial interest. A statement was given by (DD) and both left the room before discussion was entered into.

Resolved: that due to the clerk being newly appointed further information needed to be collated by the clerk to report back. A planning working group meeting would take place.

On Tuesday 13th November at 7.30pm at (JJ) home.

8. Finance

8.1 To appoint another member to finance working group.

Resolved: that (MS) to be new member to finance working group.

8.2 To agree to closing of current Halifax account

Resolved: that Halifax account is closed.

8.3 To Consider opening a bank account with HSBC

Resolved: that a new account be opened with HSBC and transfer of balance from Halifax account of £8750.28 be deposited into new HSBC account.

Letter required from the clerk informing Halifax of closure and request dividend payments to be made to HSBC account.

8.4 To consider signatories on HSBC account

Resolved: that signatories are (DD), (JJ) (GS), (MS) & (VS) clerk to attend to form and arrange visit to HSBC for all signatories to attend.

8.5 To consider new internal auditor for 2007/08

Resolved: that clerk to contact present internal auditor Dr England to ask if he would continue to be internal auditor for Parish Council.

9. To note information sheet

Defra- Information on ways to tackle climate change

Herefordshire Council- Rights of way in parish of Much Birch

Herefordshire Council – Notice of review of polling district and polling places/stations within Herefordshire Unitary Council area.

10. To raise matters for next meeting (no discussion)

Bus Shelters, SID, To consider grant for Community Hall, Footpaths, SID

11. To note date of next Parish Council meeting

This was noted as Thursday 6th December 2007 @ 7.30pm

Signed.....Dated.....