

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on
Thursday 7th February 2008 in Much Birch Community Hall

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

In attendance: Kath Greenow (Parish Clerk), Cllr Richard Smith (Ward Councillor), CSO Fiona Witcher, Headmaster of Much Birch Primary School, together with 11 members of the public.

1. To accept apologies for absence

V Short

2. Declarations of interest on agenda items

D Davies declared a prejudicial interest on agenda item 11 and left the room before item discussion was entered into

G Simms declared a prejudicial interest on agenda item 18 and then left the room before discussion was entered into.

3. To approve Minutes of previous meeting – 6.12.07

The minutes were agreed and signed by Chairman

3.1 To approve Minutes of Special Planning Meeting 17.01.08

The minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

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

The Chairman then re-opened the meeting.

4. Clerks report back on action items.

4.1 Bus shelters HFDC have agreed to install a bus shelter by junction of road leading towards Much Birch School. Bus shelter at Church stop needs to have Amey to agree the proposals from HFDC as Amey are responsible for the A49 and there are issues regarding the siting of a bus shelter mainly the fact that there are underground fibre optic cables near the identified location. HFDC are to liaise with Amey and HFDC will report back to Parish Council once these issues have been addressed. The Axe & Cleaver stop no bus shelter to be erected at this site as it is not used as much as the other 2 identified stops. Parish Council have approached HFDC regarding contributing to this proposed bus shelter but HFDC feel that this is not feasible due to reasons already stated.

Work on Bus shelter to start during financial year 2008/09 by HFDC.

4.2 Progress on traffic problems along Much Birch School

Meeting has taken place with Highways manager and the issues highlighted were taken on board. HFDC to contact clerk on proposals if any on this matter.

4.3 Clerks meeting with lengthsman in relation to work identified to be carried out.

Clerk reported that lengthsman had carried out the following work.

Clean & clear around road signs, general check over & cleaning out of ditches if needed, to put in grippers where appropriate along ditches.

Wrigglebrook area attention to problems with drainage & ditches. Area along Much Birch School clearing of over grown vegetation on path leading towards village. Work to be carried out shortly: Tump Lane Cutting of hedge at bottom of Tump lane, weed killing around this area.

Modification to definitive map of foot path in parish. No cost is involved in application to modifications to definitive map and statement of public rights of way in the parish of Much Birch (Eden Lane). Application has been filled in and sent to HFDC.

Footpaths officer – Letter written to Colin Anderson requesting letter from him if he wishes to continue as footpaths officer and to compile a report for next meeting 07/020/08.

5. To discuss co-option of Parish Councillor

Mrs Alison Cook had written to clerk regarding vacancy for Parish Councillor.

Clerk read out letter outlining Mrs Cook's interest in becoming a parish councillor. No other persons had or came forward to fill the vacancy.

Resolved that; Mrs Cook co-opted as new parish councillor.

6. To consider Herefordshire Councils review of school closure/amalgamation proposals.

Discussion took place over the proposals. It was noted that the proposals had been withdrawn by HFDC.

Resolved that: clerk to send a letter to HFDC Education Department outlining the effect that this would have on the local Primary School (Much Birch)

.Although the school was not due to close or amalgamate with another school it had been marked for a reduced capacity in role numbers.

7. To consider & comment on consultation on the Validation of Planning Applications from Herefordshire Council.

Resolved that: No comment

8. To consider & comment on West Mercia Police Authority proposed priorities on your Police Service 2008 & beyond.

Resolved that: No comment

9. To consider & comment on Standards Board Consultation on orders and regulations to the conduct of local authority members in England.

Resolved that: No Comment.

10. To receive footpaths report from footpaths officer.

No report received.

Resolved that: Footpath officer to be contacted by clerk and request clarification again as to whether he intends to continue as footpaths officer.

Clerk to report back at next meeting.

11. PARISH LANE

11.1 To consider & comment on proposed consultation letter for distribution to resident's ref: improvements to Parish Lane.

Resolved Consultation letter to be distributed to residents along the whole of Parish Lane. Consultation date from 11th Feb 2008 close of date for consultation period 10th March 2008. It was noted that part of the bottom end of Parish Lane is in Little Birch Parish. These residents were to be included in the consultation, and it was agreed that Little Birch Parish Council be notified about the consultation taking place.

Resolved that: Report on Consultation to be sent to Rob Hemblade Herefordshire council rights of way officer & Report on Consultation to be discussed at Aprils Parish Council Meeting.

12. To consider further advice given on SID & costings of 6 posts at identified areas in the Parish.

Resolved that: Installation only of six sockets to be carried out by Amey Wye Valley for price quoted as £500.42 + VAT.

13. SID (Speed Indicator Device)

13.1 To agree & sign declaration & undertaking form from HFDC.

Resolved that; Declaration and under taking form to HFDC is completed.

13.2 To consider advice form insurance company Allianz Cornhill regarding storage site of SID

Resolved that: Quote from insurance company of £44.45 to insure SID acceptable in principal. Clarification on liability of nominated persons with regard to moving of SID around from site to site to be confirmed by insurance company.

13.3 To nominate member of Parish Council to attend training by Morelock on operation of SID and moving of SID around the six identified sites.

Resolved that; Chairman Dave Davies & Glenn Simms to both attend training as more than one person is needed to move SID around.

13.4 To identify secure storage place for SID

Resolved that: SID is to be kept in secure area at M Swifts property.

13.5 To consider insurance quote for cover of SID, Litter Bins & Notice board

Resolved that: Litter Bin & Notice board are added to insurance at the total cost of £13.62 for litter bin & Notice board. Cost for insurance cover of SID at £44.45 to be added to insurance once SID has been purchased.

14. LENGTHSMAN.

14.1 To identify work to be carried out by lengthsman

Works identified as cleaning of ditch along area of Bigglestone farm .To check ditches in parish and clean as necessary .Previous work identified along Tump Lane to be carried out.

15. PLANNING

Applications for comment

DCSW2008/0156/O..... Rangers Lodge, Little Birch Road, Kingsthorpe Herefordshire

Proposed erection of a detached dwelling with ancillary works

Application Type Outline.

Council Comments application unsupported

Applications commented upon between meetings

DCSW2007/3833/F.... Windover, Much Birch Hereford
Proposed erection of car port
Application Type Full

Planning permitted by Herefordshire Council

DCSW2007/3116/F....Larch Bungalow, Much Birch Herefordshire.
Proposed sunroom

DCSW2007/3137/F....Court Farm House Much Birch, Herefordshire
Separation of existing single dwelling to form 2no. family dwellings.

DCSW2007/2482/F....Minster Farm, Much Birch, Herefordshire
Sub division of farmhouse into three dwellings and conversion of outbuilding into
ancillary accommodation for unit3.Proposed associated garaging.

DCSW2007/3574/F.....Bryn mead Much Birch Hereford
Dormer bungalow to replace approved single story bungalow.

DCSW2007/3581/F.....16 Tump Lane Much Birch Hereford
Two story and single story extensions

DCSW2007/3441/F.....Turfy Hall Wormelow Herefordshire
Remove existing house and replace with new one
DCSW2007/3143/F....Allensmore Nursery West, part of Winnal Court, Tram Inn,
Hereford
Tunnels for growing perennial plants

Outline Planning Permission Granted by Herefordshire Council

DCSW2007/3577/O.....Land adjacent to Burcott Kingsthorpe Hereford
Construction of new two story residential property 3-4 bedrooms with garage
& parking

16. HALC

16.1 To consider training sheet and book places as appropriate
Resolved; MS & Clerk to attend training on 17/03/08 on "Enlightened"

17. INFORMATION

Letter from Much Birch Surgery..... Concerning Parking situation for people
attending the surgery.

National Grid Milford Haven to Gloucestershire National Transmission
System Reinforcements: Felindre to Tirley Pipeline update

Herefordshire Council DVD entitled "River Tales".

HALC.... Information Corner/Training Dates

Nexus... West Midlands Rural Community..... Nexus Grants

Hereford, Worcester & Gloucestershire.....Great Daffodil Appeal

Herefordshire Council Electoral Registration office... Letter confirming ability to co-opt new Parish Council Member.

Queensbury Shelters Information on Bus Shelter Provision

Herefordshire Council Children's & Young Peoples Directorate...Consultation document on The Review of School Provision in Herefordshire.

Herefordshire CouncilHerefordshire Transport Asset Management Plan.... Consultation

Herefordshire CouncilHeritage Lottery Fund Information

Herefordshire Council Herefordshire Community Development Strategy... Booklet

Letter from resident Mr C Grover Regarding State of minor Road U71605, Holly Bush Lane Much Birch.

Herefordshire Council ...News ReleaseCouncil recalls review of Schools to allow more time for talks.

Communities & Local Government....Consultation on Orders & Regulation relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England

Herefordshire Council -----Consultation on the Validation of Planning Applications

West Mercia Police Authority.....Views on Your Police Service 2008 & Beyond

Herefordshire Council....Parish Plan Implementation Grants for Parish Councils

Audit Commission.... Letter of Appointment of External Auditor

Gladson ...Information on Latest Products available

17. a FINANCE

17.1aTo note current bank balance

Balance of £8446.68 on 01/02/2008

17.2 To consider a donation request to Herefordshire Citizens Advise Bureaux (2008-09)

Resolved No donation

17.3To agree invoices for payment

Resolved invoices paid to

17.5 Donation towards parish news letter March 2007/08 = £350.00

17.6 A4 Office Products- Stationary = £54.41

17.7 Much Birch Community Hall (April 2007-March 2008 =£107.75

17.8 Donation UNDER SECTION 137 to Herefordshire Citizens Advice Bureau (2007) = £25.00 (as minute 5.1 in meeting on 05/04/07)

17.9 To agree payment of clerks salary from November 26th 2007-28th January 2008 £379.31

Resolved that: payment of £379.31 is made to clerk

17.10 To consider clerks monthly salary payment by standing order

Deferred

17.4 Parish Council Election costs 03/05/07 £910.99

Resolved that: Deferred to next meeting.

18 Parish Land- Rear of Rosebank

18.1 To pass resolution to exclude the public & press, due to the legal & confidential nature of business to be discussed.

A resolution was passed to exclude the public, due to legal nature of the business to be discussed

18.2-18.3& 18.4 The Clerk outlined the current position regarding solicitors estimated charge for completion of sale of land at Rosebank and advice given from district value.

Resolved that; Clerk to send letter to Mr Simms Letter requesting written undertaking to agree to conditions to be outlined in letter and written confirmation that he wishes to continue with purchase of land at Rosebank a.

19. To note information sheet.

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

**21. To note date of next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 6th March 2008 @
7.30 pm**

Date noted

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