

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on
Thursday 1st May 2008 in Much Birch Community Hall

Present: Chairman, Mr John Jones (JJ) Vice Chairman Mr D Davies (DD)- Mr Glenn Simms (GS) Mrs M Swift (MS) V Short Mrs A Cook (AC)
In attendance: Kath Greenow (Parish Clerk), CSO Fiona Witcher, 4 members of the public.

1. To accept apologies for absence

Ward Cllr Richard Smith

2. Declarations of interest on agenda items

G Simms declared a prejudicial interest on agenda item 12 planning application and left the room before item discussion was entered into also J Jones declared an interest on agenda item 15.6

3. To approve Minutes of previous meeting – 03/04/2008

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.

SID (Speed indicator device) Awaiting further information regarding collection of speed data to be collated by HFDC. This speed data needs to be taken before the SID is put in place. It was agreed that 4 out of the 6 sites identified were suitable for the use of a SID.

Much Birch School traffic problems – update. Information received from Clive Hall and distributed to councillors

Lengthsman work left to be carried out as soon as weather permits weed killing of pavements at Tump Lane and ditch at Barrack Hill area
Footpaths officer vacancy has been put up in parish notice boards and on Parish website and has also been put in the Parishes newsletter date for applications Monday 23rd May 2008

5. SID (Speed Indicator Device)

5.1 To consider advice from HFDC ref; SID hire

Agreed that: (JJ), (MS), (GS) & Clerk to meet regarding this issue and report back at June's meeting

5.2 To consider date for Morelock representative to train (DD) & (GS) regarding working & setting up SID

Clerk outlined that there was Parish Council needed to be able to take information off the SID regarding speed data information. This would be by

way of laptop being plugged into SID for recovering the speed information the programme package from Morelock was part of this but Parish Council would need a lap top for this purpose

Agreed that this would need further clarification regarding laptop prices etc this would also be included into the meeting of item 5.1

5.3 To consider applying for a grant from Central Networks

Resolved that: A grant application was to be submitted to Central Networks noted that closing date for applications was the 31/05/08

6. To consider updated information on proposed Community First Housing Needs Survey

Agreed that: Parish Council supported the survey and Clerk to contact Keith Parry of Community First.

7. To consider draft proposals for terms of reference concerning communications group.

Agreed that; further discussion was needed on this matter within Much Birch part of The Communications group and to then meet with LBPC communications group to resolve issues and move forward .Clerk Liz Calwood to be contacted and asked to attend the meeting. Report back at next meeting.

8. To consider letter received from HFDC Highways regarding parking problems at Much Birch School

Agreed that: The Parish Council would welcome some of the proposals set out in the letter, but it was felt that it needed the headmaster of the school & Clive Hall from HFDC to meet and agree those proposals that would give maximum benefit in alleviating the parking problems and that Clive Hall then contact PC as to those agreed proposals and the PC would then be in a position to comment on them.

9. To consider letter form a sister at Poor Clares Monastery Much Birch

Agreed that: (JJ) to visit the sister regarding the issues raised .Clerk to send a letter informing her that (JJ) will visit in the next few weeks.

10. To consider relevant information suitable for placing in The Newsletter for Kingsthorpe & The Birches website

Agreed that : A synopsis of the agreed & signed minutes to go into Parish Magazine also agreed that as Parish Council give their support to the housing needs survey a article on this is to be put in to the Parishes newsletter and on the Much Birch website.

It was also agreed that the muchbirchparish.org.uk website name should be put onto Parish Council letterhead and on future agendas.

Information regarding website to go on Parish notice boards

11. Lengthsman

Lengthsman carry out any outstanding work identified in previous meeting and over grown vegetation at the footpath at Kingsthorpe needs cutting back. (JJ) & clerk to walk the Parish to identify any further work to be carried out in the parish and report back at next meeting.

12. Planning

Planning Applications for comment

DCSW2008/0900/F Gamberhead Farm Wormelow, Hereford

Description: Conversion of outbuilding to garage/stores, conversion of barn to residential dwelling (revised proposals)

Application Type: Full

Council comment: Application supported

DCSW2008/0911/RM Sandridge, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Hereford

Description: New Dwelling in garden of Sandridge

Application – reserved matters

Council Comment; application unsupported due to size of proposed dwelling and it was the view that this would cause over shadowing of other properties in the immediate area.

DCSW2008/0864/F Rosebank, Much Birch Hereford

Description: Demolition of existing store and replacement with store/workshop

Application Type: Full

Council Comment: Application supported .PC welcome the proposals as this will improve the area

13. HALC

To consider training sheets and book places as appropriate

No training booked

14. Information

Noted

Community First –Newsline

Festival Housing Group- Newsletter

Community First- Calor Village of the Year Competition 2008

Herefordshire Council – Tree preservation order 2008 (Pilgrim Hotel Much Birch)

Herefordshire & Wye Valley –University of the Great Outdoors 2008- Activities event

Sunday 4th 5th May 2008

HALC-Information Corner

15. Finance

15.1 To note current bank account

Noted as £6,163.58

15.2 To consider appointment of internal auditor for 2007/08 end of year

accounts & for continuation of appointment of internal auditor 2008/09

Agreed that (JJ) to contact Mrs Rose Wathen and ask her if she would agree

to be the internal auditor for 207/08 72008/09 (JJ) to report back to clerk

15.3 To agree invoices for payment

Resolved payments made to:

Much Birch Community Hall advance yearly payment for PC meetings

2008/09 £100.00

Allianz Insurance 2008/09 £305.60

Humfrys & Symonds solicitors fee £129.50

HALC Annual Subscription Fee £222.57

15.4 Clerks salary 1st – 30th April 2008 £168.58

15.5 Clerks admin fee for Lengthsman Scheme 2007/08 £95.69

15.6. To consider a donation to Much Birch Community Hall for extension to car park area

(JJ) gave a statement on the financial need for community hall

Agreed that: This would be considered by the finance working group and report back at next meeting

15.7 To note remittance of first precept payment from HFDC 11/04/08 £4500.00

15.8 To note remittance of lengthsman scheme grant payment from HFDC2007/08 £956.91

15.9 To note remittance of pole/ stay rental from Eon Central Networks. £2.76

15.10 To note refund from Allianz Cornhill insurance ref; insurance covering litters bins & new notice board £13.62

15.7 -15.10 noted

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

SID, Much Birch School car parking problems, finance group report & recommendation regarding donation to Much Birch Community Hall, Parish land rent review, communications group report

17. To note date of next meeting

Thursday 5th June 2008 @ 7.30pm

Date noted

To pass a resolution to exclude the public due to the legal & confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

18. Clerks contract

18.1 To agree clerks contract

Agreed clerks contract to be looked at by employment working group and report back at next meeting

Signed

Dated.....