

**MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2009 in Much Birch Community Hall**

**Present:** Chairman, Mr J Jones (JJ) - Mr G Simms (GS) Ms V Short Mrs A Cook (AC)  
Mr D Davies (DD) Mrs M Swift (MS),  
In attendance: Kath Greenow (Parish Clerk)  
4 parishioners Ward Cllr R Smith, CSO Fiona Witcher

**1. Apologies**

None

**2.** JJ declared a prejudicial interest on agenda item 21.4

**3.** Minutes of meeting 05/03/09 agreed & signed

**4** West Mercia Police reported on crime in the area since last attendance

**5.** Cllr Smith reported next PACT meeting will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> May@ 7pm .A presentation will be given on HFDC budgetary issues. A49 road safety Cllr Smith said that HFDC has not accepted that the report from Highways Agency.

**6.** Matters raised during public forum where about weed killing required at Tump Lane and a number of pot holes that needed to be filled at Tump Lane. Litter at King's Thorn bus shelter area. Clerk asked to contact Much Dewchurch Clerk for them to respond to the issue raised. Ditching work required at Tickle Withy Pitch. Litter bins that need to be emptied at King's Thorn Bus Stop & bin at the Bus stop near Much Birch School. Clerk to contact HFDC to request emptying regularly.

**7. Clerks report**

Clerk reported that HFDC would be carrying out footpaths inspection in the next week on footpath MB23. SID socket has been installed along King's Thorn and 2 SID's will be back in the parish during the month of April.

Litter picking kits have arrived for the litter pick taking place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2009

**8.** MS gave a report on No Wrong Door workshop which is a government initiative to get organisations, agencies to co-ordinate more effectively through locality teams it is hoped that this can be set up by 2010-11

**9.** GS gave a report on the HALC training evening on Public Rights of Way.

Clerk to request some training by HFDC for volunteers to undertake some work on the footpaths. A vote of thanks was given for all the hard work and reports given by Glenn Simms & Mo Ross.

**10. RESOLVED:** to adopt communications policy

**11. RESOLVED:** to continue to support the King's Thorn & Birches newsletter in principal but the Parish Council require a statement of need for financial assistant for the newsletter this was requested as : A copy of the accounts for the newsletter and an account of income received from the advertisements placed in the newsletter . Clerk to write to village hall secretary and requests information.

**12. RESOLVED:** Synopsis of minutes from 05/03/09 and planning items and to inform parishioners that the communications policy is available from Much Birch website.

**13. RESOLVED:** areas covered in the litter pick as 1. King's Thorn Bus Shelter- Much Birch School. 2. King's Thorn Bus Shelter – Little Birch Village Hall. 3. Tump Lane area. 4. Area around Much Birch Church. No litter picking to take place on A49 as it is too dangerous and is under the control of the Highways Agency. JJ & Clerk to put together risk assessment and a list of volunteers taking part. No children under 15 years old allowed to take part due to insurance requirements. Litter picking Kits to be provided and high visibility jackets supplied by CPRE. & Keep Britain tidy.

**14. RESOLVED:** to incorporate into Parish Plan update.

**15. RESOLVED:** letter to Public Transport Manager HFDC. Outlining that the integrated transport plan doesn't take make sense or take into account the fact that less bus service would mean more cars on the road and more congestion into Hereford

**16. RESOLVED:** Communication between HFDC and parishioners not very good as many people seem confused uninformed. Better communication is needed for parishioners to understand the Waste Strategy for Herefordshire & Worcestershire 2004-2034. Clerk to condense the information received on waste queries from HFDC and put information onto website and in newsletter.

### **17. Lengthsman**

**17.1 RESOLVED:** work identified as weed killing to be undertaken at Tump Lane when weather permits, Ditching work at Tickle Withy Pitch.

**18. RESOLVED:** To support planning application DCSW2009/046/F – Site Mosscroft Cottage Wrigglebrook Lane King's Thorn, Hereford Description: Extension and porch to house and detached work shop.

### **19. Meetings**

HALC Training dates noted

### **20. Correspondence**

Noted

HALC- Training Information – Have a youthful experience – Herefordshire Youth Council Presentation to Parish & Town Councillors Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 10am- 12am (free)

Local Leadership 2020- Regional Event For Quality & Aspiring Quality Parish & Town Councils across the West Midlands- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 3pm

Government Office West Midlands 5 St Philip's Palace- Birmingham

Herefordshire Council- Bus Service contracts 2009/10

Herefordshire council – Response to letter sent by Parish Council regarding A49 Litter

Herefordshire Council – Information about Sustainable Communities Act

Community First- information on Planning Champions

Mazars: Notice of audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009

Festival Housing Group – Festival News

Herefordshire Volunteers of the Year Awards 2009- Information

**20.1 RESOLVED:** Clerk to write again to HFDC regarding A49 litter as reply letter from HFDC didn't address the issues raised and a schedule of dates that a litter pick will be under taken by HFDC.

### **21. Finance**

21.1 Current bank balance noted as £11,024.13

21.2 No invoices for payment

21.3 **RESOLVED:** Clerks salary schedule for payments April 2009- 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

21.4 Payment of Donation of £130.00 to Much Birch Parochial Church Council for grass cutting & maintenance of the church clock 2009/10

21.5 Noted payment of lengthsman as agreed at last meeting minute 18.1 £133.00

21.6 **RESOLVED:** risk assessment & signed by Chairman. Financial working group to meet quarterly regarding internal controls & budget monitoring

22. **RESOLVED:** to sign paperwork for opening an account with HSBC for Parish Plan Projects.

**23. Matters raised for next meeting**

Review of Parish Plan

24. **RESOLVED:** Dates for next meeting Annual Parish Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm followed by Annual Meeting of the Parish council.

Signed.....

Dated.....