

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on
Thursday 4th February 2010 in Much Birch Community Hall

Present: Chairman, Mr J Jones (JJ) Mrs A Cook (AC) Mrs M Swift (MS) Ms V Short,(VS) Mr G Simms,(GS) Mr D Davies(DD)

In attendance: Kath Greenow (Parish Clerk) Cllr R Smith

2 members of the public

1. Apologies

West Mercia Police

2 Declaration of interest declared by (AC) on agenda item 15.5 and GS & JJ declared prejudicial interests on agenda item 12.5 planning application for extension to Much Birch Community Hall.

3. RESOLVED: Minutes of Parish Council meeting 03/12/2009 agreed & signed and minutes of extra ordinary meeting on 12/01/2010 agreed & signed

4. No police report.

5. Ward Councillor reported that the new planning structure was in place. A high proportion of planning applications will be decided by planning officers Planning officers are now required to consult with ward member therefore it would be helpful if the parish council could let him know the council's view on application received by them for comment. Next PACT meeting 23/12/2010 7pm Much Birch Community hall. Cllr Smith would be meeting with Amey next week and will be raising the matter of snow clearance during the recent bad weather and asking when the highway defects which have been logged with Amey will be attended to.

6. Public forum.

Concerns Raised by local resident on HALC's finances.

7. Clerks report

Clerk reported that she had had an email from Amey officer dealing with the request for a further bus stop at the old shop King's Thorn .From what has been proposed the pole would go in the verge on the opposite side of the road to the house called 'High Force' by the telephone box. It is proposed that this bus stop flag will say picking up & dropping off passenger on both sides of the road. In order to install this bus stop pole we will require written authorisation from the landowner(s) saying that they have no objections to passenger waiting or getting off the bus within their land.

Bus shelter request on A49. The Amey officer attending to this request has informed us that they The Highways Agency have said that they have a program of bus stop infrastructure upgrade for the A49 to include this stop both sides of the road. They will be undertaking the raised bus kerbs, footway reshaping & any remarking required. With regard to the bus shelter he has been given a verbal ok but needs to obtain written approval which is taking a while longer to obtain.

8. Information to go into The King's Thorn & Birches Newsletter and onto Much Birch website

Synopsis of parish council meeting in Feb & update on bus shelter at Church Stop on A49 and bus stop request near The Old Shop King's Thorn. Parking problems along Kings Thorn during recent bad weather.

9. Lengthsman

None identified at present

10. Highway issues

There were number areas through the parish that needed repairs to signage and road repairs these were:

Pot holes along Wriggle Brook, Upper Wriggle Brook, Black Smith Lane, Tickle Withy Pitch Pages Pitch, Kings Thorn road near Junction of A49.

Damage to verges by cars & large vehicles:

Tickle withy Pitch, Barrack Hill

Signage needing replacement:

New sign at Bottom of Barrack hill as this has been smashed into and broken off. Chevron signage at Bottom of Barrack hill needs replacing/ repaired as it is bent and leaning into the hedge concerns were raised with regard to poor repairs made to previous pot holes. Cllrs had tried to contact Amey a number of times to request replacement of grit for the grit bins over the Christmas period and the clerk had contacted them on a number of occasions requesting grit for the parish but the response was that what grit was left would be used for major roads.

11. RESOLVED: To ask Amey for more grit bins at Gilston (bottom of The Thorn) Canada Field (bottom of Barrack Hill) Clerk to also find out price of grit bins and report back at next meeting along with response from Amey on the request for more grit bins in the parish. Cllrs wished to thank those who came forward to help to grit the roads during the recent bad weather.

12. Planning

12.1 Shaping Our Place 2026 .Cllr smith was invited to enlighten cllrs on what this consultation was about and how this would replace the current UDP and become the LDF He pointed out the key issues and informed cllrs that there was to be a meeting for parish council's in the ward at The Black Swan Much Dewchurch on 24th Feb 2010.

12.2 RESOLVED: to call an extra Ordinary meeting for 18/02/2010 at 7pm to consider a response to the consultation paper on Shaping Our Place 2026

12.3 RESOLVED: Clerk to obtain appeal information and a response to the planning inspectorate on the appeal logged for refusal of planning permission of erection of a new dwelling –The Chalice The Thorn, King's Thorn Hereford will be considered at the extra ordinary meeting on 18/02/2010

12.4 Inspectorates decision letter of dismissal of the appeal of refusal of planning permission of Rangers Lodge Little Birch Road, King's Thorn noted

Cllr John Jones gave a statement on the planning application received for proposed single story extension of much Birch Community Hall and then left the room along with Cllr Glenn Simms before ant discussion on the application was entered into.

12.5 RESOLVED: Application for proposed extension of Much Birch Community Hall application DMSW/100118

Application; SUPPORTED council comment this will enable the hall to utilize more space needed to benefit the need within the community , as the hall is a community building that is well used by local people.

12.6 RESOLVED: Clerk to write to HFDC officer and ask for information regarding section 106 planning agreements. PC to put together a wish list through the parish plan for the purpose of any further section 106 agreements on planning in the parish.

13. Meetings

13.1 HALC training dates noted.

13.2 JJ reported on parish plan process and that help in completing a parish plan is given by Coordinating and Commissioning Officer of Herefordshire Partnership. The steering group need to meet to continue with the process of updating the parish plan Clerk to contact MBVH booking secretary to see what dates are available. Information on the parish plan update and asking for people interested to come along to the steering group meetings to go in the parish newsletter & on the website.

14. Correspondence

Noted

14.1 information on Herefordshire Biodiversity Partnership – noted

14.2 Defect report on highways issues noted

14.3 Information on No Wrong Door – noted

14.4 information on Your Police Service & Beyond in line questionnaire - noted

15. Finance

15.1 Current bank balance noted as £11650.56

15.2 budget update report noted

15.3 Resolved to pay:

Clerks expenses (postage) £ 5.78

HALC (posters) £6.00

A4 Office Products £51.01

M Dyer (lengthsman) £75.00

15.4 Remittance noted from Lloyds banking group £36.96

15.5 RESOLVED: not to accept the offer from Herefordshire Council road safety team of the offer of further deployment of 7 Sid's free of charge and therefore request that a revised invoice is issued for those Sid's where complete information was collected these being 2 x August & 2 x September 2009

15.6 **RESOLVED:** not to pay.

15.7 RESOLVED: Clerk to attend SLCC practitioner's conference on 26th Feb .Financial contribution of ½ conference fee and ½ travel costs. 2 day CILCA financial to be confirmed at next meeting

15.8 RESOLVED: to purchase 1 copy of The Parish Councillor's Guide – new edition cost of £15.95 each

16. Matters for next meeting (no discussion)

PACT meeting – report

HALC – finance issues update report

Grit bins update p/ plan update

Parking of cars along Kings Thorn

Agenda items for next meeting to be sent to the clerk at least 5 working days before the next meeting. Deferred items from agenda

17. Next Meeting Thursday 4th March 2010@ 7.30pm Much Birch Community Hall

Signed.....

Dated.....