

Annual Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council
Held on Thursday 14th May 2010 at 7.30pm at Much Birch Community Hall

1. Election of Chairman

Resolved: John Jones elected as Chairman

Declaration of acceptance of office sign by chairman

2. Election of Vice Chair

Resolved: Dave Davies elected as Vice Chair

3. Members elected to following working groups

Planning Working Group

JJ, DD, GS, VS, MS& AC

Finance Working Group

JJ, VS, MS, AC

Employment Working Group

JJ, VS, AC

Members elected to outside bodies

Steiner Academy (1)

MS

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

Also in attendance: Kath Greenow Parish Clerk,
Also present 5 parishioners, C.S.O Fiona Witcher

4 Apologies accepted from Ward Cllr R Smith & Mrs M Swift (MS))

5. Declaration of interest on agenda items

None declared

6. RESOLVED: Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 01/04/2010 agreed & signed.

7. West Mercia Police report

Report given by C.S.O Fiona Witcher outlining 3 reported crimes in the last 2 months in the parish

8. Public forum

Parishioners thanked the Parish Council for their work during the last year

There were concerns over the amount of pot holes still waiting to be repaired. Parishioners asked the Parish Council to continue with efforts regarding road safety issues on the A49 THROUGH Much Birch.

A question was asked regarding the possibility of a bus stop near the old shop near The Thorn.

It was explained that there were some difficulties regarding the siting of the stop as it was near to a property and to put a official stop there would encroach on to the property owners land.

Clerk was asked to chase this up to see if another solution could be found to this.

Parishioners asked for the Parish Council meetings to be listed in the newsletter.

It was the view of the Cllrs that this was already being done. Clerk to check and put up a notice on the boards of all scheduled meetings for the year.

Dog Fouling - Concerns were raised regarding dog feaces and the amount of feaces not being picked up in bags by dog owners.

The Clerk was asked to look into the new laws on dog fouling and put a information on the laws regarding dog fouling in the newsletter report and on the website.

Problems with parking along Much Birch School

There continues to be serious parking problems along the highway outside the primary school .Parishioners asked that as well as parents having there say on what they would like done to alleviate the parking problem parishioners were also entitled to their view. Concerns raised.

Parents inconsiderate parking near junction leading onto A49 and in the bus stop. Parking on both sides of the road near the junction of the A49 causing problems for safe passage of the service buses and other road users as cars parking on both sides of the road are causing considerable problems for cars trying to pass.

The overall view was that this needed attending to and parents should be made to drop their child off and go and not stay chatting for a considerable amount of time after dropping the child off for school. Parking has been taking place from 2.30 pm until well after 3.30pm

It was agreed that the parish council would ask for an up to date governors report from Much Birch Primary School as one had not been sent for a number of years.

9. Clerks report:

On going issues with road safety on A49.

An email had been received from Highways agency concerning the parish council concerns of road safety along the A49 through Much Birch, from **Serena**

Carmichael, Route Performance Manager - South:

Following my email last week, I am pleased to report that we have recently started a review of the A49 South of Hereford which is progressing nicely and we are now looking at a number of areas in more detail, one of these areas is Much Birch Village i.e. within the speed limit extent. I have also been in a meeting with the Safer Roads Partnership yesterday regarding the principle of them taking a route based enforcement approach along the entire length of the A49. I am awaiting some further information from them but at this stage we have agreed the principle of this approach.

As set out in my last email I apologise for the fact that the Highways Agency is unable to attend your meeting, but would be very grateful if you could please take a list of questions for me and I will endeavour to respond to them as soon as possible. The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of the minutes of the PACT meeting which had taken place on 13/05/2010

10. RESOLVED: working group for updating the Parish Council's standing orders

JJ,VS, AC

11. lengthsman.

11.1 Work identified as stimming of the verges along Wriggle brook lane and inspection of ditches in the parish

Cllrs to email any suitable identified work for the lengthsman between meetings to the Clerk.

12. RESOLVED: Synopsis of meeting on 01/04/2010 explanation on new dog fouling laws

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14. RESOLVED: That the annual footpaths report and synopsis of Chairman's annual report to go on to the website and newsletter

15. Planning

No planning applications received for comment

16. Meetings

Awaiting training dates form HALC due out in late May

Noted as:

Equality & Human Rights Commission- Public Sector Duties

West Mercia Police Authority- Policing Matters Info

HALC-Training & information corner

17. Correspondence

Herefordshire Council- Parish Freighter Service

West Mercia Police Authority- Policing Matters in Herefordshire

Much Birch Parochial Council - letter of thanks for donation to grass cutting & church clock

The Steiner Academy Hereford – Invitation to open day

Herefordshire Council – Commons Act 2006

Equality & Human Rights Commission – Public Sector Duties

HALC-Information Corner

Herefordshire Council- Parish Freighter information

18. Finance

18.1 RESOLVED: To adopt internally audited Accounts for 2008/09

18.2 RESOLVED: To adopt internally audited end of year bank reconciliation 2008/09

18.3 RESOLVED: To transfer £2000.00 into new Community Projects account

18.4 RESOLVED: To pay invoices/Payments from 18.5-18.9

18.5 Much Birch Community Hall £126.00

18.6 Annual Allianz insurance premium £381.61

18.7 A4 Office Products £36.78

18.8 HALC Annual Subscription Fee £227.46

18.9 Clerk Expenses (postage) £9.36

19 Noted remittance of HFDCP3 Grant

19.1 Noted remittance for 1st precept payment for 2009/10

19.2 Noted remittance of Eon payment

20. Matters raised for next meeting (no Discussion)

Further hire of SID

King's Thorne Sign

Flashing Speed sign along A49 near the Pilgrim Inn

Parish Plan update

21. Date of next Meeting noted as 11/06/2009 @ 7.30pm Much Birch Community Hall

Signed.....

Dated.....