

**MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 in Much Birch Community Hall**

**Present:** Mr John Jones (JJ), Chairman Mrs A Cook (AC), Mrs M Swift (MS), Mr G Simms, (GS)

In attendance: Kath Greenow (Parish Clerk). Cllr R Smith Mr J Spreckley & 8 members of the public

**1. Apologies accepted from:**

Mr D Davies, Ms V Short, Rural Policing team

**2.** Declaration of interest declared - None

**3. RESOLVED:** Minutes of Parish Council meeting 1/07/2010 agreed & signed as a true record

**3a RESOLVED:** Minutes of extra ordinary meeting 28/07/2010 agreed & signed as a true record

**4. Police report** – no police present.

**5. Ward Councillors report**

Cllr smith informed the council of the next Pact meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> November at Much Birch Village Hall.

Shaping Our Place – Rural areas. Main points highlighted

Communities should have the opportunity to have a defined settlement boundary or not. The LDF should differentiate between small settlements. It should also make some provision for rural community development other than affordable housing. Cllrs acknowledged this along with others highlighted in Cllr Smith response to the rural areas paper of which is attached to these minutes.

**6. Public forum.**

No matters raised

**7.** Mr Brimacombe gave a report on Much Birch Old Charities in which he explained how the charity came about and the e Poor Acre as it is known was donated to Much Birch by a unknown person.

He outlined that the land is currently rented out to a local member of the parish and that they had expressed an interest in purchasing the land. He asked the councils view on this.

7a It was **RESOLVED** that the selling of the land would need to considered as well as other possible options further.

**8. Clerks report**

Clerk reported that she had contacted Amey a number of times requesting an updateregarding the bus stop at The Thorn but had not been able to get a response. This will be chased up again with a view to arranging a meeting with the Amey officer concerned during the next few weeks.

9. A presentation was given by Mr James Spreckley regarding proposed affordable housing at Minster farm, which would consist of 15 affordable dwellings & 7 dwellings for open market. The council **RESOLVED** that they needed time to consider any response to the proposal and that at this time the council could not express an opinion on the proposal.

10. **RESOLVED**: to include a synopsis of the minutes of the last meeting. And that the history regarding Much Birch Old Charities is put on the website.

### **Lengthsman**

Work identified

Wrigglebrook lane: grass cutting required along some sections of the verges.

12. An update on the meeting with highways agency and other representative with regard to road safety issues on A49 was given but in the report of the meeting that have been circulated it was felt that quite a few of the points spoken about were missed out and those that were in the report were not clear.

Cllr Smith was thanked for his input and help and attendance at the meeting. It was **RESOLVED**: that pressure should be put upon Herefordshire Council to attend to the problems raised at the meeting (please see report attached)

13. **RESOLVED** to respond to the National and Transportation (NHT) Public Representative on line survey. Chairman & Clerk to complete task

14. No wrong Door extended consultation noted.

15. **RESOLVED**: to complete questionnaire received from Herefordshire Council with regard to Speed Indicator Device Scheme.

16. **RESOLVED**: to adopt donations & grants policy after amendment made to take out section 1 of draft policy

17. Planning

### **Please note error made in numbering**

17.1 (18.1) Planning Applications for comment:

DMS/101874/FH High Force King's Thorn Hereford

Description: proposed alteration of front porch, removal of timber cladding & replacement with render. Proposed first floor extension over existing garage & two story infil extension to rear of garage.

Council Comment: Application Supported

17.2 Planning permissions granted

The Granary Minster Farm, Much Birch, Herefordshire

Reinstatement of building to provide carport with ancillary works

Land at or near Windmill Hill Pencoyd Court & Trevase Farms, also Court far at Much Birch

Proposed erection of polytunnels (retrospective)

17.3 Refusal of planning permission

Wyeside Cottage, Forge Lane Wrigglebrook Herefordshire

Erection of single detached 2 story dwelling and new vehicular & pedestrian access

**No item 18**

**19. Meetings**

19.1 Date for next Parish Plan meeting to be confirmed

19.2 Next PACT meeting noted as 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm Much Birch Community Hall

**20. Finance**

20.1 Completion of external audit noted no recommendations made with regard to accounting practices of the council.

20.2 Letter from HALC ref questions raised on accounts 2008/09 noted

**RESOLVED:** that Parish Council would request that in future HALC accounts are audited

By an independent auditor not linked to HALC

20.3 Current bank balance noted as 13,011.87

20.4 Budget update report noted

20.5 Resolved to pay:

Mazars Audit Fee £2009/10 £141.00

M Dyer- Lengthsman work invoice June/ August £584.25

Clerks expenses (postage) £8.74

Herefordshire Council SID hire fee £235.00

IOC annual Fee £35.00

HALC sub scription£225.35

20.6 **RESOLVED:** no donation/grant awarded to Herefordshire Citizens Advice Bureaux

**21. Correspondence**

Correspondence noted as

To note information from Herefordshire Council ref Update from the Rural Regeneration Zone

To note the following:

West Mercia Police Authority – Introduction to West Mercia Police Authority Information corner info from HALC

No Need for Nuclear- campaign newsletter

Festival Housing Group information on Building Successful Communities 2008-13

The Marches Housing – Annual report 2010

Herefordshire Council – Parish Walk

Queen Elizabeth II Field Challenge

Herefordshire Council – Electoral Services Office Parish Council elections 2010 – casual vacancies

**22. Matters for next meeting (no discussion)**

**Footpaths**

**Parish Lane update**

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

**23. Next Meeting** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010@ 7.30pm Much Birch Community Hall

Signed.....

Dated.....