

# MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at Much Birch  
Community Hall on Thursday November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011

No. MBPC/MR/oo2

## Councillors Present:

Cllr. Dave Davies (Chair)  
Cllr. Alison Cook (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr. Andrew Crum  
Cllr. Glen Sims  
Cllr. Stephen Turner

Clerk: Mo Ross

Also present: CSO Witcher and 1 further member of the public.

## Public Participation:

Feedback from the HALC AGM was given by a member of the public who had attended, reporting that further information was available on the HALC website. Attention was also drawn to the Electoral Review of Herefordshire.

**The Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was formally opened by the Chairman**

### 1.0 Apologies

Apologies received from Ward Councillor Russell B. Hamilton, and Parish Councillor Michael Smith, who is unable to attend due to illness.

### 2.0 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Alison Cook on item 5.3 of the agenda, re: invoices from Mr. Terry Cook and HFDC.

### 3.0 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting MBPC/MR001 held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### 4.0 Reports

**CSO Witcher** explained that reports will no longer be given by the Police at Parish Council meetings. Electronic briefings will continue, and are available to members of the public who sign up to receive them. These will also be available at [muchbirchparish.org.uk](http://muchbirchparish.org.uk). and in the Parishes' newsletter. Information was given on the new telephone contact number for non-urgent contact with the Police - 101.

### 5.0 Financial Report

#### 5.1 **Bank Balances**

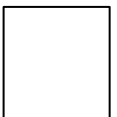
@ 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	HSBC Community Account 037	£ 14, 622.32
@ 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	HSBC Community Projects Account 091	£ 5, 000
@ 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	HSBC Business Money Manager	£ nil

#### 5.2 **Receipts**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Half of Precept HC 107825		£ 3,000
Cheque from Harrison Clark Shawcross	£	10.60

#### 5.3 **Payments**

HALC Invoice 864 Temporary Clerk Cover 09/11	£ 186.17
HALC Invoice 879 Temporary Clerk Cover 10/11	£ 106.75
Much Birch Community Hall Invoice	£ 130
Mazars LLP External Audit Invoice	£ 144



Mr. Terry Cook re: Easily Ltd. Invoice - website costs	£ 32.38
HFDC Invoice 91010319 Uncontested Election Costs	£ 67.72
Amey – repayment of P3 grant for 2011/2012	£ 350

The Financial report was noted and it was **Unanimously Resolved** to approve all payments listed.

## 6.0 Donations

Requests for Donations were considered in accordance with the Donations Policy. It was **Unanimously Resolved** to donate £ 100 to Dore Community Transport, and £100 to Much Birch PCC. To decline a donation to Citizens Advice Bureau. **Action Point: Clerk** to write to Citizens Advice Bureau informing them that their request did not meet the criteria of the Donations Policy, and that the annual budget limit for donations had in any case, already been reached.

## 7.0 Annual Parish Council Precept

It was **Unanimously Resolved** to keep the Precept at its current level, and to inform HFDC that the Precept requirement for 2012/13 is £ 6,000.

## 8.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

The height of Hedges along the Thorn and parking outside Kingthorn Cottage was discussed, as was parishioner correspondence relating to this matter. It was **Agreed** that further action was required. **Action Point: Clerk** to respond to parishioner's letter, asking that hedge cutting be expedited. Clerk also to contact the Planning Enforcement Officer for the area regarding building works to garage at Kingsthorpe Cottage.

The resignation of the Footpaths Officer was received. It was agreed to advertise for a replacement volunteer, and to invite the local Ramblers Association to walk the footpaths and report and defects. **Action Point: Clerk** place advert in King's Thorn, The Birches and Aconbury newsletter and to write to the local Ramblers Association.

Clerk's report re: P3 matters noted. It was **Unanimously Resolved** to return the 2011/12 P3 Grant in the sum of £ 350 to The Rights of Way Warden Manager, Tim Thompson at AMEY.

Parishioner's report of the complete obstruction of entrance to footpath MB24 at junction of B 4348 noted. **Action Point: Clerk** to report to AMEY.

It was **Unanimously Resolved** to purchase a replacement grit bin to be sited outside Anfield House, Barrack Hill. **Action Point: Clerk** to place order.

### **Further defects noted:**

At bottom of Ticklewithy Pitch, near Wrigglebrook junction, just above Cress Cottage, two blocked drains. Will require Gully Sucker.

C1263 near Callow Junction A49, a ridge is appearing in the middle of the road as the tarmac is separating and rising.

C1263 circular deep pothole south of the above, opposite property with large carved dragon in garden.

C1263 travelling north from The Thorn toward A49, near Waterloo Lane, section of edge of road missing, affects as large pothole.

Barrack Hill, outside property Anfield House, 'Little Birch' sign causing blind spot for resident of Anfield House as he leaves his driveway. Is requesting raising of the sign by two feet.

**Action Point: Clerk** to report all to Amey and to chase report regarding missing 30mph sign at The Thorn, and its pole which is resting diagonally in the verge causing a potential hazard.

Height of Hedges along c1263 woodside, cutting required. **Action Point: Clerk** to contact Duchy of Cornwall to request that hedges are cut.

9.0 It was **Agreed** to accept Mr. Brimacombe's offer to attend the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December. **Action Point: Clerk** to contact Mr. Brimacombe to confirm.

## 10.0 Planning Matters



Planning sheet noted.

New application:

**DMS/112600/F**

Land South of Crossways, East of Wrigglebrook Cottage, Little Birch, Hereford, HR2 8AU.

Proposed erection of Agricultural Barn

OS 350512, 231559

It was **Resolved** to comment that there were **No Objections** .

**11.0 Previous Action Points**

Clerks update received. Awaiting condition of sandbags report from Cllr. Smith.

**12.0 Correspondence**

The correspondence sheet was noted.

**Action Item: Clerk** to contact The Woodlands Trust regarding possibility of free trees for the Parish in celebration of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

**13.0 Dates of Parish Council Meetings**

The dates of Parish Council Meetings for 2012 were noted.

**Action Item: Clerk** to confirm bookings with Secretary of Much Birch Community Hall.

**14.0 Parishes' Newsletter and Much Birch Website**

It was **Agreed** to include an advert for a Footpath's Officer and volunteers to walk the paths.

The Audited Accounts for 2010/11. A synopsis of this meeting.

**15.0 Matters relayed to the Clerk for the Agenda of the next meeting**

To consider Much Birch PCC's suggestion that the Parish Council might adopt the Memorial Clock at Much Birch Church.

To agree new signatories on HSBC Bank Accounts

To receive and consider Mr. Brimacombe's report and update on Poor's Acre.

To receive and comment on any update on LDF consultation matters.

**16.0 Confirmation of the next Ordinary Meeting, Time, Date and Venue**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council will be held **on Thursday**

**1<sup>st</sup> December, at Much Birch Community Hall, commencing at 7.30.p.m.**

*As all members of the public had already left the meeting, a resolution to exclude the public due to the confidential nature of the following item was unnecessary.*

**17.0 Employment matters**

The Clerk's contract was discussed and a confidential minute recorded.

Meeting Closed at 9.28 p.m.

Signed..... Councillor David L. Davies  
(Chairman)

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011