

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at Much Birch Community Hall on Thursday 4th April 2019

Present:

Cllr Steve Turner (Vice Chair)
Cllr Roisin Burge
Cllr Andy Crum
Cllr David Baldwin
Cllr Rosemary Rigby MBE

In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright, Lengthsman; Paul Wright and 2 members of the public

Open Session:-

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
There were no matters raised by members of the public.

The Open Session closed at 7.31 pm.

1.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Cllr Alison Cook and Footpath Officer; Steve Owen.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

There were declarations of interest recorded for Cllrs Baldwin (pecuniary) and Turner (non-pecuniary) in regard to planning application number 190880 – site at The Granary, Much Birch.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

3.1) The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th March 2019 were signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4.0 Reports

4.1) P.C.S.O. from West Mercia Police

The Bulletins with updates had been received and circulated.

4.2) **Ward Councillor** Ward Cllr Harlow had not sent a report for April.

4.3) **Locality Steward** James Howells the new Locality Steward had sent his bulletins. He had come to the area from Leominster. Thanks were recorded to Dave Atkinson (present at the meeting) for all of his work while in post and with good luck wished for the future.

5.0 Clerk's Update on Action Items and Correspondence

The updates were noted and included:

Elections Bulletins

Great British Spring Clean

Newsletter Enquiry

6.0 Financial Report

6.1) **The following bank balances were noted:**

@ 13 th March 2019 HSBC Community Account	£10,922.28
@ 13 th March 2019 HSBC Community Projects Account	£11,083.04

6.2) The following payments were approved:

Payments to be made from main account

Mrs A Wright (Apr sal £246.16, mileage £32.85, other expenses £72.00)	£351.01
HM Revenue & Customs (tax)	£61.40
Much Birch Community Hall (room hire PC)	£42.00
Sub Total	£454.41

Payments to be made from Community account

Much Birch Community Hall (room hire NDP)	£155.00
Data Orchard (NDP)	£285.60
Sub Total	£440.60
Grand Total	£895.01

Resolved: that the payments were passed for payment: (proposed by Cllr Burge and seconded by Cllr Turner) Unanimous.

7.0 **Village issues update**

7.1) To discuss organising a litter pick
This would be placed on the May Agenda.

8.0 **Planning Matters**

8.1) To consider any planning applications

There were new applications for consideration:

Planning Consultation – 190880 – Site at The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire

Description: Proposed three bedroom dwelling and detached garage with improved access
Cllrs Baldwin and Turner had declared an interest in the application. The remaining councillors indicated no objection to the proposals in 190880, in principle, but the comments would be finalised by e mail.

Planning Consultation – 191044 – Reform Cottage, Little Birch, HR2 8AT

Description: Proposed alterations of existing outbuilding to ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling and proposed new outbuilding.

The Parish Council commented that there were no objections to the proposals in application 191044.

Planning Consultation – 190717 – Woodland View, The Thorn, HR2 8AN

Description: Proposed outbuilding

The Parish Council commented that there was objection to the application proposal on 190717 due to the size of the building in relation to the plot size and the loss of the vehicle turning space that had been part of the original development plan for the site.

9.0 **Parish Roads and Footpaths**

9.1) To note any defects to be reported to Balfour Beatty

Potholes on the Thorn (half way up) road number U71603
Thanks were recorded for the resurfacing of Little Birch Road.

9.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman

Lengthsman was due to have a scan but would be getting back to work as soon as possible.

9.3) Footpath Officer – to receive any update or action points

Footpath Officer Steve Owen had sent his apologies. No further reporting this time. A councillor advised that path MB24 was blocked.

10.0 Neighbourhood Plan- update

The public consultation event that had taken place on the 16th March 2019 at the Much Birch Community Hall from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm had gone well. There had not been a huge turnout but those who had attended had spent quality time interacting with the process. Thanks were recorded to the volunteers and to the refreshment providers. The results indicated support for the policies as presented across the five key topic areas. The overall feeling was that people did not want large scale developments. The sites offered as available for development were being assessed by the consultants and in line with the policy document.

11.0 Parishes' Newsletter and Much Birch Website

11.1) To consider items suitable for inclusion in the newsletter and on the website. Clerk to send a précis to the Newsletter.

12.0 Matters to be raised on the Agenda for the next meeting

All the usual items would be included. Plus end of year and finance, Tump Lane Traffic Survey, lighting at the crossing update and kerb along the road in Tump Lane by the Millennium Green to safeguard the verge and Acacia Tree. Also to include arranging a Litter Pick

13.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Meeting (Annual Parish and Annual Statutory Meetings of the Parish Council) would be held on Thursday 9th May 2019, from 7.30pm, in The Much Birch Community Hall.

Due to the confidential nature of the business of this agenda item, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (3) it is proposed to put forward a motion to exclude members of the public during discussion of this agenda item

14.0 To discuss NJC 2019 Pay Award and Increment for the Clerk from 1/04/19

The National Joint Council pay award under NJC conditions of service and scale point increment were both agreed and confirmed from 1/04/19.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed:

.....
Chairman

.....
Date