

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at Much Birch Community Hall on Thursday 5th July 2018

Present:

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair)
Cllr Steve Turner (Vice Chair)
Cllr Roisin Burge
Cllr Andy Crum
Cllr David Baldwin
Cllr Rosemary Rigby MBE (co-opted)

In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright, Lengthsman; Paul Wright, and 15 members of the public

Open Session:-

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was a discussion about the appeal for the Larkrise Housing development for Tump Lane. A site visit had taken place and the appeal against the refusal of planning consent had been allowed. There was uncertainty regarding the most recent application made for the site now that the original application had been granted through appeal. The planning application was outline only and further details would be advised within a time frame for the proposals to proceed. The Ward Cllr had sent his apologies for the Parish Council Meeting but he had spoken against the planning proposals. The Inspector had dismissed the points of objection that had been raised. Those present thanked the Parish Council for their representations to the Planning Authority regarding the application.

The Open Session closed at 7.50pm.

1.0 Co-option of Councillor and signing of forms

Two candidates were presented for co-option. Each candidate introduced themselves to the members and said a few words about what they would bring to the role. There was a discussion between the members and a ballot was then held. Miss Rosemary Rigby MBE was co-opted following a majority vote. Proposed by Cllr Cook and seconded by Cllr Turner. Cllr Rigby signed her Acceptance of Office Form and Declaration of Registrable Interest Form.

2.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Ward Cllr David Harlow.

3.0 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

4.0 Minutes of previous meeting

4.1) The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th June 2018 were signed as true and correct records of the Meeting.

5.0 Reports

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

The Bulletins with updates had been received and circulated.

5.2) Ward Councillor Ward Cllr Harlow had sent his report as detailed here (sic):

Much Birch Parish Council

"Ward member report, July 2018"

Tump Lane

It was very disappointing to read that the appeal on the Tump Lane planning application has granted permission for 20 houses to be built on the site. I will be meeting with planners to clarify one or two issues such as the plans for the footpaths (some of the land is in private ownership). This is clearly not the outcome that most of the parish wanted but the Inspector has made his decision.

With road works etc there is likely to be considerable disruption in the area for some time. I will await the thoughts of Much Birch parish council on how to channel our thoughts and comments on this issue.

Roads

We're still waiting for BBLP to assess some of the worst roads (Aconbury Close, Little birch road) and re-prioritise them. As far as I'm concerned they are amongst the worst roads in my ward.

Jesse

Jesse is giving a talk at Café Miro, Hereford on 13 th July at 6pm, this is designed mainly for a business audience, if there is interest please let me know as it is by invitation only."

5.3) Locality Steward Dave Atkinson the Locality Steward had sent his bulletins.

6.0 Clerk's Update on Action Items and Correspondence

The updates were noted and included:

Correspondence from Herefordshire Council

Notification of new Code of Conduct (advisory that this be adopted from May 2019 following elections as the adoption has to be publicly advertised and HALC will do a global sweep of member councils)

Herefordshire Council Budget consultation (4th July) Town Hall 6.30pm

End of Year Accounts

Status has been advised to PKF Littlejohn regarding accounts for 2017 -2018. A thank you letter had been sent to the Internal Auditor.

7.0 Financial Report

7.1) The following bank balances were noted:

@ 13 th June 2018 HSBC Community Account	£12,305.18
@ 13 th June 2018 HSBC Community Projects Account	£18,970.69

7.2) The following payments were approved:

Payments to be made from main account

Mrs A Wright (July salary £319.55, mileage £15.30)	£334.85
HM Revenue & Customs (tax)	£80.00
Mrs A Wright (Aug salary £246.16)	£246.16
HM Revenue & Customs (tax)	£61.40
Much Birch Community Hall (room hire)	£42.00
Came & Company (PC Insurance)	£291.20
Sub Total	£1055.61

Payments to be made from Community account

Much Birch Community Hall (room hire)

£28.00

Sub Total £28.00

Grand Total £1083.61

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

7.3) To progress road signage for Forge Lane (name plate and HGV info)

Payment for the Forge Lane signage was resolved to be paid in the sum of £472.86 from the Community Account and the fitting quotation was accepted.

7.4) To discuss churchyard mowing donation

The legislation around church giving was discussed and the Parish Council resolved not to make a donation towards the mowing from the PC funds following a majority vote.

8.0 School Parking and Village issues update

8.1) To receive related updates and correspondence

The waiting and loading recommendations had been advised and would be as proposed. There had been some issues with parking on the school sports day and a “major incident” had been lodged with the police due to the roads being blocked up with parked cars. Those present at the meeting were advised to call 101 if the road were to be blocked at night due to school events.

9.0 Planning Matters

9.1) To consider any update on planning appeals including Larkrise

Application Reference & Site Address: 130945 - Land at, Tump Lane, Much Birch, Hereford, HR2 8HW

Description of development: Residential development comprising up to 20 dwellings, including up to 10 affordable dwellings with associated new access (via Tump Lane) and car parking arrangements for both existing and proposed and community facility.

Appellant's name: Larkrise Co-housing and Herefordshire Housing Ltd

Appeal reference: APP/W1850/W/17/3180227

Appeal start date: 12 December 2017

The Appeal outcome was noted and discussed during the Open Session.

9.2) To consider any planning applications

One application was considered: Planning Application Number 182258 at Bryanstan, Much Birch for the creation of a new dormer to the roof. The PC supported the proposals.

9.3) To consider impact of Herefordshire Transport Package (correspondence refers)

This item was raised by a resident who could not be present at the July Meeting. The subject would be placed on the September Agenda.

10.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

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

Top of Tump Lane – broken up surface and potholes.

10.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman

Sign fitting for Forge Lane would be done. Grit bin filling would be one fill per year by Balfour Beatty with top ups being the Parish Council's responsibility.

10.3) To note any matters/works relating to footpaths and to appoint new Footpath Officer

Appointment of new post holder would be carried over until September.

11.0 Neighbourhood Plan- update

Cllr Burge updated the meeting regarding the meeting held on the 31st May 2018

“Present. Steering Group; Dave Goldsmith (Chairman), Lesley Gare, Martin Booy, Tricia Egerton, Chris Grover , Steve Turner (PC), Roisin Burge (PC), Bill Bloxsome (Data Orchard)

1. Apologies Shirley Coates, Geoff Nichol

2. Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approval of Record/notes from meeting 26 April 2018

The record was agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting of 26 April 2018

4. Matters arising.

(1) Settlement Boundaries update on Parish plan.

The Chairman reported that the settlement boundaries as they are set out on previous plans (Parish plan 2004) have now been included/clearly identified in the updated large map of Much Birch Parish. This map was purchased and used for parishioner reference at the initial NDP parish consultation event and with updating will be used for future NDP public consultation events.

The need for further updating to include the sites of all planning permissions granted by Herefordshire Council since 2011 was agreed. Action RB to contact Karla Johnson (Snr Planning Officer) for records. Chairman/Vice Chair to update plan.

5. Review of written (1st draft) NDP policies and actions to take forward.

The five priority areas identified by residents of the parish (NDP Community survey 2017) for the future development of Much Birch NDP are as recorded :

Environment

Housing

Roads and Traffic

Community Services

Employment.

It was agreed that the first drafts of policies associated with the five areas would be passed to Bill B (Data Orchard) for review and further development. Bill stressed the need for policies to reflect what the community have said and the requirements and guidance of national/local policies. Bill undertook to prepare and circulate a second draft of MB policies for further discussion of Additions/amendments/options at the next NDP meeting planned for 28 June 2018 .

6/7. Further consideration and development of criteria for Assessment of sites proposed for future housing development.

The sequence of development of **Criteria for assessment of sites** was agreed as follows: Agreement and confirmation of the MB NDP policies will be followed by further consideration of the development of criteria for Assessment of sites. Note: The group have undertaken some initial work on this based on Community consultation /survey 2017 and review of a standard range of criteria and critical issues .This work will now be followed up with more detailed consideration of the 26 areas (Criteria) identified for inclusion and a ‘match /fit check consideration against agreed policies.

The agreed **Criteria for assessment of sites** will then be passed to Mr Bill Bloxsome (Data Orchard) who will carry out an independent professional assessment of the sites submitted (Community consultation 2017) and make recommendations based on the criteria. In the interim Mr Bloxsome will be making early contact with all land owners who have submitted sites for consideration.

The results of the assessment will be presented at the next MB Parish Community consultation event (Autumn 2018).

8 AOB

Finance.

Thanks were extended to Chris G for his work in successfully securing financial grant support for the next stage of Much Birch NDP development.

***Date of next meeting Thursday 28 June 2018
7.30pm Much Birch Community Hall***

12.0 Self help gritting scheme

The Working Party (Cllrs Turner and Crum) advised that there was no update currently on the scheme. There would be a report for the September Meeting.

13.0 Parishes' Newsletter and Much Birch Website

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

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

All the usual items would be included plus Transport Package, Grit bins and new Footpath Officer appointment.

15.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 6th September 2018, from 7.30pm, in The Much Birch Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

.....
Chairman

.....
Date