

# MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at Much Birch Community Hall on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### Present:

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair)  
Cllr David Baldwin  
Cllr Tim Jones  
Cllr Roisin Burge  
Cllr Andy Crum

### In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright, Lengthsman; Paul Wright, and 5 members of the public

### Open Session:-

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A resident reported potatoes falling from trailers while in transit. A potato had narrowly missed hitting a pedestrian. The Clerk would follow this up with the Police.

The Traffic Regulation Orders, speed limit reduction and weight limit restriction, for Tump Lane were coming into force from 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

The burst water pipe near to the school was being repaired.

The official opening of the refurbished Phone Kiosk, in Wormelow, would take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 3.00pm.

The Open Session closed at 7.40pm.

### 1.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Cllr Steve Turner and Ward Cllr David Harlow.

### 2.0 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

### 3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

3.1) The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were signed as 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 sent his report as detailed here (sic):

#### Much Birch Parish Council

#### "Ward member report, October 2017

#### Challenge Fund resurfacing works

*Following the successful bid to the Department for Transport's Challenge Fund, Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty Living Places, will be commencing major resurfacing works on three main routes across Herefordshire from 18 September*

*A465*

*· 9 - 16 October: Worcester Road Roundabout (junction A4103) to Aylestone Park under night time works road closure. Northbound Diversion: A438/A49/A4103 Southbound Diversion:*

*A4103/A480/A438 (A49 southbound closed)*

*· 2 - 10 October: Llangua to Pontrilas under night time works road closure. Diversion via A40,*

*A4137 and A49*

· Mid-October - mid-November: sections between Pontrilas and Belmont Road under day time works convoy

Visit the website for details of roadworks on A4103 and A438

[https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/372/challenge\\_fund\\_resurfacing\\_works\\_set\\_to\\_be\\_gin\\_across\\_herefordshire](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/372/challenge_fund_resurfacing_works_set_to_be_gin_across_herefordshire)

Whilst there is significant short term pain for the residents of the county, once this work is done we will have better roads and this is all the result of us applying for central government money. This work supports Herefordshire's economic growth by investing in the condition of key transport routes leading to Herefordshire's Enterprise Zone

#### **Business support**

Please find attached business support available from Midlands Engine. Feel free to circulate this to any business owners who may be interested.

Last Friday saw the first Herefordshire business awards at the Three Counties Hotel, there were 175+ in attendance and it was an excellent advertisement for the county.

Further to this and the reason I'm not in Much Birch this evening is because another awards ceremony – Hereford BID awards are being held tonight in the Shire Hall

#### **School parking review**

The clerk will share with the council the parking review undertaken by ADL traffic consultants and I await feedback on the matter."

**4.3) Locality Steward** Dave Atkinson the Locality Steward had sent his bulletins.

### **5.0 Clerk's Update on Action Items and Correspondence**

The updates were noted and included:

"Dear Chief Executive and Electoral Services Officers,

*I write to inform you about the next stage of the 2018 Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Review. I can confirm that we intend to publish our Revised proposals for new constituency boundaries on Tuesday 17 October 2017. We will consult on these proposals for eight weeks, until 11 December 2017. This will be the last consultation during this review of constituencies, and the last chance to contribute your views to the Commission on the best pattern of constituencies to recommend to Parliament when we conclude our review next year, as we are statutorily obliged to do.*

*As when we consulted on our initial proposals last year, we rely heavily on local authorities to assist us in publicising the consultation, so we can engage with as many citizens as possible. We will be working with the Local Government Association and preparing a partner pack full of resources for you and your colleagues to use - I would very much appreciate it if you could help us in any way to spread the message that this is the last chance for people to have their say on our proposals. Unlike last year's consultation, we will not be hosting public hearings across the country - there is no provision to allow this in our governing legislation. All the information people need to see our proposals and contribute to the review will be on our website, at [www.bce2018.org.uk](http://www.bce2018.org.uk), from 17 October 2017.*

*If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.*

*Best wishes,*

*Roger*

**Roger Winter** | Review Manager

**Boundary Commission for England**

35 Great Smith Street | London | SW1P 3BQ

t: 020 7276 2124

*Dear Parish/Town Clerk*

Please find attached a statement from Herefordshire Council regarding Blueschool House.

Dear Parish/Town Clerk

Please find attached a press release being sent on behalf of the Marches Energy Agency (Keep Herefordshire Warm). Many of your residents may be interested in applying for a grant if they meet the criteria.

Three items to tempt and delight (we hope) your residents:

**Dating Photographs workshop – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**House History course – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**Performance of “My Dearest Girls” – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

As ever, please book if you’d like to come, and also help spread the word to others who might be interested.

HARC Bookings – for events at HARC and Learning Room hire

HARC (Herefordshire Archive & Records Centre)

Fir Tree Lane, Rotherwas, Hereford HR2 6LA

01432 260750

## **6.0 Financial Report**

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

@ 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2017 HSBC Community Account	£10,904.97
@ 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2017 HSBC Community Projects Account	£17,266.17

### **6.2) The following payments were approved:**

#### **Payments to be made from main account**

Mrs A Wright (Oct salary £220.72, mileage £15.30, home office £50.00 stamps £6.72, ink/stationery £28.70)	£321.44
The Post Office (tax)	£80.80
Longfield Services (Lengthsman)	£240.00
Much Birch Community Hall (room hire)	£28.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£670.24</b>

#### **Payments to be made from Community account**

PIP Printing for NDP Questionnaire	£1085.48
Much Birch Community Hall (NDP room hire)	£31.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£1116.48</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£1786.72</b>

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

### **6.3) To arrange Finance Working Party meeting re precept and budget**

Clerk to circulate date for Finance Working Party Meeting (Cllrs Cook, Turner and Burge).

### **6.4) To consider purchase of a wreath for the Remembrance Service at the Millennium Green on 10/11/17**

It was resolved that the Chair would purchase a suitable wreath and that this would be funded by the Parish Council.

## **7.0 School Parking and Village issues update**

### **7.1) To receive related updates and correspondence**

The ADL consultation report and recommendations for the parking restrictions near the Much Birch School had been received. The responses made had been taken into account the Parish Council were in support of the recommendations.

### **7.2) To receive any update on Herefordshire Road Safety Partnership and local speeding initiatives**

No further update since Ian Connolly of Community Speed Watch had advised that the matter was receiving attention.

### **7.3) Hollybush Lane entrance from A49 – update**

Project materials and suggestions have been made by Locality Steward. No further progress to date.

**7.4) Gullies and drainage – update** The Lengthsman reported that the gullies and drains in the vicinity of the school were currently clear.

## **8.0 Planning Matters**

### **8.1) To consider any planning applications as circulated and update on related matters**

There were new applications up for consideration as follows:

**APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:** 173361 - Ladywell Cottage, Ladywell Lane, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorpe, Herefordshire HR2 8AW

**DESCRIPTION:** Site for proposed dwelling

**APPLICANT(S):** Mrs K Preston

**GRID REF:** OS 350109, 231845

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Outline

Much Birch Parish Council considered the application 173361 and commented that they were in support of the application.

**APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:** 173432 - Downlands, Wrigglebrook Kingsthorpe, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 8AN

**DESCRIPTION:** Proposed alterations and extensions to existing dwelling.

**APPLICANT(S):** Agnew

**GRID REF:** OS 349943, 232107

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Full Householder

Much Birch Parish Council considered the application 173432 and commented that they were in support of the application.

**APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS:** 173052 - Land at Ash Farm, Much Birch, Herefordshire,

**DESCRIPTION:** Construction of a farm workers cottage

**APPLICANT(S):** Mr Will Lewis

**GRID REF:** OS 350131, 230667

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Planning Permission

Much Birch Parish Council considered the application 173052 and commented that they were in support of the application.

### **Telecommunications Mast on Barrack Hill**

Correspondence had been received, from **Harlequin Group** for a replacement telecommunications mast on Barrack Hill. The Parish Council considered the proposal and resolved that there were no comments to make.

## **9.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths**

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

The drain at Wrigglebrook Lane between "Jasmine Cottage" and "Sherwood" has crumbled and subsided.

The sign post (Barrack Hill) at the turning to Little Birch needs attention.

The BT cover on the path near the school is smashed. The Lengthsman had advised the Locality Steward of the hazard.

Barrack Hill grit bin has been damaged and needs replacement.

**9.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman**

Other seasonal works would be carried out now flailing completing.

**9.3) To receive Report from Footpath Officer**

The path MB19, near the Scout Hut, was clear, sign posted and able to be walked.

**10.0 Neighbourhood Plan- update re meetings etc.**

Cllr Burge updated the meeting regarding the questionnaires. The distribution and collection would be taking place, followed by analysis of the content. A prize draw had been included to incentivise return of the completed questionnaires.

The analysis would take 4 – 6 weeks to complete. The Meeting scheduled for the 26<sup>th</sup> October had been cancelled and the next one would be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Burge asked if the Chair would attend the 30<sup>th</sup> November meeting to make the prize draw.

**11.0 Self help gritting scheme**

The scheme was in readiness for inclement weather conditions.

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

12.1) To consider items suitable for inclusion in the newsletter and on the website. Clerk to send a précis to the Newsletter. Clerk would ask for the PC Meeting dates to be included on the front page calendar.

**13.0 Matters to be raised on the Agenda for the next meeting**

All the usual items would be included plus gritting self help scheme and finance recommendations for budget and precept for 2018 -2019.

**14.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting**

The next Meeting would be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, from 7.30pm, in The Much Birch Community Hall.

***The meeting closed at 8.12pm***

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date