

THE **Birches**

**A NEWSLETTER FOR KINGSTHORN,
MUCH BIRCH, LITTLE BIRCH & ACONBURY**

First published 1977 **February 2020**

Pancake Evening

**LITTLE BIRCH VILLAGE HALL
TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY
5:30PM - 7:30PM**



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**£2.50 per person to include 2 pancakes.
Extras can be purchased at 50p each.
Teas, coffees and soft drinks will also be available.**

Diary Dates

January 2020

**25th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH 2.30pm
29th Gardening Club LBVH 7.30pm**

31st to 1st Feb Panto "Treasure Island" LBVH

February 2020

**2nd Parish Walk from LBVH 9am
5th LB Parish Council Meeting LBVH 7.30pm
6th Coffee Morning LBVH 10am
8th Community Café MBCH 10am
11th MB Parish Council Meeting MBCH 7.30pm
13th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH 7.30pm
15th Book Exchange Methodist Hall 10am
19th Table Tennis LBVH 7pm
22nd Talk MBCH 2.30pm—see P11
25th Pancake Evening LBVH 5.30pm
26th Gardening Club LBVH 7.30pm**

Church Services February 2020



**2nd Presentation of Christ in the
Temple (Candlemas)
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion at Little Birch**

**9th 3rd Sunday before Lent
9.15 a.m. Family Communion at Much Birch.
11.00 a.m. Morning Worship at Little Birch**

**16th 2nd Sunday before Lent
9.15 a.m. Holy Communion at Much Birch.
11.00 a.m. Traditional Language Communion at Little
Birch**

**23rd Sunday next before Lent
9.15 a.m. Morning Worship at Much Birch.**

**26th Ash Wednesday
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion with the imposition of
ashes at Much Birch.**

URGENT



Oil is emerging near the top of the Wrigglebrook.
This oil is likely caused by an underground leak which can travel quite a distance through the ground. Please check your Oil Tank Gauge frequently.

Look for signs of:

**Damage to tanks, valve & pipe work
Staining on the ground
Dying plants
Unusual smells
High usage of oil**

If you think you have a leak please contact Tristan Semple immediately on 07917 595713

Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Newsletter notices for February 2020

Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 6th February 10:30am - 12:30pm** at **Little Birch Village Hall**.

Join us and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, some cake or a biscuit. Make new friends or catch up with old friends, have a chat and find out more about the local community and let us know your thoughts and suggestions as to how we can develop these regular meetings.

If you need help with transport, please contact Margaret: 01981 540374

Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The next Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 15th February** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12noon**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable monthly event which offers not only a wide range of books and DVDs (to suit all ages and interests) but also an opportunity to meet others and exchange recommendations for a good read.

There is a charge of just £1 per adult towards the cost of the hire and refreshments.

Table Tennis Sessions

The next table tennis session will be on **Wednesday 19th February** at Little Birch Village Hall **between 7pm and 9pm**. All abilities are welcome as the idea is to have a bit of fun and exercise. Equipment is supplied. Sessions are once a month. Tea and coffee will be available. £2.00 per session to cover cost of refreshments and heating.

If you are interested and would like more information call Peter Rees on 01981 541356

Pancake Evening

Join us at Little Birch Village Hall on **Shrove Tuesday 25th February** from **5.30pm till 7.30pm**. There will be a wide range of fillings available, both savoury and sweet. Everyone welcome and just £2.50 per person to include 2 pancakes. Extras can be purchased at 50p each. Teas, coffees and soft drinks will also be available.

Art and Crafts Club

Art and Crafts Club sessions continue weekly on **Thursdays during February from 2pm – 4pm** at Little Birch Village Hall. Sessions include drawing, painting, creative writing, knitting, crochet, quilting or any other crafts which people are interested in. We have beginners as well as seasoned and talented members. Bring your own materials and enjoy time with like-minded people. We will occasionally have contributions from external speakers/presenters, as this has been very popular. Why not come along and see what it's like – new people are always made very welcome. For further information contact: Val On 01981-540424 or mobile 07854-244656, or Maz on 01981-541048.

Kingsthorpe and Little Birch Gardening Club

The next monthly meeting will take place on **26th February at 7.30pm**.

Little Birch Parish Council

Next meeting is **Wednesday 5th February at 7.30pm**.

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Footprints

At the time of going to press we have yet to walk the January walk, which at the moment looks sunny!



Parish Walk

Sunday 2 February at 9 am

A 4 mile ramble down a sunken lane, up near Strickstenning Hall and returning through the woods to the hall. Stiles, fields and woods.

Meeting at Little Birch Village Hall.

Refreshments afterwards.

Approx 2 hrs.

All welcome

Angela

ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk

Volunteer Footpath Officer for Little Birch



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Contact: Juliet on 07866565082

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Every Body Welcome



Riding for the Disabled Association

This charity provides therapeutic riding lessons for disabled individuals.

Herefordshire Riding for the Disabled was established in 1991, on the grounds of Holme Lacy College and is the only purpose built centre in the West Mercia region. Annually, with the help of a superb team of volunteers, we provide riding lessons to over 250 disabled individuals from Herefordshire and the surrounding borders.

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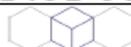
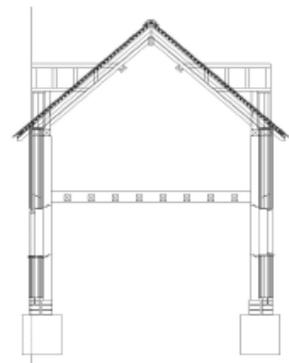
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The Masons at Merrivale

Yesterday was Storm Brendan, today has been sunny with a few very light showers and then tomorrow is back to square one with wind and rain forecast.

Lots of people ask how are we coping with all this wet. Although horrible to work in, with no cattle outside at this time of year and no tractor work possible, the fields just sit there in their sodden state.

We have had sheep here again for a couple of months over the winter as their smaller feet and lighter bodies do no damage to the ground. We use them to tidy up the grass swards, eating all of the grass down so that it comes up young, fresh and full of energy in the spring.

I look back on my last article, where I hoped the rain in August would stop for a few weeks to allow for the corn harvest to be completed and enable us to fill the barns with straw for cattle bedding throughout the winter. This did happen, just, but as you will know from mid-September onwards it hasn't really stopped raining.

Arable farmers nearby have failed to drill their winter crops because of the wet conditions and it now seems increasingly likely that they won't be planted this year. The knock on effect of this is that the seed they have will sit in their barns until next year and seed for spring crops will have to be purchased instead.

Winter wheat, oats and barley all have to be sown and experience a frost so that vernalization takes place and the plant will flower and produce seed again. We thought we were doing so well to plant thirty acres of winter oats during 2 dry October days. The crop has germinated but looks very sorry for itself so some will have to be re-drilled with something else in the spring. One field has very deep ravines in it where the rain water has washed through it from a very steep field above to the ditch below. A sorry sight.

This winter is so much better than last year as regards to forage stocks. The wet summer with enough dry spells allowed us to take four good silage cuts to fill our pits. This means we won't have to buy in large amounts of hay and silage like last year, touch wood! Who knows what the seasons will bring. Ben has already decided to buy in some hay for the summer as he's convinced we will have a drought after all this rain.

The cows have been milking well through the winter as the silage we made is good quality, this is the benefit of taking more cuts when the grass is young.

Our year of no antibiotic use has gone well so far. The most common problem we treat in cows is mastitis. Where on conventional farms this would be treated with an antibiotic tube, we treat cows with a drench of garlic infused cider vinegar and a peppermint rub that is applied to the udder, not too dissimilar to deep heat. The idea of the rub is that it stimulates white blood cells in the udder which in turn fight the infection, it's surprisingly effective. If we have a particularly bad case of mastitis we can treat the cow with an anti-inflammatory injection and a large drench of diluted garlic cider vinegar which helps to flush it out of her system. We also milk the quarters out by hand to keep removing any infection. Another option we have is to stop milking, or 'dry off' a quarter which allows it to rest while the other three continue to be milked. This is very simple to do with robotic milking machines as it just involves changing a setting on the central computer.

Thank you to all of you who kindly filled in the online survey about locating a milk vending machine on the farm. Lucy is busy obtaining quotes for all of the relevant work associated with installing one and we hope to have one in place by the end of the year. We will be sure to keep you updated on any progress.

Bob and I are intending to grow some organic vegetables again this summer and hopefully open up our hut again. Our aim is to provide more local food with no miles on the clock to add to the beef that we already have available and the milk I mentioned above.

I would like to wish you all the very best for 2020. We hope for calm weather wise and also politically so we can all get on with our work with just rewards.



*The much looked forward to Little Birch pantomime, **Treasure Island**, will take place on **Friday 31st January at 7.30pm, and Saturday 1st February. 2:30pm & 7:30pm.** Tickets available from Margaret Scrivens 01981 540374 - Just £7 for adults and £5 for children.*

ART & CRAFTS GROUP



Our weekly sessions for 2020 resume on 9th January 2-4pm within Little Birch Village Hall.

These sessions include drawing/painting, creative writing, knitting, crochet and any other craft which members are interested in.

We have beginners as well as talented members and share our ideas and skills within the group

We will occasionally have contributions from external speakers/artists

Come along and see what it is like. New people are made very welcome.

There is a small charge of £3 which covers and cost of the hall and light refreshment.

For further information please contact Val on 01981 540424 mob 07854 244656 Maz 01981 541048

Dates for Much Birch Community Hall Village Markets for 2020

Easter Market - 27th March 2020

Summer Market - 26th June 2020

Autumn Market - 25th September 2020

Christmas Market - 11th December 2020

All 2.30pm – 4.30pm

Longtown and District Historical Society

Monday February 3, 7.30pm Longtown Village Hall HR2 OLD

Dean Powell : The Incredible Life of Dr William Price, (Surgeon, Chartist, Archdruid and pioneer in the legalisation of cremation in Britain).

Contact jeremy.milln@gmail.com for more information.

Membership-£5 for the season until July; guests £3 per meeting.

Please send copy for the March Newsletter to editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or written contributions to Liz Hall at Walmere, Wringlebrook, Kingsthorpe HR2 8AW. —by 18th February please.

arts alive **FLICKS IN THE STICKS** at Much Birch Community Hall

THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY, 7.30 pm - JUDY 12A
A glittering showcase for Renée Zellweger's incredible performance as the legendary Judy Garland who arrives in London in the winter of 1968 to perform a series of sell-out shows. Her wit and warmth shine through as she prepares for the show, battles with management, charms musicians and reminisces with friends and adoring fans. Even her dreams of love seem undimmed as she embarks on a whirlwind romance with Mickey Deans, her future fifth husband.

Tickets £4.50 (£3.50 under 16s)

Coming up in March...
BORDERLINES FILM FESTIVAL
Saturday 7 March, 7.30 pm - SORRY WE MISSED YOU
Thursday 12 March, 7.30 pm - HITSVILLE - THE MAKING OF MOTOWN

BORDERLINES TICKETS £5.00 (£4.00 under 16s)

Tickets available in advance or on the door - for further info or to book tickets please email muchbirchflicks@hotmail.com or call 01981 540097

For further information about films and screenings visit www.artsalive.co.uk (online booking available!)

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LINE DANCING FOR BEGINNERS NOW BEING INTRODUCED AT MUCH BIRCH

I am a fully qualified linedance teacher with over 20 years teaching experience and 30 years dancing. Currently I run an established linedance class in Much Birch Community Hall - Wednesday evenings-7.30 - 9.30.

As from 6th November I am changing the structure of the class and would welcome any beginners to join us. The first hour will be dedicated to teaching Beginners linedance steps followed by easy dances'

This is a great chance to learn one of the most popular forms of dance, to socialise and to have fun.

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Big Spring Walk & Black Mountains Trek

Blow out the cobwebs this Spring by joining St Michael's Hospice as we explore our green and pleasant land.

Whether it's a gentle Sunday morning stroll, or an all-day mountain hike, we've got a walking adventure for you. The Black Mountains Trek on Saturday 7th March is a challenging 30-kilometre walk taking in the remote, dramatic scenery of this renowned mountain range. Marshalled by the Longtown Mountain Rescue Team, you'll reach the prominent central ridge of the Black Mountains offering superb views across the Brecon Beacons National Park. End the day at Longtown Village Hall where a two-course meal awaits.

For something more gentle, try the Hospice's Big Spring Walk on Sunday 22nd March.

Choose from a gentle Sunday morning stroll, or a longer meander. Set off from Hereford Rowing Club on either a 2.5k, 5.5k, 12.5k or 17.5k walk. Each route will head west towards Breinton, returning to the Rowing Club along riverside paths. It's free to enter in advance but we ask those taking part to get sponsored for St Michael's.

To sign up for Black Mountains Trek or Big Spring Walk, visit www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/events

Virtual Tour of Britain

A year-long exercise challenge taking a group of St Michael's Hospice patients on a virtual tour of Britain has been successfully completed.

The Hospice's Physiotherapy team devised the virtual Tour of Britain which allowed patients to take it in turns using exercise bikes or treadmills to help complete a 7,723-mile journey around the British Isles – all without leaving St Michael's.

Starting and ending in the Cornish town of St Ives – a favourite place for one of those taking part – the journey lasted throughout 2019, ending just before New Year's Eve.

Rose Livesey (pictured second left) said: 'I've really enjoyed taking part. You really feel as though you are contributing to a worthwhile cause.'

The exercise helped improve the cardiovascular system and strengthened legs and arms.

For more information contact Paul Broome, Communications Officer at St Michael's Hospice, on 01432 852 643 or email pbroome@smhospicehereford.org

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MUCH BIRCH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Consultation on Draft Plan

Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031, a guide to development and change in the county, sets out targets for minimum level of Housing growth required across the county and within parishes and villages. The minimum figure for Much Birch Parish is 57 and a higher target figure is recommended. At present the number of dwellings for which planning permission has been granted (but not all these sites have yet been developed) is 71.

In addition to a target figure for Housing Development the Herefordshire Council sets out in the Local Plan the broader context within which plans for future development should be considered e.g. employment, transport, climate change, education. The Much Birch Neighbourhood Development plan has been drafted with reference to this guidance.

This draft plan is based on the results of consultation with the Much Birch community through an initial survey, public consultation events and listening to the views of residents. It sets out how Much Birch Parish Council and the Community plan to meet the (Herefordshire Core Strategy) target housing development numbers within the context of positive future development for our rural Parish.

Currently the draft plan proposes:

- Some minor changes to previous Development Boundaries.
- Included within this are 3 housing sites which more than satisfy the required housing target.
- A number of other policies reflecting concerns expressed by the community including the environment, housing, transport, community facilities and supporting businesses.

You are invited to comment on the Plan which can be viewed on-line under 'Neighbourhood Plan' at <http://www.muchbirchparish.org.uk/ndp.html>
Copies are also available for inspection at Much Birch Community Hall; Hereford Library; Ross on Wye Library; Pilgrim Hotel; Wormelow Tump Public House; Axe & Cleaver Public House; and The Carrot & Wine Shop at Wormelow during their normal opening hours or may be borrowed by emailing cjgrover@waitrose.com or by telephoning 01981 541130. Comments should be sent to Parish Clerk, Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone, Herefordshire, HR2 9NE or scanned and emailed to: muchbirchclerk@gmail.com

All comments must be received by 12.00am. on Tuesday 11th February 2020

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Ross & District Civic Society will be holding their February meeting on Wednesday 12th February, 2020, 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. at the Larruperz Community Centre, Ross. The illustrated Talk will be about THE SCUDAMORE FAMILY OF KENT-CHURCH COURT & HOLME LACY HOUSE by the well-known local historian, Heather Hurley. All are welcome. Visitors £5, Members no charge. For further details ring 01989 562424



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KINGS THORN & LITTLE BIRCH

GARDENING CLUB

Wednesday 29 January – A Tree Surgeon's Life

A reminder that our January meeting is about Adrian Hope, who has worked throughout the UK, but mainly locally. He will tell us about his successful tree surgery business and has photos of many of his more interesting tree projects.

This is your chance to ask a true tree expert all those questions on tree care whilst sharing his many experiences.

Wednesday 26 February

Iceland – its Landscape, People and Wildlife

In a change to the Gardening Club Programme, Janet Gwinnett, our Chair, will entertain us all with a fascinating talk about her circumnavigation of Iceland, last summer.

Iceland is just on the edge of the Arctic Circle and an island of incredible natural landscapes. Janet will have a number of her photos - showing what a unique destination Iceland is.

Be sure to come in from the cold!

Our meetings start at 7.30pm, in Little Birch Village Hall. Refreshments are served and new faces are always welcome! Next month is our AGM and the launch of our new Programme for the coming year. Why not join us – were a great group of gardeners. Annual membership is £12. We can certainly look forward to some interesting talks on various topics.

In this last year we have had talks on garden design and plant selection, favourite garden tools, fungi, following a fascinating fungi foray in Aconbury Woods. We've also had willow weaving and flower arranging demonstrations and a surprisingly sunny day for looking around some of our member's gardens, followed by a cream tea – and of course our *fantastic* Garden Show! Roll on some better weather and let's all get out into our gardens in 2020!

Interested in joining the Kings Thorn & Little Birch Gardening Club? Call our Membership Secretary on 01981 540327.



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KILPECK ART CLUB

Our spring Season will begin on February 24th 2020. We meet on Mondays from 2pm–4pm in Kilpeck Village Hall, HR2 9DW except for bank holidays. Please contact Jenny Davies (Secretary) at jen64davies@gmail.com for details.

Join us at the

Community Café @ Much Birch Community Hall

2nd Saturday of the month

10:00 - 12:30

8 February

14 March

11 April

For more information or if you are in need of transport contact Lydia on 01981 540323 or socialfabric@hotmail.com



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MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL
SMART WATER - an opportunity for you

The Parish Council is considering the possibility of providing "Smart Water" property marking kits to households in the parish. Marked property is often traced back to the owner and the marking is advertised to provide a deterrent, in the first place, to potential thieves. It was agreed that the Parish Council would try to see if there was a demand for the kits, which would be one per household and free of charge. If you would be interested to receive a kit please contact either your local councillor, or the clerk at muchbirchclerk@gmail.com to register your interest. The Parish Council do need a good level of take-up to proceed with the proposal so do register your interest.

You are invited to a presentation on
**A Journey from Vancouver
to Fairbanks, Alaska**
by
Eric Joseph

Saturday, 22nd February 2020
2.30pm

Much Birch Community Hall

Tickets: Adults £5.00,
Children 12 and under £3.00
to include a Light Tea

Tickets available from John tel: 01981 540980

Proceeds for Much Birch Community Hall new kitchen.

HEREFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

Kindle Centre, by Hereford ASDA (free parking)

Thursday 20th February, 2020 @ 7.30PM

Stonework: Failures and Remedies

Speaker: Robert Heath, Dip Arch, RIBA, ARIAS, FSA (Scot).

There are plenty of crumbling ancient stone buildings in Hereford, not least the city wall and the ruins of Blackfriars monastery. Bob, a conservation architect and building limes expert who relocated from Edinburgh in 2018, brings his 40+ years of experience to Hereford.

Non-members welcome: £3 donation.

Annual Membership £15 (10 meetings pa + quarterly magazine).

BAYLEY'S **WINDOW CLEANING** **SERVICE**

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WE ALSO CLEAN:-

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EEmail: bayleyscleaning@gmail.com

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MUCH BIRCH
07774 805369 / 01981 541109

Pilgrim Country House Hotel & Valley Restaurant



Free Upgrade to All Inclusive

The clocks have changed and the nights are drawing in, but there are still plenty of reasons to come back to the Pilgrim and enjoy the fabulous countryside and Christmas Shopping that Herefordshire can offer. Friendly and welcoming staff, a new Evening Menu and a "Gin Bar" featuring Fever Tree mixers may also help to speed up your return.

To make it even more beneficial to come back, we have created a new "Discount Code" solely for returning guests. Using the code RETURN during the reservation process [on the right of the date selection boxes] and you will earn a £25 per night discount from the price of all All Inclusive reservations between November 1st and January 31st 2020.

In effect you will be paying the same price as "Dinner Bed & Breakfast", whilst enjoying the extra Cream Tea, Pre-Dinner Drink and Complimentary Bottle of House Wine of the All Inclusive package. Truly great value for money.

Rooms include our Country Collection Twins & Kings as well as our standard Valley View King rooms. These stays are for 2 people sharing a room only and can only be booked via our website.

[WEBSITE](#)

All the other offers listed below can be made by email or phone call, so please check your diaries and make that booking!

Best Wishes
Steve & The Team

History of the Hotel Name

The Hotel takes its name from its position on the Pilgrimage route for St Ethelbert, who was King of East Anglia from circa 779 to his untimely death in 794.

Ethelbert was lured to the Palace of King Offa, just north of Hereford, where he was promised the hand of the King's daughter, Eadburgh, in marriage.

When he arrived at Sutton Walls Palace he was treacherously captured & beheaded with his body thrown into a ditch.

He was eventually reunited with his head by a local monk and laid to rest in a tomb on the site of the current Hereford Cathedral. Miracles were later reported to be connected to his shrine and he was later Canonised.

"Saint Ethelbert" is now one of two patron saints of the Cathedral, which has created the Order of St Ethelbert in his honour

Menus on website www.pilgrimhotel.co.uk
Booking is recommended - 01981 540742

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We are fully insured, have enhanced DBS and can provide references upon request.

Call Sarah on 07849 151085 (any messages left will be responded to the same day) or email us on sarahbirches@gmail.com



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Stephen Turner. The Underhills, Hollybush Lane, Much Birch, Herefordshire. HR2 8HX.

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+ General Property Maintenance

Contact:

07780460258 or kenruck1956@hotmail.com

Or Visit my Facebook Page.

Much Birch Parish Council
Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright
Longfield House, Gooses Foot,, Kingstone, Herefordshire HR2 9NE
Tel. 01981 250860
Email: muchbirchclerk@gmail.com

The Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation on Regulation 14 will run until 12.00 am on Tuesday 11th February. Details of the consultation papers may be found at:
<http://www.muchbirchparish.org.uk/ndpdocs.html>

The Steering Group would be pleased to receive any representations you may wish to make about these documents.

Please submit any representations on the draft plan and supporting documents by e mail to: muchbirchclerk@gmail.com or by post to: Parish Clerk, Much Birch Parish Council, Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone, Herefordshire, HR2 9NE by 12.00 am on Tuesday 11th February 2020.

Much Birch Parish Council will consider any representations received and will make any amendments that are considered necessary before submitting the Neighbourhood Development Plan to Herefordshire Council.

Dates for further 2020 Parish Council Meetings are: 6 Feb, 5 March, 9 April, 8 May (Friday), 11 June, 9 July, 3 Sept, 8 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec 2020. No meeting in August.

Please see notice boards and website for agendas. As always the public and press are more than welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to speak directly to their representatives.

A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW, e mail thecoops@wyenet.co.uk Tel. 01981 540703
Cllr Steve Turner (Vice Chair) The Underhills, Hollybush Lane, Much Birch, Hereford, HR2 8HX, e mail turnersofcrossways@btinternet.com and Tel. 01981 540090

Cllr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail a.crum@btinternet.com
Tel. 01981 540002

Cllr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8AX roisinburge@hotmail.com Tel. 01981 540724

Cllr David Baldwin The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8HS baldwin79@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 541198

Cllr Veronica Thomas 4, Queens Close, Wormelow, Hereford, HR2 8FD Tel. 01981 540646 (no e mail)

Full minutes of the meetings and information etc. can be found on the Parish Council website following the link found in this summary. www.muchbirchparish.org.uk.

You can also find us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MuchBirchPC> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Much.Birch.Parish>



CROSS ROADS CARE Crossroads Care are a specialist charity working to help and support unpaid carers
Forest of Dean & Herefordshire

If you are caring for a family member, friend or neighbour, our Health and Wellbeing Service may be able to assist you. We offer a range of services

Call us on 01432 355373
www.crossroadshereford.org.uk
info@crossroadshereford.org.uk
Fred Bulmer Centre, Wall Street, Hereford, HR4 9HP
Registered Charity Number: 1086841

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Horse/pony/animal help available -

Very helpful, young, teenage girls are looking to help on a local yard in exchange for a ride (or help with other animals for some pocket money)

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Much Birch Parish Council—Winter gritting Update

Parishioners will be aware that in the event of snow responsibility for gritting the A49 (trunk road) is with Highways England who have a schedule for regular gritting.

Herefordshire Council (HC) has responsibility for gritting all other roads and have categorised the A466 and Tump Lane as priority routes as is the road through Kingsthorpe being the route for a main and frequent bus service. The Thorn and Barrack Hill are on the secondary routes for gritting. Grit bins are sited throughout Much Birch Parish mainly where there are slopes, challenging road junctions and sharp bends. The majority of these bins have been supplied by HC. This year in response to additional identified need Much Birch Parish Council (MBPC) has funded several additional grit bins in locations which do not currently meet HC's criteria for the provision of one.

Bin filling.

Grit Bins that are the property of HC (marked accordingly) have been filled in readiness for the start of the winter and HC advises that if salt and resources allow they will re-stock these bins on request. The Parish Council will monitor and follow up this undertaking. Grit bins provided/sited by MBPC will be filled in readiness for winter and re-stocked as necessary.

Gritting guidance as advised by bin and salt suppliers.

When using the grit only a small amount is needed as a full shovel will be sufficient for 20-30 square metres. For maximum effect it should be spread in tyre tracks as it will then be carried further by vehicles.

Please note that the grit is only for use on public roads and pavements and not for use on private property.

The Parish Council would like to thank in advance all those who so kindly volunteer to assist others when we experience bad weather. Your generosity is appreciated.

Little Birch Parish Council

Your Little Birch Parish Council Councillors are:-

For updates and notifications of future meetings please check out the website – www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org.

Cllr Peter Rees	Chair		
Cllr Janet Gwinnett	Vice Chair		
Cllr Kate Dillon			
Cllr Michael Davies			
Cllr Kate Robbins			
Angela Middleton	Volunteer Footpath Officer		
Sophie Glover	Clerk	01432 617306	lbpcclerk@gmail.com



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Little Birch Parish Facebook Group



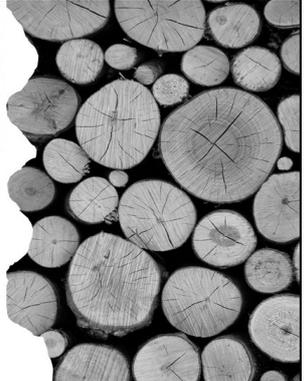
JOIN OUR GROUP ON
Facebook

Find the latest news, events and business listings all in one place.
You are welcome to promote your local business, advertise a local event or post news or information of interest to the village and surrounding area.
Search for *Little Birch Parish Group* on Facebook

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www.westmercia.police.uk

Herefordshire Cops / @southsidecops

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

For daily updates on incidents in your area register for our Dotmailer service via www.westmercia.police.uk.



South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Make the difference

For more information about becoming a Special Constable, please visit,

Warwickshire Police: www.warwickshire.police.uk/specialconstables

West Mercia Police: www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables