

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at the Much Birch Community Hall on Thursday 2nd February 2023 from 7.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair)
Cllr Chris Pickering-Grey
Cllr Roisin Burge
Cllr Andy Crum

In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright, PCSO Carol Marsh plus an assistant to the Police and three members of the public

Open Session:-

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
No comments made.

1.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence received from Cllr David Baldwin and Ward Cllr Toni Fagan. Cllr Joseph Goldsmith was not present.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held at the Much Birch Community Hall on the 5th January 2023, were approved as a true and correct record of the Meeting with one amendment to a typo. This was in 4.2) Ward Cllr update, end of line 6, should read “through” not “though”.

4.0 Reports

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

Golden Valley Briefing – Newsletter circulated when received. The PCSO advised that there was “nothing” local to report crime wise. There could be more patrols when officers not dealing with incidents of crime.

4.2) Ward Councillor Ward Cllr Toni Fagan had sent her apologies.

4.3) Locality Steward

James Howells the Locality Steward had sent his bulletins. Also Members Monthly Update received and Street works updates.

5.0) Update on Correspondence

5.1) To receive any correspondence – noting the Information Sheet (including any update on meetings attended by councillors)

Correspondence from Herefordshire Council

Herefordshire Council:
Talk Community bulletins

Meeting Attendance Update

No further update.

6.0 Financial Report

6.1) The following bank balances were noted:

@ 13th Dec 2022 HSBC Community Account £17042.52

6.2) To approve list of payments (circulated separately)

The following payments were approved:

Payments to be made from main account

Clerk paid in accordance with contract for January	
HM Revenue & Customs (tax)	£77.60
Much Birch Community Hall hire	£60.75

Resolved: that the payments were passed for payment: Unanimous.

It was agreed that the HALC invoice should be held over until March and that alternative advisory products would be considered.

Newsletter accounts

The Birches Newsletter team had been asked for a sight of their latest accounts, in keeping with the terms of the Much Birch Parish Council Donations Policy. These had now been sent to the Chair.

7.0 Update on speeding and Community Speed Watch

The residents who were present expressed their concerns about the ongoing speeding issues, especially focusing on Tump Lane. PCSO Carol Marsh was in attendance at the meeting. She advised that she had been chasing and chasing the situation for Much Birch and had discovered that the co-ordinator had in fact resigned. A new person was being recruited to the role but there was only one person processing the applications for local CSW efforts. The Chair asked if there was anyone to elevate the concerns about no progress to and PCSO Marsh advised that she would forward any e mails chasing things up. There was a wish to carry out speed watch along Tump Lane and past the bus stop from the school. The question was asked as to where the parish were in terms of progressing the CSW and the Chair advised that the desired locations and the volunteer details had been sent in for consideration. The parish was now awaiting the next steps. It was commented that the proposed new footway for pedestrians along part of Tump Lane may have an impact on traffic going forward. PCSO Marsh would send details of revised contact arrangements for the CSW. The Clerk would send PCSO March dates of the forthcoming parish council meetings.

8.0 Planning Matters

8.1) To consider any planning applications and appeals as may be advised

There were two new applications for consideration of comments:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Consultation - 224244 - Green Willow, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 8AR

DESCRIPTION: Increase main roof pitch, the provision of a dormer and roof lights to new bedrooms together with fenestration changes.

GRID REF: OS 350380, 231621

APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

The parish council considered the application 224244 and resolved that there were no objections to the application.

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Re-consultation - 222687 - Park Hall, Wormelow, Herefordshire

DESCRIPTION: Proposed demolition of Former Park Hall Ballroom and Erection of 5 Dwellings and 15 Timber Holiday Lodges, reception area and associated works

GRID REF: OS 349093, 230271

APPLICATION TYPE: Planning Permission

The parish council considered the application 222687 and resolved that although some changes to the configuration of houses etc. had been made, there were still “strong objections” to the application and that the main concerns had not been addressed, satisfactorily, in the re-consultation. The original objections would be reiterated via the comments facility.

9.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

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

The overgrown condition of the hedgerow along the road from the bus shelter at the Thorn was noted and the Much Dewchurch Clerk would be advised.

9.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman

As ongoing

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

Mr David Irwin, the Footpath Officer can be contacted on 01981 345109 or by e mail at

David.Irwin13@btinternet.com

The Footpath Officer had sent his apologies.

9.4) Update on parish land (as applicable)

The Clerk had written to the tenant regarding the fencing. The marking out of the fence line was to be carried out.

10.0 Parishes Newsletter and Much Birch Website

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

11.0 To discuss any matters relating to the Local Area Plan (Core Strategy) revision, Neighbourhood Development Plan and the consultation process – as applicable

Consultations pertaining to the Local Area Plan (Core Strategy) were on the Herefordshire Council website. Some were still current.

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

All the usual items would be included. Also Community Speed Watch and parish land, HALC and alternatives.

13.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 from 7.30pm in the Much Birch Community Hall.

Future Meetings for 2023: April 6th, May 11th, June 8th, July 6th, No meeting in August, Sept 7th, Oct 5th, Nov 9th and Dec 7th

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date