

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Much Birch Parish Council held at the Much Birch Community Hall on Thursday 6th January 2022 from 7.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair)
Cllr Andy Crum
Cllr Chris Pickering-Grey
Cllr Joseph Goldsmith

In attendance:

Parish Clerk; Alison Wright and Ward Cllr Toni Fagan

Open Session:-

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no comments during the Open Session which closed at 7.31 pm.

1.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence received from Cllr Roisin Burge and Cllr D Baldwin

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 2nd December 2021, were approved as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

4.0 Reports

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

Golden Valley Briefing – Newsletter circulated when received.

4.2) Ward Councillor Ward Cllr Toni Fagan wished everyone a happy new year. She then updated the meeting regarding catching up with National Highways and the Police Safety Team in regard to issues of safety on the A49. This included looking at the crossing at the top of Tump Lane and issues of light jumping etc. The Ward Cllr updated the meeting regarding some local footpath issues and the track at Ash Farm.

There were Covid Testing kits available, contact the Ward Cllr for details. County Councillors were working from home and the December Meeting of the Council had been postponed. A balanced budget for the next financial year had been produced. An overall decrease in Government funding of £100 million had been experienced by Herefordshire since 2010. Bids for activities and changes in the ways that funding comes through had been experienced. The workforce was under strain due to the cuts already experienced. The current council was described as being in “a fairly strong position”. There would be a visit to the Ward by the Chief Executive on 4th February and anyone interested in meeting him could contact the Ward Cllr to be factored into the tour.

4.3) Locality Steward

James Howells Locality Steward has sent his bulletins.

5.0) Update on Correspondence

Correspondence from Herefordshire Council

Herefordshire Council:

Chief Exec visit 4 Feb 12.30 - 3.00 (info in e mail from Ward Cllr dated Dec 16th)
Talk Community Newsletter 17 December 2021
Parish Council Summit 17 January 2022
Talk Community Newsletter 10 December 2021
Avian Influenza Outbreak in Shobdon Area

Dore Community Transport

Request for donation support – 247 parish journeys made for 2021 (£500.00 donation agreed)

6.0 Financial Report

6.1) The following bank balances were noted:

@ 13 th Dec 2021 HSBC Community Account	£11,812.98
@ 13 th Dec 2021 HSBC Community Projects Account	£6,389.61

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 November	
HM Revenue & Customs (tax)	£86.60
Much Birch Community Hall (room hire)	£18.00
Dore Community Transport (Donation)	£500.00

Payments to be made from Community account

Nil

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

7.0 Village issues update

7.1) To receive any update on Village issues –
No further update

7.2) Parish land – update – The Clerk would check back with the builder regarding a response to the notes of the visit to site made by representatives of the parish council.

8.0 Planning Matters

8.1) To consider any planning applications

There was a new application for consideration of comments:

APPLICATION NO & SITE ADDRESS: Planning Consultation - 214241 - Hampden House, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 8AU

DESCRIPTION: Proposed dressing area and en suite extension.

GRID REF: OS 350384, 231854

APPLICATION TYPE: Full Householder

The Parish Council resolved to support the proposals detailed in planning consultation 214241.

9.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

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

Resurfacing of the road down to “Cress Cottage” was noted as being “in plan”.

Finger posts had fallen down at Hollybush Lane and a road name sign at Eden Lane. The finger post would be reported. Cllr Crum would check regarding requirement for replacement road name sign.

9.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman

The Much Birch grit allocation would be arranged for delivery to the Self Help Gritting Scheme co-ordinator in Little Dewchurch.

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

No further update.

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 Matters to be raised on the Agenda for the next meeting

All the usual items would be included. Queens Jubilee, Talk Community Hubs for IT

12.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday 3rd February 2022, from 7.30pm in the Much Birch Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date