

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LICKEY & BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE WHEEL, BLACKWELL ON MONDAY 1ST JULY 2013
MINUTES NO 3, 2013/2014

1. **ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES:**apologies were received and accepted from County Cllrs Peter McDonald & Kit Taylor, District Cllr Brian Cooper and Councillor K Crockett
2. **PRESENT:** Councillors J Harvey (Chairman), J Eales, J King, P Harvey, P Clarke and N Forknell; Mrs H Doherty (Executive Officer) and 4 members of the public.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGISTER:** 3b Disclosable Pecuniary interests 3c Other Disclosable interests.
No interests were declared

The Meeting was closed for Public Question time.

4. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES AND COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

Cllr Jill Harvey reported, on behalf of the Country Park Rangers that, despite following Government guidance, the Phytophthora ramorum had not been controlled on the Lickey Hills. Additional sites, and additional affected plant species have been identified. Signage at all entrances had been increased and the worst scenario is closure, as measures put in place to date have failed. It is now recorded in every county in England and Wales.

- 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd JUNE 2013:**
It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes be signed as a true record.

5. FINANCE and GENERAL PURPOSES

- 5.1 The payment of the month's bills was unanimously agreed
- 5.2 The Bank Reconciliation as at 31st May 2013 was unanimously approved
- 5.3 Councillor business/calling cards. Cllr Forknell presented some ideas for cards. It was agreed that cards were a good idea, and that the PC logo should be incorporated in the design. Cllr Forknell to progress.
- 5.4 Cllr P Harvey proposed that cheque signing should be delegated to the cheque signatories over the Summer recess, subject to a maximum of £5,000. This was agreed. The list of bills for August will be circulated to all.

6. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

6.1 The minutes of the two Planning committees held in June were approved. The request for a contribution to CPRE, as acknowledgement of their support on Neighbourhood Planning was discussed. A grant of £200 was proposed by Cllr Eales, seconded by Cllr King and accepted by all.

6.2 The first meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning group was attended by 3 councillors and 4 residents. Next consultation will be at the Blackwell Festival

7. HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT GROUP REPORT

7.1 Cllr Eales report was discussed and EO was asked to find out when trough was due to be cleaned and why it could not have a hole made to allow it to drain. It was agreed that quotes should be obtained to improve the War memorial area.

The cemetery is looking good under its new regime and Jane Banner will write an article for the next newsletters asking residents to grow plug plants to plant there.

7.2 Cllr Forknell reported that the VAS had been moved to Mearse Lane where it attracted 340 hits a day the first week, reducing to 210 and 207 in the subsequent 2 weeks. Next rotation it will be turned to face the other direction. A list of Highways issues is being compiled and a visit to the parish will be requested with both County Councillors to discuss (including those raised in Public Question Time)

7.3 Blackwell Bus shelter – it is proposed that a bespoke wooden shelter is built around the bench opposite Fairways Drive, a new bin purchased and the area made an attractive feature. This was agreed and the EO will obtain quotations. On the other side of Linthurst Newtown, the land adjacent to the pavement is privately owned (confirmed by Land Registry search) It was agreed that it is not worth spending in excess of £3000 for the level of protection that a shelter suitable for the narrow site would provide

7.4 Clive Wilson from N.Worcs. Water Management believes that drainage is the responsibility of Severn Trent. An update has been sought. EO to also ask if they will take responsibility for the wooden fence, which is in need of repair.

7.5 It was agreed to obtain quotes to repair and re-paint the Bus Shelter outside of the Trinity Centre. The quotes will be held until after the CALC meeting in case BDC are prepared to take responsibility.

8. SOCIAL SERVICES & COMMUNICATIONS GROUP REPORT

8.1 Report prepared by Cllr King was reviewed.

8.2 The Best Front Garden Prize-giving was held on Sunday 30th June at Lickey church and was a well attended (about 25) and enjoyable event. Next year's competition will be judged in the first 2 weeks of July with the prize giving in September when a better turn out might be achieved

8.3 Parish website recommendation.

The Communications Group propose that we update the WCC MyParish website and direct traffic there for the rest of the year. In order to do this we would need to use the current website to simply direct traffic, via a hyperlink to the WCC site. Visitor numbers can then be assessed before committing to any expenditure

This was proposed by Cllr King and unanimously accepted. EO to progress

9. TRAINING MATTERS AND DIARY DATES

9.1 'Parish tour' to review bus shelters, planters, seats etc The date of Monday 15th July was agreed, commencing at 10.30am (after Planning Committee) Meet at the home of Jo Eales

9.2 10th Parish Conference Tuesday 22nd October

10 ADMINISTRATION:

Councillors were advised that the clerk has obtained her CiLCA qualification

11 CORRESPONDENCE:

11.1 Electoral Review of Bromsgrove – the final recommendation has now been circulated. Changes will come into force for the 2015 District Elections. No further changes were made that affect Lickey and Blackwell

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2nd September 2013 at the Trinity Centre, Lickey at 7.30pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.52

Signed

Chairman