

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held remotely via online conferencing facility on **Monday 8 March 2021** at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair: Michael Barnes
Councillors: Vance Withers, Mary Dowding, Alison Faulkner, Julie Moore and Mark Henderson
In attendance: CCllr. Tom Wells & DCllr. Mick Davies and Clerk.

Public Comments: None

01/21. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Williams subsequently offered apologies for missing this meeting.

02/21 Declarations of Interest

1. *Register of Interests. No updates*
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature None*
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) None*

03/21. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 10 November 2021 were confirmed and signed as true record.

04/21. Matters Arising

None

05/21 CCllr Report

CCllr: Tom Wells's report included matters pertaining to:

- Ward Funding contribution towards a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) which will be shared with Berrow
- Forthcoming County Council & Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in May. Cllr Wells intending to stand and this time as an independent candidate in county council elections.
- Encouraged use of postal vote to avoid concerns during Covid-19

DCllr report included matters pertaining to:

- Reminder about Boundary Commission Review
- SWDP Review
- Ward Budget donation given to Friends of Coombe Green Common to support annual clearance.

06/20. Finance Report

Current financial situation:

	£	£	
Balance		6783.98	
Income pre meeting			
WCC Lengthsman	37.50		
WCC Lengthsman	33.75		
MHDC Ward Funding	166.00	237.25	
Expenditure at meeting			
Clerk	170.86		Oct Nov Dec SCP 10
Clerk	203.72		Jan Feb March
Lengthsman	165.00		Nov Dec Jan Feb

		539.58	
Balance at end of meeting		6481.65	

- **AGREED** Appointment of Internal Auditor: Mr Richard George.
- Year End Accounts 2019/20. Data logged 19 Nov 20 – notification of exempt status audit.

07/21 Coombegreen Common

Mrs Windle confirmed bramble clearance and a tree cut completed this year, now awaiting invoice. The area has been enjoyed by many during third Covid-19 lockdown period. Consideration as to how parking areas can be improved or at least present holes filled in. (Mindful of Common legislation)

08/21 Parish Drainage/Lengthsman

- VAS Update – Site meeting 18 November with WCC and CCllrs. Possible sites identified for VAS but will mean the installation of 5 poles. The latter to be pursued by CCllr Wells. Cllrs Withers and Henderson agreed to take on responsibility for the equipment and establish the best way forward in how it should be managed onsite and Clerk will liaise with Berrow. Spare batteries will need to be purchased, possibly some spare in Welland.
- **Flash Flooded** sites inspected for possible remedial action with lengthsman and councillors at respective sites. All agreed the flash flooding in December was the worst that had been seen for some years. Consider riparian responsibilities.
 - **Rye Cross** – Drains blocked with debris and water flowing into Bridge House and Ryecross Garage. Action – A section of highway kerbing could be cut out by Bridge House and drains kept clear. No obvious immediate solution.
 - **Rye Street** – Flooding affecting Southlands and Old School House. New culvert established within property of Ryebrook and that was nearly breached. Consider an overflow trench across land at rear of this bungalow. To be investigated. Ditch has since been dug out opposite Elmley. Further consideration to be given to drainage across field between Ellis Dawe and Ryebrook.
 - **Birts Street** – extensive water flowing possibly off concrete yard behind Cambridge Hall Barn and more than has been seen before. Immediate ditches relatively clear. Unknown about ditch around land with riding stable yard.
 - **Millers Court Road** – Water flowing towards no 4 and flooding gateway. Ditch outside has since been cleared out of debris by lengthsman and sandbag bund installed.
 - **STWA** – Concerns on water seeping out of drains in heavy rainfall. Contact STWA

Lengthsman tasks recently completed included sign cleaning, ditch/grip clearance, flash flooding associated support work.

Hedges - It was noted that an increasing number of roadside hedges are obscuring road signs and reducing visibility. These will be identified during the summer and land owners contacted in readiness for autumn/winter hedge cutting.

09/20 Planning

20/00997/LB	Home Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	External Repairs and Minor Alterations.	MHDC Approve
20/01350/FUL	Chase Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Construction of agricultural building	MHDC Approve

- **MHDC Planning Training** - Wednesday 31 March at 6pm Green Infrastructure – multi-functionality, environmental character areas, public open space, sport and recreation. VW to attend

10/20 Nutshell Agreement

An agreement for 2021 has been signed and returned by Mr Loader.

11/20. Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- CALC Updates
- MHDC Covid-19 Updates
- Malvern Electoral Review - Boundary Commission briefing for P&TCs on 19th Nov
- MHDC Parish & Town Council Forum - Monday 25 January. Introduction to Vic Allison, new Chief Executive Officer. Update on Destination Zero plan and an introduction to Matthew Barker, new Carbon Reduction Officer. *Meeting slides and presentation sent to all members post meeting*
- Message from Dr Kathryn Cobain, Director for Public Health in Worcestershire
- WCC Online Budget Briefing
- South Worcestershire Development Plan Review - Forthcoming Consultations Briefing Session, 1st March 2021
- Police Crime Commissioner Town/Parish Articles
- South Worcestershire Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy - Parish/Town Council Survey
- Promoting postal votes - Malvern Hills Council
- CENSUS Sunday 21 March completion
- CALC Training - Councillors Whistle Stop Tour session on Thursday 11th March at 6:30pm (MH to attend)
- Invitation to the Natural Networks Event – WCC – 17 March 6pm. Advice and financial support available to your organisation/business to improve the biodiversity and further enhance your land or water courses so that the flora and fauna can thrive. (JM to attend)

12/20. Confirmation of date of next meeting

The next meeting date **Monday 10 May 2021** at 7.30 pm either in Castlemorton Parish or Berrow Hall or via on line Zoom. These should be the annual meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed..... Date.....