

# Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held remotely via online conferencing facility on **Monday 7 September 2020** at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Chair: Michael Barnes  
**Councillors:** Vance Withers, David Williams, Mary Dowding, Alison Faulkner and Julie Moore  
**In attendance:** DCllr. Mick Davies and Clerk. Mr Yates and Mr Henderson

**Public Comments: None**

## 17/20. Apologies for Absence.

None.

## 18/20 Declarations of Interest

1. *Register of Interests.*
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

## 19/20 Parish Council Vacancy

With no election requested the Parish Council was able to consider filling the present vacancy by co-option. The chairman was pleased to welcome 2 candidates Mr Simon Yates and Mr Mark Henderson who had indicated an interest to join the council and each gave a brief introduction.

Mr Henderson was successful in the following voting process and subsequently joined the meeting agreeing to sign declaration of office as soon as possible.

## 20/20. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 21 May 2020 were confirmed and signed as true record.

## 21/20. Matters Arising

15/20 Plants and produce still available on site but not on Sundays and also back at Tewkesbury market with information on social media. Facility sited within property rather than roadside so alleviating any parking issues.

## 22/20 DCllr Report

DCllr: Mick Davis report included matters pertaining to

- Ticket To Ride Fund – Community transport initiative project working with crowdfunding platform
- Planning Reforms within 2 tranches presently out for consultation. First concerns the Standard Methodology for calculating local housing need. Potentially present proposals would substantially increase number of houses prescribed for South Worcestershire and so would be viewing at a very different looking local plan and the present plan review has already been delayed by up to a year. Second tranche is the government white paper, Planning for the Future proposing radical changes to the planning system.
- Coronavirus. The council has processed about £18.5m of business support grants.
- Boundary Commission Review and Devolution. The review is under way, 2 year process looking at number of councillors and warding arrangements. Government looking to publish a white paper on local government organisation looking at creation of unitary authorities in place of current county/district structure and devolution of some additional powers to parish councils.
- Good Neighbour Networks (GNN) – Covid Crisis and other possible such associated matters - looking to continue the good neighbour networks already established in some areas in conjunction with AGE UK resources.

## 23/20. Finance Report

### Current financial situation:

	£	£	
<b>Balance</b>		<b>6662.61</b>	
<b>Income pre meeting</b>			
HMRC	46.13		
Friends of Coombe Green	108.00		
<b>Expenditure at meeting</b>		<b>154.13</b>	
Clerk	293.13		April May June SCP
Lengthsman	101.25		August
Contractor	489.60		Coombe Green
WCALC	40.00		New Cllr course
		<b>923.98</b>	
<b>Balance at end of meeting</b>		<b>5892.76</b>	

- Clerk in receipt of pay rise backdated to April 2020, now £11.05 per hour. SNP 20

### 24/20 Coombegreen Common

PC in receipt of outstanding invoice in addition to contribution from Friends of Coombe Green. Mrs Windle had provided an updated report. A number of signs had been recently erected to discourage visitors from driving and parking on the Common following episodes of somewhat antisocial behaviour in the light of reactions to Covid-19 post lockdown. Cllrs reminded of the sum of restricted funding of £351 in accounts to support the work on Coombe Green in addition to the PC's own annual contribution of £300 to support the Friends of Coombe Green presently available for financial year 2020/21.

### 25/20 Parish Drainage/Lengthsman

- Question as to whether stones are still a hazard off Coombe Green as reported by lengthsman. To be checked.
- Noted that WCC Highways contractor Ringway have been clearing drains of debris.
- Watery Lane experienced minor flash flooding recently which soon cleared.

### 26/20 Planning

<a href="#">20/00421/HP</a>	Belmont Coombe Green Malvern WR13 6AN	Erection of two-storey rear extension.	MHDC Approve
<a href="#">20/00416/HP</a>	2 Leys Cottage Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AW	Erection of 2-storey side extension	MHDC Approve
<a href="#">20/00531/HP</a>	Brays Farm Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AP	Erection to 2-storey extension, porch and 3 bay garage (Including demolition of some existing single storey structures).	MHDC Approved
20/00922/HP	3 Old Rye Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Conversion of garage to annexe accommodation (Retrospective)	PC No objection
20/00997/LB	Home Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	External Repairs and Minor Alterations.	PC as yet to determine.

- Reminder about planning meeting with MHDC Officer on Thursday 10 September at 7.30pm at Castlemorton Parish Hall. 6 Councillors intending to attend.

**27/20. Correspondence**

- Regular Covid-19 updates from all authorities.
- Updates from Police – SNT
- Updates from WCALC
- Information of planning reform proposals

**28/20. Meetings**

Follow up to recent 4C’s meeting which was held on site across different venues with different representatives so as not to be oversubscribed under guidelines.

The overall summary of comments made were:

- Review of charging policies at Quarry Car Park
- Concerns over recent activity at The Quarry and forcing access into water area. As a consequence, the Trust will revisit the ROSPA report.
- New gate to be erected on north side of Quarry.
- Large numbers of people/vehicles gathering, leaving litter and will this recent surge in visit decrease?
- Limited policing particularly at night
- Consider installation of speed humps on track to Mill Pond.
- More visual signage which can be referred to when addressing some problems eg noise, BBQ, loose dogs....
- Review current signs on the common and use of large boulders marking parking area.

Cllr Moore recently attended a new councillor zoom course by CALC which she had found informative and interesting but maybe would have benefitted from an earlier session soon after her appointment.

**29/20. Confirmation of date of next meeting**

The next meeting date **Tuesday 10 November 2020** at 7.30 pm either in Castlemorton Parish Hall or via on line Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

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