

# Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held on **Monday 13 March 2023** at 7.30pm in Castlemorton Parish Hall. (Armitage Room)

**Present:** Chair: Michael Barnes

**Councillors:** Julie Moore, Michael Licqurish-Coleman, Simon Yates and Mark Henderson

**In attendance:** Clerk. District Councillor Mick Davies.

**Public Comments:** None

**01/23. Apologies for Absence.** Cllrs Withers and Dowding also County Councillor Tom Wells.

## **02/23 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

## **03/23. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of meeting of 9 November 22 were confirmed and signed as true record

## **04/23. Matters Arising**

None from the minutes.

## **05/23 County/District Cllr Reports**

DCllr Mick Davies reported on the following :

- All matters pertaining to forthcoming elections and an offer of support to anyone seeking further information. Noted the significant change for Birtsmorton in changing district ward and polling station in addition to a potentially new district councillor following the decision by Bronwen Behan not to seek re election to the Longdon Ward.
- MHDC is engaged in the administration and distribution of substantial tranches of Government Funding, much of it as levelling up grants. It is flowing through Housing, Economic Development, Tourism, Community Support and Environment groups in the Council and it emerges through many channels, some of them commercial operators (for renewable energy schemes for instance) who are acting as agents. The very best way of keeping track of what is coming is by subscribing to the MHDC News updates:

<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/news-alerts> and the Business e-Bulletins

<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/business-support-and-jobs> .

- At the Council meeting last week, the budget was approved for next year and all the details of Council Tax and Precepts.
- The chairman acknowledged this was Mick Davies's last report in his capacity as district councillor for the Morton Ward and expressed thanks for all the informative and helpful support given by him over the years to the Parish Council

## **06/23. Finance Report.**

### **1. Current financial situation:**

	£	£	
<b>Balance</b>		<b>7325.64</b>	

<b>Income pre meeting</b>	93.50	<b>93.50</b>	WCC Lengthsman
<b>Expenditure pre meeting</b>			
Expenditure at meeting	93.50 265.02 40.00 600.00 291.41		Lengthsman Clerk 3rd Quarter Annual Castlemorton Hall Hire Tree Contractor Nutshell Clerk 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
		<b>1289.93</b>	
<b>Balance at end of meeting</b>		<b>6129.21</b>	

- Within a subsequent discussion the clerk agreed to pursue the requirements for **internet banking**.

### **07/23. Update of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Model Publication Scheme.**

Councillors **agreed** to adopt the updated and reviewed as necessary Parish Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Model Publication Scheme.

### **08/23 Coombe Green Common**

Mrs Windle provided an update on activity:

The contractor has done some manual clearance on the Foxhills and some mechanical both roadside and on the Common. Not sure if he has finished yet but set a budget of £500 so invoice yet to be presented.

With the sale of one principal grazier's stock, sheep grazing on the common now very minimal so looking to encourage any sheep grazier with the benefit of electric fencing. Funding could be sought for this equipment. Sighting of 2 red kites flying around the common.

Cllrs suggested the investigation of possible repair work to small foot bridge on the common sooner rather than later. This to be discussed with Mrs Windle

### **09/23 Parish Drainage/Lengthsman**

- **48/22** Clerk to follow up with WCC any possible action re the installation of **drainage pipes under the driveway of Pink Hall** to hopefully reduce some flash flooding on Watery Lane
- **48/22** A wooden barricade has appeared on the West side of the triangle opposite Duke Of York not as where intended on the east side opposite Ellis Dawe.
- Acknowledgement to recent clearance of culverts and ditches in Rye Street.
- Comments expressed on the increasing number of substantially sized trees on the side of roads. These being potential hazards to road users in high winds from falling branches. Responsibility is with both private landowners and County Council.

### **10/23 Nutshell**

Following concerns regarding the excessive height of the willow trees on site it was agreed to seek a contractor to pollard the 2 trees with 2 quotes obtained. The tenant agreed to clear the brush and wood for a nominal sum.

### **11/23 Planning**

M/22/01309/FUL	Ellis Dawe And Son At The Forge Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Proposed Extension of Existing Commercial Building	MHDC Approved
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M/22/01308/FUL	The Poplars Rye Street Birtsmorton Worcester WR13 6AS	Replacement Dwelling	Support
M/22/01699/FUL	Brays Farm Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AP	Detailed Planning Application for Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Panels	Support
M/23/00189/AGR	Millers Court Farm Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AP	Creation of three agricultural tracks	MHDC Approved

### **12/23. Correspondence**

Particular mention of:

- CALC/NALC Updates
- Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams – Neighbourhood Matters Notifications.
- **Pensions Regulator:** Re enrolment & redeclaration - Clerk confirmed she was not seeking enrolment on a pension scheme.

### **13/23 Meetings**

To take place – 4 C's meeting. Wednesday 15 March 8pm.

### **14/23 Elections**

In addition to that already mentioned, a reminder for voting purposes Birtsmorton will be attending the Berrow and Pendock village Hall for the polling station not Castlemorton Hall as in previous years.

### **15/23. Confirmation of date of next meeting**

The next meeting date: **Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 7.00 pm** in Castlemorton Parish Hall

**The Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.**

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

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