

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held on **Monday 11 September 2023** at 7.00pm in Castlemorton Parish Hall. (Armitage Room)

Present: Chair: Michael Barnes
Councillors: Vance Withers, Michael Licqurish-Coleman, Julie Moore, Simon Yates (signed declaration) and Mark Henderson

In attendance: Clerk and DCllr Jennie Watkins and CCllr Tom Wells .

Public Comments: Chairman welcomed the new DCllr to the meeting.

30/23. Apologies for Absence. Cllr Hood.

31/23 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*

32/23. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 17 May 2023 confirmed and signed as true record

33/23. Matters Arising

27/23 Cllr Moore asked to be relieved of 4C's responsibilities and Cllr Yates agreed to take this on for the immediate future. Cllr Moore continues as Coombe Green coordinator.

34/33 District/County Councillor Reports

DCllr Report included: In her new post Jennie is familiarising herself with the 6 parishes in the Longdon ward and will attend meetings as far as possible. Her first initiative is to arrange a ward meeting with a MHDC planning officer to discuss and learn more about **Neighbourhood Plans**. This will be on **Monday 25 September at Bushley village hall at 6pm**. There will be representation from Birtsmorton. To date much of her time has been spent on planning and drainage issues and liaising in conjunction with Tom Wells in his capacity as County Councillor.

CCllr report:

- Tom continued the need for Neighbourhood Plans and not just covering housing. This is a real opportunity to frame the future and consider infrastructure, transport, broadband, net carbon zero. There is support in professional help and grant funding to execute the requirements of the plan. The result will give a greater influence in the determination of future applications.
- Asked about the success of the VAS. The procedure in operation was working well and remarks made when it was not present rather than when on site. A local topic of conversation! No livestock incidents thus far this year. Could consider an additional solar panel to extend the duration time of the battery.
- RAAC (weak form of concrete used in construction, generally flat roofs and since learnt to be susceptible to structural failure when exposed to moisture) discovered in top floor of County Hall which includes the Council Chamber. Ramifications?
- At MHDC there is a vacancy for director of planning.
- SWDP Review to be submitted to Government Inspectorate. No evidence of a 5 year land supply. The plan is based round a new town with the requirement to build 14,000 homes. 2 principal sites of 5,000 and 10,000 houses.

The 2 councillors left the meeting.

35/23. Finance Report.

a) **The Certificate of Exemption:** Notification of exempt status, year ended March 2023 from PKF Littlejohn received 14 June 2023

2. Current financial situation:

	£	£	
Balance at last meeting		6360.39	
Income pre meeting	2.00 121.00 37.92	160.92	Nutshell Rent WCC Lengthsman HMRC VAT
Expenditure pre meeting		0.00	
Expenditure at meeting	121.00 291.93 50.00		Lengthsman Clerk 1 st Quarter MHDC Election Exps
		462.93	
Balance at end of meeting		6058.38	

36/23 Coombe Green

Report from Mrs Windle included: Farmers Arms kindly ran a raffle at the Bash on behalf of friends. Mrs Windle arranged some prizes and the pub very generously gave a cash prize. Results yet unknown.

The common seems to be coping, a few thistles on the top.

It would be good to get animals grazing again next year. Matt has mentioned the possibility of a few cattle and it is thought Mr Shail still has a few sheep. Check for next year.

Meanwhile Simon will 'bash' again in November and if there are no sheep at all may try some spraying on the patches that are hard to reach by machine.

37/23 Highways/Parish Drainage/Lengthsman

- **48/22** Clerk yet again 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. Original request lost in WCC system
- Loss of **speed signs along Rye Street** yet to be reported to WCC
- The post supporting the **30mph sign outside Ryebrook** needs righting. Report to WCC
- Request for **fold down flood signs** outside telephone exchange and east end of Longdon Marsh. Follow up with WCC.
- **Triangle opposite Duke of York** can be an occasional problem when used as an overflow area for parking by the pub. Residents to be mindful as visibility onto main road reduced. An area to be monitored.

38/23 Nutshell

The tenant continues to improve the site and consequently is fruitful as regards produce grown.

39/23 Planning

M/23/00675/CLE	The Lodge Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AW	Application for an Existing Lawful Development Certificate for the erection of, and use of, a dwellinghouse.	Pending
M/23/01056/HP	Home Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	New first floor bathroom and doorway, removal of first floor stud partition wall, new conservation rooflight, soil stack to rear elevation and tennis court with demountable netting. Retrospective permission for ground floor stud wall.	Pending
M/23/01057/LB	Home Farm Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	New first floor bathroom and doorway, removal of first floor stud partition wall, new conservation rooflight, soil stack to rear elevation and tennis court with demountable netting. Retrospective permission for ground floor stud wall.	Pending

40/23. Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- CALC/NALC Updates
- Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams – Neighbourhood Matters Notifications.
- Castlemorton Environmental Action group trip to EnvirRecover Waste 18 Oct 2pm -4pm
- WCC Countryside QR Code posters
- D Day 80th Anniversary 6 June 2024
- Malvern Hills CALC Meeting 21 September at 7pm via Zoom
- Understanding of Risk Consultation by Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service.

41/23. Confirmation of date of next meeting

The next meeting date: **Wednesday 15 November at 7.00 pm** in Castlemorton Parish Hall

Please note the new starting time for Parish Council meetings of 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

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