

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council
Monday 14 September 2015 at 7.30pm – Berrow Village Hall

Present:
Chair: Michael Barnes
Councillors: Roger Gillard and Richard Bolton

In attendance: 1 member of the public and Clerk

Public Comments; Mrs Windle recorded her thanks to the contractor for the thistle clearance on Coombe Green's Fox Bank and will arrange for the next contractor to clear the brambles as soon as possible. The area now much improved with 2 consecutive years of clearance. The potential management plan discussion on site with AONB and Mrs Lomas (formerly of FWAG) was a successful meeting. Malvern Hills Conservators (MHC) have advised that a ecology survey is to be commissioned of common land CL9 with a view to improving grazing management in conjunction with AONB. Mrs Windle also registered an interest in maintenance of the telephone kiosk

31/2015. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr: Withers, Dowding and Faulkner and Mr John McCormick & D.Cllr. Mick Davies. (Cllr Faulkner committed to attendance at college for forthcoming Mondays. Would the Parish Council consider alternative day? As next meeting has been advertised publically, agreed the date will remain as booked)

32/2015. Declarations of Interest

1. **Register of Interests.** Cllr Gillard/Barnes/Withers and Dowding updated Registers.
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

33/2015. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 18 May and extraordinary meeting 13 July 2015 were confirmed and signed as true records.

34/2015. Matters Arising/ Progress Items

23/15 Thanks to Cllr Bolton for the repairs to the public notice-board by The Farmers Arms.

35/2015. Parish Council Vacancy

One qualifying candidate Mr John McCormick had registered an interest in joining the Parish Council and had previously introduced himself to the Parish Council. **It was RESOLVED that Mr John McCormick be co-opted onto the Parish Council** with declaration of office to be completed at next meeting.

36/2015. Finance Report

Current financial situation:

Balance as at 20 May 2015		4152.69	
Income pre meeting			
Expenditure pre meeting			
Expenditure at meeting			
1. Clerk	No99	192.57	April, May June
2. MHDC	No100	26.49	Uncontested Election

		219.06	
Monies available as at 14 Sept. 2015		£3933.63	
3.Thistle Clearance – contractor	216.00		£36.00 vat included

It was **AGREED** that Cllrs. Barnes and Gillard continue as cheque signatories

37/2015 Standing Orders/Financial Regulations/Transparency Code

Clerk advised members that she was preparing standing orders and financial regulations for approval at the next meeting. Reminder about the transparency code and the use of the WCC website to upload the required information including meeting agendas, minutes and yearend financial data.

38/2015. Update on Drainage/Flooding/Scrub Clearance within the Parish

1. **Watery Lane** – Clerk had written again to resident along Watery Lane with no reply to date. Road recently inspected with local resident and concerns expressed on the excess water flowing from bank Pope Hayes side, into road with subsequent damage to the highway. The Parish Council acknowledge the immediate necessity to determine if this is fresh or spring water as suggested. Further checks to take place and contact STWA if necessary.
2. **Rye Street Hedge** – Complaint received about overgrown hedge along Rye Street opposite Ellis Dawe. Registry search with fee to be paid to establish owner of field and enforce cutting back of hedge.
3. **Coombe Green Common in addition to that previously mentioned at start of meeting.**
 - a. Thistle cutting invoice presented, to be paid with letter of thanks and contractor for cutting back brambles to be contacted.
 - b. Increase in ant hills noted, possibly making certain areas more difficult for future clearance.
 - c. Mrs Windle to provide parish magazine with Coombe Green Common updates.
 - d. Letter to be sent to Mr Windle for his generous time in clearing around the bench on the top of the common.
4. Clerk to investigate further, the process of adopting the **telephone kiosk**.
5. Marsh Road recently repaired following use as unofficial diversion, with thanks to WCC highways.

39/2015 District Councillor Report

DCllr Mick Davies in a report included

- The forthcoming rollout of broadband in Birtsmorton. Check www.superfastworcestershireshire.com for up to date information.
- SWDP continues to move through legislative timetabled process.
- Waste collection – service being evaluated expected to take 18 months. Present service continues for now.
- District Council – seeking voluntary redundancies within management leading towards shared services between Wychavon and Malvern Hills.

40/2015. Correspondence

- Any Information presently sent to cllrs via email.

41/2015. Confirmation of date of next meeting

The next meeting date **Monday 23 November** at 7.30 pm at Berrow Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

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