

Birtsmorton Parish

Draft Minutes of the meeting of **Annual Parish Meeting** on Monday 8 May 2017 at 7.00pm – Berrow Village Hall

Present:

Chair: Michael Barnes

Councillors: Roger Gillard, Vance Withers and David Williams

In attendance: 3 parishioners, D.Cllr Mick Davies and Clerk

1A/17. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs John McCormick, Mary Dowding and Alison Faulkner.

2A/17. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 16th May 2016 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

3A/17. Matters Arising/ Progress Items

The clerk reported on the non-attendance of police at annual meetings now. However, communication link was kept open with monthly newsletter and further contact details if so required.

4A/17. Finance Report

A full report was provided by the RFO for Financial Year 2016/17:

Opening balance of £3667.97, receipts of £2654.64 and expenditure of **£2253.60**. Leaving a **closing balance of £4069.01**. A very similar financial year to last with a reduction in common clearance based upon the major work the previous year.

5A/17. Chairman's Report

The chairman once again apologised for lack of report this year due to his present work commitments

6A/17 Coombegreen Common

Mrs Windle provided an update on Coombegreen Common activity. There has been positive feedback from common users as regards recent clearance tasks as advised under the 5 year plan. Important to maintain this level of work to keep up with the task and include other project areas each year. Thanks to Parish Council for the match funding up to £300 with supporting funds resulting from local fund raising events. Thanks, were expressed to Mrs Windle for her enthusiasm and effort in this ongoing project.

Scrub and livestock clearance are major concerns for Malvern Hills Trust (new name for Malvern Hills Conservators) Comments relating to future concerns of grazing with the eventual loss of the main grazer. Cattle grids once again back on the agenda for discussion with a reminder of previous responses to this matter years ago. Cattle are expected on Coombegreen hopefully next year, once suitable site for fencing arranged to ensure animals are safe.

New footpath sign erected on Common directing walkers along the road. This to be investigated.

7A/17. District Councillors Report

DCllr. Mike Davies reported on the following:

- Town/Parish Council forum with feedback
- Car Parking and Dog Fouling strategies and regulations
- Update by MHDC of the 5year plan
- Government white paper on housing
- Housing services

- Volunteers required for Upton Tourist Information office and
- Sports Awards nominations.

In discussion – With regard public being fined for allowing dogs to foul public areas what about suitable places to dispose of the mess with, so often, designated bins full?

8A/17. Other Matters Raised.

In the absence of the police, parishioners were reminded to take care of valuable equipment by keeping pictorial and receipt records. For the larger items there are various forms of track ID which could be attached. Smart Water was another marking and identification idea.

An update was provided on the flooding along Watery Lane and the remedial action which has recently taken place. This will be now monitored and further information provided at the next meeting of the parish council.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

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

