



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Office on Monday 29th October 2012 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Rachel Banner, Alun Davies, Edwin Gumbley, Doreen Hawkley, Charles Hotham, John Jagger (Chair) and Susan Whitehand.

In attendance: Paul MacLachlan (Executive Officer), Councillor Stuart Dudley and one member of the public.

Appendices: The following documents will be appended to the signed minutes:

- the Agenda;
- the planning application report;
- the RFO report for October 2012;
- the report of income and expenditure to 30 September 2012;
- the bank reconciliation to 30 September 2012.

71/12 **Apologies**

The apologies of County Cllr Peter McDonald and District Cllr Richard Deeming were received.

72/12 **Declarations of Interest**

The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted. No interests were declared by Parish Council Members.

73/12 **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting dated 24 September 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Chair proposed, and it was agreed, that the meeting be adjourned to receive questions and comments from the public.

Cllrs were asked to consider how to engage more of the younger professionals living in the village. Suggestions included leafleting school and nursery parents and taking the council 'to the school gate'.

Having established there no further questions or comments from the public the Chair proposed, and it was agreed, that the meeting be reconvened.



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74/12 **Chairman's Report**

The Chair commented that the Parish Council was waiting for further news from Bromsgrove District Council regarding the residential development of Fiery Hill Road. The Chair noted the satisfactory progress of issues raised at the last meeting and thanked Cllrs for their continued efforts in connection with the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

75/12 **District Councillors' and County Councillor's question and answer session**

Cllr Stuart Dudley reported that:

- Kit Taylor, Richard Deeming and he had attended Banner Homes' presentation on 13 October at which updated plans for the development of Fiery Hill Road were made available to the public;
- Some residents attending the presentation had commented that the frontages were too 'Tudor'. Others were concerned at the high percentage of affordable housing;
- 40% of the housing was likely to be affordable housing and that 30% of the affordable housing was likely to be social housing;
- further feedback in respect of the Fiery Hill Road development should be forwarded to officers at Bromsgrove District Council;
- Kit Taylor, Richard Deeming and he would be holding a surgery in Barnt Green in late November/early December 2012.

The Parish Council pressed Cllr Dudley on the amount of section 106 monies being generated by the Fiery Hill Road development and asked for a breakdown of proposed expenditure. Cllr Dudley agreed to forward details to the Executive Officer.

76/12 **Neighbourhood Plan**

The minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting dated 8 October 2012 were received.

77/12 **Infrastructure**

(a) **Planning and Conservation**

- (i) The report on planning applications and decisions made by the District Council's Planning Committee were received and the attitudes expressed by the Parish Council Planning Group under its delegated powers noted.



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- (ii) Cllrs received further information about the possibility of installing a multi-use games area. Cllrs noted that this would be a long term project and authorized Cllr Hotham to seek a meeting with representatives of the Sports and Tennis Club in order to establish their interest in assisting with this community provision.
- (iii) Cllrs noted, with regret, that officers of Bromsgrove District Council had felt unable to discuss the options available to the Parish Council in respect of the proposed car park in Fiery Hill Road.

(b) Environment

- (i) Cllrs received a report on the proposed improvements to the railway line between Redditch and Birmingham. It was noted that the problem of rail squeal could be addressed differently by both Network Rail and London Midland.

It was agreed that:

Network Rail be asked to install the 10 greasing points deemed necessary to solve the issue of rail squeal and advised that Barnt Green Parish Council will only support the introduction of a more frequent service following the resolution of this issue.

- (ii) Cllrs considered arrangements for the switch-on of Christmas lights in the village.

It was agreed that:

the lights will be illuminated on Saturday 1 December with an official switch-on ceremony taking place at 2.30pm on either Monday 3 December or Thursday 6 December depending on the availability of the Rev Rob Fieldson and the staff and children of St Andrews School.

- (iii) Cllrs received a report that 12 traders were proposing to remain open until 8.00pm on Thursdays 6, 13 and 20 December.

It was agreed to:

seek the assistance of Barnt Green Choral Society, St Andrews Church and the Salvation Army to lead carol singing on these evenings.

78/12 Governance

(a) Finance

It was agreed that:



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- (i) the report of the Responsible Finance Officer for October 2012 be approved;*
- (ii) the report on income and expenditure for the period to 30 September 2012 be received;*
- (iii) the bank reconciliation to 30 September 2012 be approved;*

Cllrs did not envisage any extra-ordinary expenditure in 2013/14 other than that on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan. A decision regarding the Parish Council's involvement in any 2013 Barnt Green Festival was deferred to the next meeting.

(b) Reports of meetings

Reports were received on the following meetings attended by councillors:

- (i) St Andrews School Governors;
- (ii) Worcestershire Association of Local Councils;
- (iii) Council for the Protection of Rural England.

79/12 Correspondence received

Cllrs noted the following correspondence:

- (i) 1210/01: website consultant proposing contract terms;
- (ii) 1210/02: lengthsman seeking a pay review;
- (iii) 1210/03: parish footpath officer suggesting improved route signage;
- (iv) 1210/04: Total Football commenting on proposed charges.

It was agreed to refer the above correspondence to a meeting of the Finance Group for decision.

- (v) 1210/05: resident seeking compensation.
It was agreed to settle the claim.

- (vi) 1210/06: resident seeking a tidy-up of verges on Fiery Hill Road.
The reply of the Executive Officer was approved.

80/12 Urgent Decisions taken since the last meeting

None taken.

81/12 Future Agenda Items

2013 Barnt Green Festival



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82/12 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7.00pm on Monday 26 November 2012 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.

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Chairman

26 November 2012

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