

Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green on Wednesday 21 May 2014 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Rosemary Briggs, Robert Cholmondeley, Alun Davies, Kaye Elderton, Edwin Gumbley, Charles Hotham, John Jagger (Chair) and Susan Whitehand.

In attendance: Paul MacLachlan (Executive Officer).

The following documents will be appended to the signed minutes:

- the Agenda;
- the following enclosures:
 - A: report of planning applications received and decisions taken under delegated powers;
 - B: draft minutes of the Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment Committee dated 8 May 2014
 - C: draft Neighbourhood Development Plan scoping document
 - D: report of the Responsible Finance Officer.

12/14 **Apologies**

The apologies of County Councillor Peter McDonald were received.

13/14 **Declarations of Interest**

The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted. Parish Council dispensations dated 26 November 2012 apply. Cllr John Jagger declared an interest in planning application 14/0350 which he had submitted. No other interests were declared by Parish Council Members. No dispensations were sought.

14/14 **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 31 March 2014 were approved and signed by the Chair.

No members of the public attended the meeting

15/14 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman commented on the small number of residents who attended the Annual Parish Meeting and, while thanking those councillors who attended, suggested that further thought needed to be given to the format of the meeting in order to attract more interest. Cllr Elderton offered to consider this and to bring recommendations to a future meeting.

The Chair advised the outcome of the further quotations sought for the parish Christmas lights and confirmed that Blachere remained the least expensive. It was proposed by Cllr Jagger, seconded by Cllr Whitehand and agreed that the three-year quotation submitted by Blachere be accepted.

The Chair canvassed dates for the working group to discuss the Parish Council's image and communications. It was agreed to defer this initiative.

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It was proposed by Cllr Hotham, seconded by Cllr Whitehand and agreed that

- (a) the Lengthsman be offered an increase in hourly rate from £12 to £12.50;
- (b) in the event that the offer is declined, other Lengthsman candidates be interviewed.

20/14 **Decisions taken since last meeting**

Cllr Jagger advised that he and Cllr Hotham had, under delegated powers, asked the Executive Officer to purchase a shredder for the office, a set of NALC booklets for councillor guidance and to secure a debit card for Parish Council purchases.

21/14 **Future Agenda items**

To consider receiving training to become a dementia-friendly council.

To consider whether Barnt Green Quakers can provide parking spaces for visitors to the village centre.

22/14 **Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

7.00pm on Wednesday 25 June 2014 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 9.13pm.

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Chairman 25 June 2014