

Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

held at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green on Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Rosemary Briggs, Robert Cholmondeley, Alun Davies, Edwin Gumbley, Charles Hotham (Chair).

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: report of the Responsible Finance Officer;
 - C: Quotations for purchase of new planters;
 - D: Quotations for repair to play surfaces at Millennium Park.

90/14 Apologies

The apologies of Cllrs Jagger and Whitehand were received and accepted.
The apologies of County Councillor Peter McDonald and District Councillor Richard Deeming were received.

910/14 Declarations of Interest

The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted.
Parish Council dispensations dated 26 November 2012 apply.
No interests were declared.
No dispensations were sought.

92/14 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings dated 14 January 2015 were agreed a true record and signed by the Chair.

No members of the public attended the meeting

93/14 Chairman's Report

Cllrs noted that Cllr Jagger was in poor health and asked the Executive Officer to convey their best wishes. Cllr Hotham commented:

- on the difficulties faced by road users on Fiery Hill Road and that he had received no reply from Network Rail to his request that alternative parking arrangements be put in place for the duration of the electrification works;
- that Neighbourhood Plan Working Groups were continuing to meet;
- that the Cricket Club were in discussion with Cala Homes regarding measures required to protect people and property;
- that Bromsgrove District Council had decided to keep the vast majority of New Homes Bonus funding under their control;
- that the Environmental Health Officer was investigating a pest nuisance in the car park behind central village centre shops;

The Executive Officer was asked to:

- write to Neil Edwards thanking him for the new paving in front of his village centre shops;
- seek confirmation of arrangements for the pedestrian crossing on Bittell Road.

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94/14 District Councillors' and County Councillor's Question and Answer Session
No District or County Councillors attended the meeting.

95/14 Decisions taken since last meeting

Issue	Date of the Annual Parish Meeting		
Decision	To hold the meeting at the Friends' Meeting House at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20 May 2015		
Delegated by	Parish Councillors by email consensus		
Reason	In order to advertise the date in the Spring issue of <i>The Bulletin</i>		
Decision date	9 February 2015	Cllr interests	None

96/14 Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment

- (i) Cllrs considered the report (Enclosure A) on planning applications received and decisions taken by the District Council. It was recommended that the following applications be refused:
- | | | |
|----------|--------------------|---|
| 14/0869: | 41 Fiery Hill Road | Single storey extension to front and rear |
| 15/0015 | 17 Sandhills Road | Two storey side and rear extension |
- (ii) Councillors considered quotations for planters from CiS, Blueton and Broxap (Enclosure C). It was proposed by Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Hotham and agreed that the parish council purchase 6 Small Oldham cast iron planters (800mm x 650mm x 590mm high) at a cost of £4,430 + VAT inclusive of gold highlights, delivery and installation.
It was further agreed to seek sponsorship for the flowers.
- (iii) Councillors considered quotations for repairs to the swing and slide play surfaces at Millennium Park from RTC, Sovereign, DCM and Playsmart UK (Enclosure D). It was proposed by Cllr Gumbley, seconded by Cllr Briggs and agreed that the repair work be undertaken by RTC at a cost of £3,763.00 + VAT

97/14 Community

- (i) Cllr Hotham reported on a meeting with Shindig on 12 February also attended by Cllrs Davies and Briggs. The purpose of the meeting had been to discuss the possibility of an agreement between the Parish Council and Shindig for local entertainments that would promote the village and encourage community spirit. It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Gumbley and agreed that:
- the Executive Officer be authorized to enter into an agreement with Shindig on behalf of the Parish Council;
 - two entertainments be sought, preferably in October 2015 and April 2016;
 - Cllrs Briggs, Davies, Gumbley and Hotham be authorized to make appropriate arrangements for these events on behalf of the Parish Council.
- (ii) Cllrs considered correspondence from a resident regarding the availability of superfast broadband throughout the parish. The Executive Officer was asked to contact BT with a request to make this available throughout the parish at the earliest opportunity.

98/14 Finance

- (i) It was agreed that the report of the Responsible Finance Officer for February 2015 (Enclosures B) be received and that any outstanding payments be made.
- (ii) Cllrs noted that a £25,000 Lloyds Bank Bond was due to mature on 27 February 2015 and resolved that, on maturity, all funds held by Lloyds Bank in the name of Barnt Green Parish Council be transferred to the Parish Council's Cambridge

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Building Society account and that all Barnt Green Parish Council's bank accounts with Lloyds Bank accounts be closed.

- (iii) Cllrs agreed the terms offered by John S Bishop for grass cutting in 2015.
- (iv) Cllrs noted receipt of the new office lease and authorised Cllr Cholmondely to review the document and, when satisfied, to indicate to the Executive Officer that he may sign it on behalf of the Parish Council.
- (v) Cllrs noted with regret that the arrangements made with Total Football on 20 October 2014 had not been completed. It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Gumbley and agreed that payment be sought via the small claims court.

99/14 Governance

- (i) Cllrs were advised of Bromsgrove District Council's intention to issue the Notice of Election for parish council elections on 16 March and that completed nomination forms must be returned by 9 April 2015.
- (ii) Councillors agreed that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council be held in the Parish Council office at 7.00pm on Wednesday 13 May 2015 and that this be immediately followed by an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.
- (iii) Cllrs noted that Barnt Green Parish Council had been automatically awarded Foundation Level accreditation in the new Local Council Award Scheme and that it was possible to seek higher accreditation if so desired.

100/14 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- (i) Cllrs Briggs, Davies and Hotham had met Shindig on 12 February.
- (ii) The following meetings were noted and attendances agreed:
 - 11 March: Bromsgrove CALC
 - 12 March: Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment Committee
 - 25 March : Parish Council meeting
- (iii) The following points of information were communicated:
 - Cllr Gumbley advised he had received correspondence from a resident about parking in the village. After discussion Cllr Gumbley was asked to respond indicating that there was no silver bullet and that the issue would be addressed within the Barnt Green Neighbourhood Development Plan;
 - Cllr Davies reported on the state of the pavement between 42 and 68 Bittell Road. The Executive Officer was asked to contact the Highways Department seeking reinstatement;
 - Cllr Hotham commented on the lack of disabled access due to the closure of the access point on Hewell Lane and expressed some disappointment at the lack of response to his concerns about the parking on Fiery Hill Road;
 - Cllrs noted that building work is yet to start in earnest on Fiery Hill Road and asked the Executive Officer to seek an update from Cala Homes;
 - Cllrs referred the dementia training opportunity to the new council.
- (iv) It was agreed that the new council review street lighting times.

101/14 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7.00pm on Wednesday 25 March 2015 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 8.57pm.

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Chairman

25 March 2015