

Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green on Wednesday 25 March 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Robert Cholmondeley, Alun Davies, Edwin Gumbley, Charles Hotham (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 meeting dated 12 March 2015;
 - C: report of the Responsible Finance Officer;
 - D: Parish Council asset register.

102/14 Apologies

The apologies of Cllrs Briggs and Jagger were received and accepted.

103/14 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.

104/14 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings dated 25 February 2015 were agreed a true record and signed by the Chair.

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| One members of the public attended the meeting. There were no questions asked or issues raised. |
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105/14 Chairman's Report

Cllr Hotham explained that Cllr Jagger was unable to attend due to poor health. Cllrs expressed their best wishes for his speedy recovery.

Cllr Hotham commented:

- on the recent Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment meeting and the outcome of the parish walk undertaken with Lengthsman, Leon Hill;
- on the Clerk's recent house move;
- on the need to progress the selection of entertainments from those on Shindig's books;
- on a successful first councillors' surgery;
- that Network Rail's schedule of works seem to be slipping.

106/14 District Councillors' and County Councillor's Question and Answer Session

County Councillor, Peter McDonald, reported that the County Council were seeking to be financially self-sufficient by 2019 but that, to do this, services would be subject to further severe cuts.

Cllr McDonald commented specifically on the impact of cuts to local youth services on the incidence of antisocial behaviour.

Barnt Green Parish Council

Cllrs raised the concerns of local residents about parking on Fiery Hill Road. Cllr McDonald asked Cllrs to refer residents to him so that he can investigate the matter further.

107/14 Decisions taken since last meeting

No Officer decisions had been made under either specific or general authorizations.

108/14 Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment

- (i) Cllrs considered the report (Enclosure A) on planning applications received and decisions taken by the District Council. There were no applications requiring consideration.
- (ii) The draft minutes of the Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment Committee were received and noted.
The Executive Officer reported that he had received a quotation of £200 from Bromsgrove District Council to relocate or dispose of the current planters on Hewell Road. Cllrs acknowledged that this work was necessary prior to delivery of the new planters and agreed the quotation.
- (iii) Councillors considered residents' recent representations regarding parking in the parish and agreed to:
 - continue the dialogue with Barnt Green Social Club regarding use of their car parking facilities;
 - explore the re-opening of an old entrance on Hewell Lane to platform 3;
 - consider the suitability of the single yellow line restriction outside the chip shop;
 - seek a meeting with the County Council officers to discuss permit parking within the village.Cllr Cholmondeley reported on a meeting with resident who had expressed concern about rail users parking in Oakdene Drive.
- (iv) Cllrs considered a request to site a clothing bank in the parish in support of the Midlands Air Ambulance. The Executive Officer was asked to contact Alvechurch Parish Council and to enquire about the advantages and disadvantages of such facilities.

109/14 Finance

- (i) It was agreed that the report of the Responsible Finance Officer for March 2015 (Enclosures C) be received and that any outstanding payments be made.
Cllrs noted that there was no record of income from Total Football's use of the playing field and were advised that a cheque for £170 had just been received in part payment of the sums outstanding. It was agreed that the part payment be accepted and that the Executive Officer make the necessary arrangements to secure the remaining balance.
- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr Hotham, seconded by Cllr Whitehand and agreed that GJH Electricals be asked to complete the painting of the street light columns at a uit cost of £25 and that the columns be painted black.
- (iii) It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Gumbley and agreed that the Parish Council participate in the 2015/16 Lengthsman Scheme.
- (iv) It was proposed by Cllr Whitehand, seconded by cllr Davies and agreed that Cllrs Cholmondeley and Hotham review the Parish Council's compliance with the accounting and governance statements within the Annual Return and make a report to the next meeting.

Barnt Green Parish Council

110/14 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- (i) Cllr Whitehand reported on the following meetings:
- with Barnt Green Waters to discuss their concerns about the impact of further development required to meet Birmingham's housing needs;
 - with Jack Hanson to learn new techniques that will help map the local environment;
 - with Diane Carr to discuss sustainability issues;
 - with the Environment Agency to discuss the likelihood of water pollution arising from deposits in a field near Bittell Farm Road.
- (ii) The following meetings were noted and attendances agreed:
- 15 April: Resources Committee
29 April: Parish Council meeting
- (iii) The following points of information were noted:
- a request from a village-based under 12 football team to play their home matches at Parker's Piece. The Executive Officer was asked to obtain further details;
 - a request to support an out-of-parish poetry festival. The Executive Officer was asked to respond appropriately;
 - that Millennium Park lacked signage. The Executive Officer was asked to obtain quotations;
 - that Cllr Cholmondeley had surveyed the road and pavements within the village.
- (v) It was agreed that Cllrs Cholmondeley's report on parish roads and footpaths be considered at the next meeting.

101/14 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7.00pm on Wednesday 29 April 2015 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

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Chairman 29 April 2015