

Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green on Wednesday 29 April 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Rosemary Briggs, Robert Cholmondeley, 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: Report on the condition of roads and pavements in the parish;
 - C: report of the Responsible Finance Officer;
 - D: Internal Auditor's report;
 - E: Draft minutes of the Resources Committee meeting dated 15 April 2015.

112/14 Apologies

The apologies of Cllr Davies were received and accepted. The apologies of County Cllr McDonald were received.

Cllr Jagger left the meeting temporarily and Cllr Hotham took the Chair.

113/14 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.

114/14 Minutes of the last meeting

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

No members of the public attended the meeting.
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115/14 Chairman's Report

Cllr Hotham noted that this was the last meeting of the current parish council and placed on record the Parish Council's thanks to Cllr Davies who has not sought re-election.

Cllr Hotham advised that he had secured a defibrillator from West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) at no cost and that he would bring a recommendation regarding the most appropriate housing for the defibrillator to a future meeting. Cllrs thanked Cllr Hotham for his work and requested that a letter of thanks be sent to WMAS.

Cllr Hotham commented that work on the rail bridges within the parish had fallen behind schedule and that there was still no news on the timetable for the installation of lifts at the station footbridge.

Cllr Hotham highlighted delivery of the planters on Thursday 14 May. The Executive Officer asked as many Cllrs as are available on 14 May to assemble on Hewell Road at 9.30am to assist the contractor to position the planters.

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116/14 District Councillors' and County Councillor's Question and Answer Session

No District or County Councillors attended the meeting.

117/14 Decisions taken since last meeting

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

118/14 Neighbourhood, Planning and Environment

(i) Cllrs considered the report (Enclosure A) on planning applications received and decisions taken by the District Council. The following recommendations were made:

15/0192:	Land off Fiery Hill Road:	Permit
15/0207:	45 Sandhills Lane	Permit
15/0236:	Bittell Farm Road	Permit
15/0200:	Second XI Cricket Ground	Concern about height of nets

Cllr Jagger re-joined the meeting.

(ii) Cllrs considered a report on the condition of roads and pavements in the parish. It was proposed by Cllr Hotham, seconded by Cllr Whitehand and agreed that:

- (a) Items 1, 4, 8, 14 and 15 be prioritised and that the County be asked to contact London Midland with regard to items 16 and 17;
- (b) the report be forwarded to County Cllr, Peter McDonald, and the County Council Customer & Community Manager, Jon Fraser;
- (c) Cllr Cholmondeley seek a meeting with London Midland to discuss car park charges and that Judith Jagger be invited to attend.

(iii) Cllrs noted that work on the bridges in the parish was running behind schedule and that the Annual Parish Meeting will provide an ideal opportunity for Network Rail to bring local residents up to date with developments.

119/14 Finance

(i) It was agreed that the report of the Responsible Finance Officer for April 2015 (Enclosures C) be received and that any outstanding payments be made.

(ii) The report of the Internal Auditor, Diane Malley was considered. Cllrs noted that the Parish Council's financial records were in good order.

(iii) The draft minutes of the Resources Committee dated 15 April were received.

(iv) Following a report from Cllrs Cholmondeley and Hotham regarding the checks undertaken on the figures and procedures underpinning the Annual Return, it was proposed by Cllr Whitehand, seconded by Cllr Briggs and agreed that the declarations at sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return be signed.

120/14 Governance

(i) The Executive Officer advised that for 35 days after the election the Parish Council can co-opt members in order to fill the two current vacancies;

(ii) Cllrs noted the resignation of the Executive Officer following to his relocation to Suffolk with regret and understanding;

(iii) It was agreed that, if possible:

- Cllrs Hotham and Briggs shortlist candidates for interview;
- the interview panel be Cllrs Jagger, Cholmondeley, Gumbley and Whitehand;
- the Executive Officer attend the interviews in order to answer any questions regarding the nature of the work.

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121/14 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- (i) Cllr Whitehand reported on her attendance at a recent Alvechurch Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan meetings:
- (ii) The following meetings were noted and attendances agreed:
 - 13 May: Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
 - 20 May: Annual Parish Meeting
- (iii) The following points of information were noted:
 - the under-12 football team enquiring about use of Parker's Piece have decided not to proceed;
 - the Pensions Regulator has contacted the Council seeking a nominated contact.
- (iv) It was requested that appointment of the Parish Council's Pension's Regulator nominee be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

122/14 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7.00pm on Wednesday 13 May 2015 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

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Chairman

13 May 2015