

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held on **Tuesday 7 September 2021** at 7.30pm in Castlemorton Parish Hall.

Present: Chair: Michael Barnes

Councillors: Vance Withers, Mary Dowding, Julie Moore and Mark Henderson

In attendance: Clerk, D Cllr Mick Davies and 2 parishioners.

Public Comments: None

28/21. Apologies for Absence. None

29/21 Declarations of Interest

1. *Register of Interests. No updates*
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature None*
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) None*

30/21. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 17 May 2021 were confirmed and signed as true record

31/21. Matters Arising

None

32/21 D Cllr Reports

Report included:

- Delay in SWDP including change in personnel
- Update in Malvern's Priory Park progressing well
- Planning – Peer review to be undertaken
- Boundary Commission Review and forthcoming consultation with local stakeholders and possible representations. Potentially Morton ward with 2025 electors.

This was further discussed by councillors with consideration to the proposals within an independent MHDC councillors' submission and an awareness of the likelihood of further submissions.

Within the proposal in this submission Birtsmorton parish is removed from the Morton Ward and added to the Longdon Ward. Castlemorton and Welland remain in the Morton Ward with the addition of Malvern Wells and renamed Wells & Morton Ward with 2 councillors. Cllrs appreciated the effectiveness of maintaining rural wards and would see what developed during the Commission's review noting there is a task to reduce present councillor numbers of 38 to a target of 31 to be effective for the next elections in 2023.

33/21 Councillor Resignations

The resignation of **Cllr David Williams** was confirmed as of 1st August 2021 (Minute 26/21) and the clerk had sent a note of thanks to him recording his support with parish council matters during his tenure since 2016. The clerk reported that she had also received an email from **Cllr. Alison Faulkner** indicating her notice of resignation due to other commitments as of 6 September 2021. Cllr Faulkner was originally co opted in 2007. Fellow councillors acknowledged her contribution to parish council matters over these years and wished her well in her other activities.

34/21 Parish Council vacancies

A request to be considered for co-option had been received from **Mr Simon Yates**. Another resident has also expressed interest in joining the parish council and completed an application. Mr Yates was formally proposed and seconded and this proposal was **supported** by members.

Declaration of interest was duly signed.

The chairman informed members that the second formal vacancy notification period had commenced and hopefully at the next meeting the council would again be able to consider co-option.

35/21. Finance Report

a) Confirmation of receipt of Certificate of Exemption 2020/2021

b) **Current financial situation:**

	£	£	
Balance		7020.06	
Income pre meeting			
WCC	27.63		Lengthsman
HMRC	149.63		VAT 2020/21
		177.26	
Expenditure pre meeting	0.00		
Clerk April - June	234.48		Clerk
Lengthsman	112.50		August duties
VAS extra equipment	608.94		Westcotec Ltd
		955.92	
Balance at end of meeting		6241.40	

36/21 Coombegreen Common

Mrs Windle had previously reported activity had been quieter and the opportunity to cut thistles had not been carried out this year. There is restricted funding of £517 available for any further clearance work in addition to any potential fund raising supported by the Parish Council

37/21 Parish Drainage/Lengthsman

- Chairman reported his concerns re the lack of drainage work at the rear of Pink Hall Cottage which highways had been unable to complete as part of the Watery Lane project as permission was not granted to access the land. Agreed to contact Malvern Hills Drainage partnership for advice marking up area on a map..
- VAS Update – Minute 22/21 Agreed to follow up quotes to purchase further equipment from the original supplier Westcotec Ltd. at a cost of 507.45 plus VAT. (5 brackets, 2 batteries and 1 charger) All equipment to be shared between Cllrs Henderson and Withers. This will include coverage for the pole in Hollybush (Castlemorton Parish who will be asked to contribute to the cost of the extra bracket) A rota will also be arranged to ensure the VAS is rotated around the parish.

38/21 Nutshell

Awareness that the tenant had not been tending the Nutshell area and his whereabouts were unknown. Clerk to clarify situation and maybe an opportunity for the parish to consider an alternative use.

39/21 Planning

21/00522/HP	Farley House Berrow Malvern WR13 6JQ	Demolition of hay store and replacement with garage with ancillary domestic studio above.		Approved
21/00630/FUL	Apple Tree House Birts Street Birtsmorton WR13 6AP	Temporary siting of two static caravans (retrospective) for agricultural workers.	Support	Pending
21/01086/HP	Bernard House 14 Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Remove conservatory to rear. New single storey extension to rear.	Support	Approved
21/01236/GPDE	Southlands Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Replacement of existing single storey flat roof with a new dual pitched roof and erection of new single storey rear extension.		GPD (Conditional)
21/00577/HP	1 Leys Cottage Birts Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AW	Erection of two-storey rear extension	PC Support & further Comment	Pending Decision
21/01476/LB	Tracks End Birts Street Birtsmorton WR13 6AW	Removal of impervious external paint. Timber repairs to external elevations & redecoration.	PC Support	Pending Decision

40/21. Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- CALC Updates and possible courses.
- Neighbourhood Watch changed to Neighbourhood alert. Anyone can register for the alerts.
- Notification of the ongoing nationwide telecommunication process to transfer telephone land lines to digital fibre with an aim to complete by 2025. Clerk to out a notification about the process in the magazine.

41/21. Confirmation of date of next meeting

The next meeting date **Tuesday 9 November 2021** at 7.30 pm in Castlemorton Parish Hall

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed..... Date.....