

Birtsmorton Parish

Draft Minutes of the meeting of **Annual Parish Meeting** on Monday 13 May 2019 at 7.00pm –
Berrow Village Hall

Present:

Chair: Michael Barnes

Councillors: Mary Dowding, Alison Faulkner, Vance Withers, Julie Moore and David Williams

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

1A/19. Apologies for Absence.

No Apologies received.

2A/19. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting of 9th May 2018 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

5A/18 DCllr noted that the opportunity to borrow the VAS from Welland was on hold for the present due to the machine having being broken and now awaiting a decision from Welland PC about a replacement. It was hoped this may then be temporarily available to Birtsmorton Parish.

3A/19. Chairman's Report

The chairman provided a verbal report including an acknowledging the work on Coombe Green Common, the retirement of Roger Gillard after many years as a councillor and hopefully consideration for repair work on Watery Lane.

4A/19. Finance Report

A full report provided by the RFO for Financial Year 2018/19 was available to review.

Opening balance of £4,495.66, receipts of £2,824.34 and expenditure of £2,215.20. Leaving a **closing balance of £5,104.80**. A very similar financial year to last including a reduction in insurance

5A/19 Coombegreen Common

Mrs Windle provided an encouraging update on Coombegreen Common activity. This included

- The continuation of scrub and bramble clearance always an ongoing project
- Pathway around footbridge had recently been gravelled, a much-appreciated act of anonymous generosity.
- New warning signs of ewes and lambs in the road. Very eye-catching and so visually effective. Graziers have expressed thanks for these.
- Raffle on 18 June to be drawn at Farmers Arms as a fund raiser.
- Looking to speak to Jenny Phelps for support in seeking further grants.
- All in all, maintain this encouraging good will to upkeep this particularly interesting area of common.
- Acknowledgement from parishioner to Mrs Windle for all her encouragement and drive with this work and associated task. A comment supported by Parish Council.
- General comment relating to future of grazing. Existing stewardship scheme finishes in 2020 and the Trust is intended to seek alternative ways of maintaining this continuity of funds such as Countryside Stewardship in conjunction with other interested parties.
- Idea put forward about the siting of an information board. Well received by those present.

6A/19. District Councillors Report

The chairman acknowledged DCllr. Davies' recent success in the local elections and welcomed his attendance and support at parish council meetings.

DCllr Davies then reported on the following recent MHDC matters:

- Procedures and management of planning enforcement improved with an increase of staff. Parish councillors encouraged to provide information in relation to planning matters to support officers in their deliberations.
- Tourist Information Office in the process of moving to Lyttleton Well under a 5-year deal.
- New council reception area in building alongside Priory Lodge. All facilities now removed from library.
- Consequences of recent election results with no overall party control.
- Thursday morning coffee at Bakehouse 9.30am. Opportunity to discuss any matters of interest or concern.

7A/19. Other Matters Raised.

Encourage a better attendance at a future annual parish meeting!

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

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