



# Barnt Green Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Office on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs Alun Davies, Edwin Gumbley, Doreen Hawkley, Charles Hotham, John Jagger, and Susan Whitehand.

**In attendance:** Paul MacLachlan (Executive Officer).

**Appendices:** The following documents will be appended to the signed minutes:

- the Agenda;
- the updated planning application report;
- the RFO report for August and September 2012;
- the minutes of the Finance Group meeting dated 10 September 2012.

**58/12 Apologies** – The apologies of Cllrs Rachel Banner were accepted by the Council and the reason for absence noted in the attendance book. Apologies were also received from County Cllr Peter McDonald and District Councillor Richard Deeming.

**59/12 Declarations of Interest**

- The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted.
  - Cllr Alun Davies indicated an interest in a planning application as one of the properties concerned was adjacent to his and he had responded to the consultation.
- No other interests were declared by Parish Council Members.

**60/12 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting dated 30 July 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

No Parishioners attended the meeting
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**61/12 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman commented on the work being undertaken by the Council in connection with:

- the residential development of Fiery Hill Road;
- the development of the Barnt Green Neighbourhood Plan.



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The Chairman thanked councillors for their work over the summer making special mention of the work undertaken by Susan Whitehand in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan.

**62/12 District Councillors' and County Councillor's question and answer session**  
No District or County Councillors were present at the meeting..

**63/12 Neighbourhood Plan**

The minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting dated 3 September 2012 were received.

Councillors noted the mandate given by those attending the public meeting to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillors agreed the following next steps:

- (i) to contact traders in the village to establish the best time to meet;
- (ii) to contact the Council for the Protection of Rural England seeking support for councillor training;
- (iii) to contact the Lickey Hills Historical Society seeking their support and access, where necessary, to their documents and resources;
- (iv) to hold a further public consultation on Saturday 10 November seeking the guidance of residents on the issues to be addressed within the Neighbourhood Plan;
- (v) To make a formal application to Bromsgrove District Council to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

**64/12 Infrastructure**

**(a) Planning and Conservation**

Cllr Alun Davies withdrew from the room.

The report on planning applications and decisions made by the District Council's Planning Committee were received and the attitudes expressed by the Parish Council Planning Group approved.

Cllr Alun Davies rejoined the meeting.

It was agreed to:

- (i) investigate the possibility of installing a multi-use games area within Parker's Piece with a view to seeking financial support from available section 106 monies;



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- (ii) seek a meeting with Bromsgrove District Council to discuss the options available to the parish council in respect of the proposed car park in Fiery Hill Road.

### **(b) Environment**

It was agreed to:

- (i) accept a quotation supplied by Neil Hosking to extend the footpath provision near the stream in Parker's Piece;
- (ii) to purchase and install a further 'No ball games' sign within the seating area of the Millennium Park;
- (iii) purchase and install more prominent signage indicating the upper age of those entitled to use the playground equipment at Millenium Park;
- (iv) submit the responses of residents to the flooding survey carried out by the parish council to North Worcestershire Water Management.

### **65/12 Community and Safety**

Councillors confirmed their willingness to assist traders should they decide to offer late night opening on selected nights in December 2012.

Councillors received a report on a site meeting with Network Rail and other interested parties regarding the continuing 'rail squeal'.

### **66/12 Governance**

#### **(a) Finance**

It was agreed that:

- (i) the report of the Responsible Finance Officer for August and September 2012 be approved;
- (ii) all recommendations contained within the minutes of the Finance Group meeting dated 10 September be approved;
- (iii) the possible part funding of a community support officer be placed on the agenda of the Joint Parish Forum to take place on 12 November 2012..

#### **(b) Casual vacancy**

It was agreed to advertise the vacancy in the next issue of 'The Bulletin'.

#### **(c) Reports of meetings**

Reports were received on the following meetings attended by councillors:

- (i) St Andrews School Governors;
- (ii) Worcestershire Association of Local Councils;
- (iii) Council for the Protection of Rural England.



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### **(d) Training**

Councillors were advised of training undertaken by councillors and the Executive Officer.

### **67/12 Correspondence received**

Councillors noted correspondence from:

- (i) Bromsgrove District Council advising details of Black History Month and Older People's Day;
- (ii) Worcestershire County Council authorising the council to proceed with the installation of the bench on Hewell Road in memory of Bill Oakley;
- (iii) the Audit Commission confirming the five year appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as the external auditor for the council's Annual Returns commencing from 2012/13;
- (iv) the Council for the Protection of Rural England confirming their intention to proceed with research into housing numbers in the Bromsgrove area.

### **68/12 Urgent Decisions taken since the last meeting**

None taken.

### **69/12 Future Agenda Items**

Activity planning to form the basis of the 2013/14 budget and precept.

### **70/12 Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

7.00pm on Monday 29 October 2012 at the Parish Office was agreed.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.

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Chairman

29 October 2012