

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7.00pm – On Zoom online**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Councillors; (PR) Peter Rees(Chair);(JG) Janet Gwinnett; (MD) Mike Davies; (KR) Kate Robbins: (KD) Kate Dillon;

**ALSO:** Ward Cllr: Toni Fagan, Angela Middleton (FO); Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), 1 member of the public.

**Meeting Opened: 7.02pm**

A comment

1.	Apologies - Kate Dillon	ACTIONS
2.	<p><b>Election of Chair and Vice Chair</b>  <b>Proposed: Peter Rees</b>  <b>Proposed by :</b> JG <b>Seconded :</b> KR all were in favour and he was happy to accept.</p> <p><b>vice chair,</b>  <b>Proposed: Janet Gwinnett</b>  <b>Proposed By;</b> PR <b>Seconded:</b> MD all were in agreement.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Review of other appointments: footpaths officer-</b> Angela was happy to carry on in the role and the PC thanked her for her work over the past year and were delighted to keep her in the role; <b>Internal Auditor-</b> The PC felt that Margaret Skrivens has done a great job and it was hoped that she would carry on;</p>	
4.	<p><b>Remind Cllrs to update their notice of registerable interests - Done</b></p>	
5.	<p><b>Adoption of accounts for audit – to be moved to the June agenda</b></p>	
6.	<p><b>Declaration of interest</b> None</p>	
7.	<p><b>To accept minutes of the March Parish Council meetings</b>  Proposed: JG      Seconded: MD</p> <p>Clerk to chase up the signs for the footpath by the church.  SID bases are there but they are in Much Birch, MBPC have been asked if we could use them, clerk to push them for an answer.</p> <p>All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Action points from previous PC meetings</b> All addressed, or on the agenda.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Ward Cllr report (Cllr Toni Fagan)</b>  The focus of the council is Covid 19, but the planning committee is starting again next week.</p> <p>Covid 19, Herefordshire has one of the lowest infection rates in the country, and they are keen to keep it that way. There are great examples of agencies working together. Care homes are now getting their PPE, the Three Counties Hotel is being used as a step for people between hospital and returning to care homes, it is hoped that this will help reduce infections in the care homes.</p>	

	<p>Talk Community has been working really well in the communities, their workers are the first point of contact for people in the community who need help. Herefordshire Council now have their own Covid 19 web page for info. Village Halls: TF feels that they will be crucial in the first stages of relaxation of the 'stay at home' message, helping people to start to mingle with others after such a long time in isolation. PR voiced disappointment on the provision of hand sanitizers, those that were provided were tiny and very scarce in supplied.</p> <p><b>Police update</b> Golden Valley newsletter circulated along with the rural police teams information sheet with lots of advice about avoiding scams.</p> <p><b>James Howell, Balfour Beatty</b> - Reports sent weekly.</p>													
10.	<p><b>Jobs for the lengthsman</b> Clerk asked for any jobs to be reported to her.</p>													
11.	<p><b>Report from the footpaths officer;</b> Tom Fisher is still working on registering the footpaths. AM has told BB about three bridges along the Wriggle Brook that need looking at .</p>													
12.	<p><b>Planning applications for consideration:</b> Merry Vale Farm: Certificate of lawfulness issues have been a problem in the past, TF just wanted to let people know that if enforcement officers needed to be made aware of a build they could be told up to 4 years after the build. In this case, this is not appropriate.</p>													
13.	<p><b>Corona Virus update</b> <b>JG was the person who first walked around the village to let people know that there was assistance available if people needed it. PR felt that there were no issues to be addressed.</b></p>													
14.	<p><b>Update on broadband provision for Little Birch</b> The thought was suggested that people had other things on their minds than broadband. TF will raise the problem with HC.</p>													
15.	<p><b>Litter Pick</b> <b>MD did this on his own. But he actually found very little litter in a 5 mile circuit.</b></p>													
16.	<p><b>Finance</b> <b>Balances:</b> HSBC account (at 4.05.20)            £ 5730.08</p> <p><b>Payments to be agreed:</b> <b>Parish Acct</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Clerks Salary :</td> <td>£</td> <td>326.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks Expenses:</td> <td>£</td> <td>28.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE:</td> <td>£</td> <td>81.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BHI Insurance:</td> <td>£</td> <td>225.35</td> </tr> </table> <p>Proposed: PR            Seconded: JG</p>	Clerks Salary :	£	326.65	Clerks Expenses:	£	28.50	HMRC PAYE:	£	81.80	BHI Insurance:	£	225.35	
Clerks Salary :	£	326.65												
Clerks Expenses:	£	28.50												
HMRC PAYE:	£	81.80												
BHI Insurance:	£	225.35												

	All in agreement. Payments to be made. <b>Receipts</b> – First half of the precept: £2,850 <b>Requests for financial aid</b> – None	
<b>17.</b>	<b>To Receive Agenda items for the next PC meeting</b> Road sign clean has been done in the autumn in previous years.	
	<b>To note date of next scheduled PC meeting –</b> Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June at 7pm	
	Meeting closed at 7.50 pm	

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm
	Wednesday July 8 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm