

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.30pm – On Zoom online**

**MINUTES**

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

**ALSO:** Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), Toni Fagan (Ward Councillor) to 7.55 pm; Angela Middleton (Footpaths Officer);  
Russel Pryce (from 7.40 to 7.55pm), 1 parishoner

**Open session for comments from the public:**

None present.

**Meeting Opened: 7.32pm**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies - (MD) Mike Davies;</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b> KD on the planning application at item 9 (non-pecuniary)
<b>3.</b>	<b>To accept minutes of the October Parish Council meeting</b> Proposed: JG      Seconded: KD  All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Action points from previous PC meetings</b> All addressed, or on the agenda apart from: Siting of a SID on Barrack Hill: PR spoke with the Chair of Much Birch, she will bring it up at MBPC's meeting and come back to him with a response.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Receive reports from</b> <b>i.</b> Ward Cllr report (Cllr Toni Fagan) gave the message to continue to support people in the parish. The transport review has just been published, but she has not had the chance to go through it as yet. She mentioned a transport grant that should be available in 2021 to assist with rural transport and suggested that with other local parishes we could perhaps apply for this money. <b>ii. James Howell, Balfour Beatty</b> - Reports sent weekly. <b>iii. Police update</b> – Golden Valley report had been circulated.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Jobs for the lengthsman</b> Remind him to do the jobs that we have given to him. The stile down by 'the Chestnuts' is to be replaced – Balfour Beatty have said that they will deliver a stile to them for the Dillons to fit.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Report from the footpaths officer;</b> Nothing to report.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Definitive map modification order:</b> This is one of the paths that Angela was going to register, Herefordshire Council have just beaten her to it.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Planning applications for consideration:</b>  <b>202991 – land East of Castle Pool:</b> plot 3 amended application PR had met with the planning officer, TF, KD and RP prior to this amendment being submitted. All felt that this had been very useful.

	<p>KD confirmed that this amendment to the application would mean that the existing entrance would be closed off and a hedge planted there, with the telegraph pole being moved to improve this access. The new entrance would serve all of the homes on the site.</p> <p>PR explained that there were still concerns from the neighbours about the size of the this 3<sup>rd</sup> plot being a 4 bedroom house. KD thought that the size of the house was to be confirmed by a separate planning application. All cllrs felt that the access was the bigger issue so it was moved to approve this amended application, this was agreed by all cllrs present.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to submit the parish council comment as well as asking for a condition to be put on this to say that the original entrance is to be reinstated to earth and grass prior to the hedge being planted there – once the new entrance has been created.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Report from any training or meetings attended:</b> None attended.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Finances:</b></p>
<b>11.1</b>	<p><b>Balances:</b> HSBC account (at 4.10.20)            £ 5,602.47</p>
<b>11.2</b>	<p><b>Payments to be agreed:</b></p> <p><b>Parish Acct</b></p> <p>Clerks Salary September            £408.45 Clerks expenses                        £ 8.60 Clerks salary October including Back payment                            £356.79 Clerks Expenses:                        £ 5.00            £ 778.84 HMRC PAYE:                              £ 81.60</p> <p>Discussion upon the payment towards the Birches Newsletter – amount to be considered £200. The Village Hall committee have decided not to charge fees for those advertising during the covid 19 crisis, so they are really desperate for our support.</p> <p>It was resolved to make a payment of £200 agreed by all.</p> <p>Proposed:PR            Seconded: JG                            All in agreement. Payments to be made.</p> <p><b>Receipts</b> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of precept            £2,850</p>
<b>11.3</b>	<p><b>Requests for financial aid</b> – Dore Community Transport requested any financial support that the PC could offer. It was resolved to ask the clerk to find out a little more ie how many people in the parish used their services – item to be put on the next agenda.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> clerk to gather more information.</p>
<b>11.4</b>	<p><b>Precept setting discussion</b> Figures had been circulated for cllrs to assess where they felt they wanted to position the precept for next year. It was resolved to move this item to the December agenda.</p>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>To Receive Agenda items for the next PC meeting</b> Precept setting;</p>
	<p><b>To note date of next scheduled PC meeting</b> –Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.00pm</p>
	<p>Meeting closed at 8.15 pm</p>

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm
<b>2021</b>	Wednesday January 6 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
	Wednesday February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm
	Wednesday March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm