

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 3rd February 2021 at 7.00pm – On Zoom online**

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors; (PR) Peter Rees (Chair); (KD) Kate Dillon; (KR) Kate Robbins (left at 7.30pm); (MD) Mike Davies;

ALSO: Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), Toni Fagan (Ward Councillor) to 7.40 pm; Angela Middleton (Footpaths Officer) left at 7.40; David Nicholson to 7.40;

Open session for comments from the public:

None were present.

Meeting Opened: 7.00pm

1.	Apologies - (JG) Janet Gwinnett;
2.	Declaration of interest None
3.	To accept minutes of the January Parish Council meeting Proposed: MD Seconded: KR All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
4.	Action points from previous PC meetings All addressed, or on the agenda.
5.	Receive reports from i. Ward Cllr report (Cllr Toni Fagan) A report had been circulated from her mentioning the by pass decision, where Herefordshire Council had moved not to go forward with the bypass at yesterday's meeting. Phosphates: the biggest environmental issue at the moment in our county. There is an emergency line that you can ring if you are concerned about erosion, she will forward this to the clerk for circulation. The waste consultation ends on the 7 th of February if people want to comment, they need to do so soon. Council Tax is due to go up by just under 5%. ii. James Howell, Balfour Beatty - Reports sent weekly. iii. Police update – Golden Valley report had been circulated.
6.	Revisiting the NDP: Guest expert David Nicholson The Chair outlined that LBPC needed to revisit their NDP by the end of June. Dr Nicholson had circulated some basic facts about the need to update NDP's. Because Hereford does not have enough dwellings in their 5 year plan, our NDP is already weak as we do not have site allocations. We do not know when Herefordshire Council will update their Core Strategy, until we have this, there is a suggestion that there is little point in updating our NDP. How much does it cost to renew a NDP? There are grants to cover these costs, but it could be up to £15,000.

	<p>He advised that if we do decide to renew our NDP, we need to do a material change to make it hold some weight. He also advised that when we are offered our meeting with the NDP team we take them up on it to get their input.</p> <p>TF added that the Core Strategy review was going to take some time.</p> <p>The Chair suggested that we needed to have more discussion on this subject before making any decisions. He had heard suggestions that Little Birch was being considered redesignation to RA3 in the next Core Strategy, which would really help prevent development in the parish.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to chase the NDP team (Sam Banks) to get us an appointment with them ASAP. TF to be copied into these meetings.</p>
7.	<p>Rejoining the lengthsman scheme and Jobs for the lengthsman Clerk to sign up for the scheme. All were in favour. Chase lengthsman to look at the replacement finger posts previously mentioned.</p>
8.	<p>Report from the footpaths officer; None this month.</p>
9.	<p>Planning applications for consideration: None listed this month.</p>
10.	<p>Report from any training or meetings attended: None attended.</p>
11.	<p>Finances:</p>
11.1	<p>Balances: HSBC account (at 4.1.21) £ 4,154.71</p>
11.2	<p>Payments to be agreed: Parish Acct Clerks Salary January £ 220.40 Clerks expenses £ 13.00 ICO/Data protection £ 40.00</p> <p>Proposed: PR Seconded: MD</p> <p>All in agreement. Payments to be made.</p>
11.3	<p>Receipts – None.</p>
11.4	<p>Requests for financial aid – None</p>
12.	<p>To Receive Agenda items for the next PC meeting NDP; Internal Auditor;</p>
	<p>To note date of next scheduled PC meeting –Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 7pm</p>
	<p>Meeting closed at 8.15 pm</p>

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

2021	Wednesday April 7 th	7.00pm
Annual meeting	Wednesday May 5 th	7.00pm
	Wednesday June 2 nd	7.00pm
	Wednesday July 7 th	7.00pm

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