

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm – On Zoom online

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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

**ALSO:** Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), Toni Fagan (Ward Councillor); Angela Middleton (Footpaths Officer);  
PCSO Thomas – came for item 5iii then left the meeting.

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

A

**Meeting Opened: 7.00pm**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies – none, all were present.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>To accept minutes of the February Parish Council meeting</b> Proposed: KD      Seconded: MD  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.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Receive reports from</b> <b>Ward Cllr report (Cllr Toni Fagan)</b> Full council meeting happening on Friday, Hereford Voice are doing a series of video clips with councillors. The Cyber centre in the enterprise zone is now looking for tenants. There has been a drop in the number of Looked After Children. NDP in the Lugg catchment area have been told not to redo their plans as they will not be able to get a Habitat Report from the Council at this time. St Mary's school sex ed programme has unsettled a number of people at this time, Hereford Council is working with the school to try and ensure no equality issues have been breached. Vaccination uptake in Herefordshire is really high. <b>ii. James Howell, Balfour Beatty</b> - Reports sent weekly. <b>iii. Police update</b> – Golden Valley report had been circulated. The PCSO updated the councillors of some suspicious vehicles had been reported in the village, but there was little else to say about Little Birch. He suggested that number plates should be taken on any suspicious vehicles and they can be checked out.
<b>6.</b>	<b>NDP</b> The Chair told the meeting about the NDP meeting that had happened last week. It was proposed that there should not be a review at this time. Sam Banks had said that she would get the planning officers to look at our NDP to see if they felt that we had any areas that were particularly weak. It was suggested that the clerk go back to the planners asking what we could put in to be of more use. Maximum grant is £10,000 so given the rate that David N had suggested might be involved of £15,000 the shortfall would have to be picked up by the parishioners, it was felt that this was not appropriate. TF agreed that at the moment it certainly was not worth paying to revisit the NDP at this time, not until the Core Strategy has been updated by Herefordshire Council. It was proposed not to make any changes to the NDP until after the Core Strategy has been modified. Proposed: Chair      Seconded: KD      all were in favour of this plan.

<b>7.</b>	<b>Jobs for the lengthsmen</b> On Pendant Pitch the water on the left going down the hill does not go into the ditch meaning that it runs across the lane and into Shirley Cottage at the corner. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to ask the lengthsmen to look at this in liaison with PR or KD
<b>8.</b>	<b>Report from the footpaths officer;</b> Nothing to report, apart from some torn signs, one by Buddleia Cottage particularly.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Planning applications for consideration:</b> None to report.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Report from any training or meetings attended:</b> NDP meeting was the only one.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Finances:</b>
<b>11.1</b>	<b>Balances:</b> HSBC account (at 4.02.21)      £ 3,721.31
<b>11.2</b>	<b>Payments to be agreed:</b> <b>Parish Acct</b> Clerks Salary February      As listed Clerks expenses              As listed HMRC PAYE                      £ 61.20 HALC subs                        £322.13  Proposed:PR                      Seconded: KD  All in agreement. Payments to be made.
<b>11.3</b>	<b>Receipts – None</b>
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Requests for financial aid – None</b>
<b>11.5</b>	<b>Internal Auditor</b> The LBPC need to look for an internal auditor as our current one is indisposed. Geoff Green was suggested and the Chair will approach him to see if he will do this for us.
<b>12.</b>	<b>To Receive Agenda items for the next PC meeting</b> Some one to join the Village Hall Committee.
	<b>To note date of next scheduled PC meeting –Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7pm</b> It was moved to hold the meetings from 7.30pm from the April meeting.
	Meeting closed at 7.35 pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday April 7 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
<b>Annual meeting</b>	Wednesday May 5 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm