**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday 10th September 2024 at 7.30pm – at Little Birch Village Hall

**Minutes**

**PRESENT: Councillors**; **(ND) Nick Deacon (CA) Chris Atkinson (KD) Kate Dillon (TP) Tom Palfrey**

**ALSO: Neil Barrington (NB) (Parish Clerk), Chris Fowler (CF) (Footpath Officer)**

**Meeting Opened: 7.30pm**

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| 1. | Open Session for members of the Public: No matters raised |
| 2. | **To accept apologies for absence:**  Cllr Toni Fagan (Ward Councillor), Cllr Steven Coles |
| 3. | **Clerk correspondence:** All correspondence received on the agenda. |
| 4. | **To receive declarations of interest:** None declared |
| 5. | **Reports:**  **5.1 Ward Councillor**: Cllr Fagan will send her apologies. She emailed the following points  Full Fibre build be mostly complete by Xmas and final part by March 2025  She is chasing highways and PROW on issues raised.  Aconbury Parish meeting has requested a speed limit extension from Little Birch to Merrivale Farm which Cllr Fagan will take up with Highways agency  **5.2 Balfour Beatty:** Report received**.**  **5.3 Police Update:** Newsletter report received. NB will send in 3 priorities for the parish  **5.4 Footpath Officer report:** (CF) submitted a footpath report that will be published on the parish website.  He added whether there could be a bigger budget for footpath work.  He requested the parish council investigate securing a charity group to help with footpath work.  Clerk will write to Much Birch PC to seek advice |
| 6. | **To accept minutes of the July 10, 2024 Ordinary Council meeting,**  Proposed: TP Seconded: ND  All in agreement. It was **RESOLVED** to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meetings. |
| 7. | **Action points from last meeting:** All on the agenda |
| 8. | **Planning matters**: Parish council **RESOLVED** to have no objection to planning application 241972, The Sycamores, Church Road, Little Birch, Hereford HR2 8BB |
| 9. | **Finances:**  **Balances:**  **9.1** Bank account (at 10.09.24) £7064.67    **Payments to be agreed:** To consider the following outstanding payments.  **9.2** Clerks Salary as per contract.  HMRC £141.75 Aug and Sep  Expenses £13.50 Petrol £10 Broadband =£23.50 Aug and Sep  Lengthsman TGC2679 = £1276 Inc. Vat TGC 2802 = £600 Inc. Vat  Ben Roberts Rec 3239920082 £167.82 Inc. Vat  Proposed: ND Seconded: KD  All in agreement. It was **RESOLVED** all payments to be made.  **9.3 Receipts** – 1st half of Precept now received £3750  VAT refund £172.84  Lengthsman Grant £1064  Contribution from Orcop PC for Clerk training and CiLCA £350  Contribution from Little Birch Village Hall for defibrillator £375  **9.4** **Requests for financial aid** – None. |
| 10. | **Lengthsman:** Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept Lengthsman drainage proposal. Clerk will submit request to Herefordshire Council. |
| 11. | **To acknowledge clerk obtaining CiLCA qualification –**  It was **RESOLVED** to increase clerk pay as per contract from SCP 6-26. |
| 12. | **Website** – TP stated as yet he had been unable to progress this issue, it will be looked at again in October |

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| 13. | Items for next meeting – Website, Policies for council |

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| 14. | Next meeting – October 2, 7pm, Little Birch Village Hall |

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|  | Meeting closed at 8.15pm |

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|  | SIGNED:................................................................ CHAIRMAN  Dated:..................................................................  Future Meetings   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | Wednesday Oct 2rd 2024 | 7.00pm | |  | Wednesday Nov 6th 2024 | 7.00pm | |  | Wednesday Dec 4th 2024 | 7.00pm | |  | Wednesday Jan 8th 2025 | 7.00pm | |