

LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 7.30pm - At Little Birch Village Hall

DRAFT M I N U T E S

PRESENT: **Councillors;** (BR) Ben Roberts (Chair); (MM) Mike Morley; (JG) Janet Gwinnett; (AW) Annette Wissler;
(PR) Peter Rees ; (AM) Angela Middleton (footpaths officer)

ALSO: Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), 2 parishoners and Russell Pryce +1 who left after the ‘public’ speaking period.

Meeting Opened: 7.30pm

A 10 minute period from 7.30 p.m. was allocated, before the meeting opened, to enable members of the public to address the Parish Council

Russell Pryce was present from Collins to talk about ‘land near Castle Pools development’. He introduced himself and his company, and explained that he and his client wanted to find a way forward that the PC might find appropriate. He showed a couple of draft plans for 3 dwellings with a shared access. He was questioned to what would happen to the back of the area, his response was that it was thought that it would be offered as extra land for the properties, or to plant it up as an orchard. A parishioner suggested that the buildings might be set further back from the road, to reduce the impact on the surrounding properties, and Mr Pryce was happy to look at that. He was also asked about drainage and where it would be situated. He replied that a treatment plant would be put in, site to be identified when the house locations are finalised but he acknowledged the location of an old pond in one corner of the site.

It was felt that the plans were a significant improvement on the original application. He agreed to look at heights of neighbouring properties to ensure that the new buildings did not dominate the area. Mr Hull, the client was also present, and he said that he was happy to put forward an application that the PC would support and that they felt was of benefit to the parish. (They left the meeting at 7.45pm)

A parishioner had sent an e mail to the PC about a planning issue, he was advised to go back to the enforcement officer to ensure that they did their job correctly.

Action: The clerk was asked to pass this last matter onto the Ward Cllr to take it a little further.

1.	Apologies - David Harlow	ACTIONS
2.	Declaration of interest None	
3.	To accept minutes of the January: Parish Council meeting Proposed: Chair Seconded: MM All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.	
4.	Action points from previous PC meeting (January) All addressed, or on the agenda apart from: Lodging a complaint about Planning Committee processes – this had been done, but no reply has been received as yet. Listing Common Land – Clerk has tried contacted HC, and will continue to do so.	

5.	<p>Ward Cllr report (Cllr Dave Harlow)</p> <p>Police update Nothing sent locally, but the GV report is circulated.</p> <p>Dave Atkinson, Balfour Beatty - Reports sent weekly. Little Birch Road has been resurfaced and is in a fine state.</p>	
6.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan: The clerk informed the NDP team that the PC wanted to go with Liz Beth as their examiner.</p> <p>The meeting discussed the changes in the NPPF, and the idea that plans might be considered 'out of date'. It was resolved to wait for questions from the examiner to see what she comes back with.</p>	<p><i>Clerk to approach HC to ensure that our examiner has been appointed.</i></p>
7.	<p>Planning applications; There are none currently.</p>	
8.	<p>Footpaths officer and Tree warden reports; There was a walk last Sunday, which some people struggled with – both in length and in the number of stiles to cross, Angela will grade walks from here on. The next walk is the dawn chorus walk in April. Clerk to ask HALC if there is cover for footpath officers or if there is a network of them.</p> <p>Tree Warden: Janet Gwinnetts details have been passed on to the Tree Warden network. She has been in touch with them, and will join up properly in the next few weeks.</p>	<p><i>Clerk to contact the Duchy to let them know that it is up to them to put in the style. TG to put the footpath signs up. Clerk to ask our insurers as to what they think about insuring Angela.</i></p>
9.	<p>Re naming and status of Crowsnest Lane Clerk had been in contact with Balfour Beatty and had ascertained that there was a problem when listing defects on this Lane. It transpired that we had the incorrect road number on the parish maps which was not helping the situation.</p>	
10	<p>Grants for play equipment. There were comments from the NDP questionnaire saying that a play area would be appreciated in the village. A comment was made as to whether or not we could put 'structures' on 'common land'. It was suggested that the Parish Field was put down to wild flowers, and people enjoyed the quite time spent there. It was resolved to undertake a little more research.</p>	<p><i>Clerk to look at costings and possible funding assistance for this.</i></p>
11	<p>The Castle Pub Keep on agenda.</p>	
12.	<p>To note the contents of the information sheet and take any comments from that. Noted, and no questions raised.</p>	
13. i	<p>Finance Balances: HSBC account (at 4.1.19) £ 5,325.67</p>	

ii	Payments to be agreed:	
	Parish Acct	
	Clerks Salary : £ 208.86	
	PAYE (HMRC) : £ 10.20	
	Clerks Expenses: £ 5.00	
	DJN planning (NDP Consultant) £ 100.00	
	Proposed: Chair Seconded: JG	
	All in agreement. Payments to be made.	
iii	Receipts – None	
iv	Requests for financial aid – None	
14.	Lengthsman – jobs to be done	
	Clerk to fill in the form to sign up for the p3 Ditch between School Lane and Crowsnest Lane needs to be cleaned out. (Below Walls Pool Cottage)	
15.	To Receive Agenda items for the next PC meeting	
	Castle Pub, play equipment.	
16.	To note date of next scheduled PC meeting –	
	Wednesday March 6 th . May meeting needs to be moved to after the election, clerk to check number of days after election but May 14 th has been suggested.	
	Meeting closed at 8.40pm	

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday March 6 th .	7.30
	Wednesday April 10 th	7.30
Annual Meeting date changed	Tuesday May 14 th	7.00
	Wednesday June 5 th	7.30
	Wednesday July 3 rd	7.30
	Wednesday Sept 4 th	7.30
	Wednesday Oct 2 nd	7.30
	Wednesday Nov 6 th	7.30