

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 3rd November at 7.30pm – at Little Birch Village Hall**

DRAFT M I N U T E S

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

ALSO: Sophie Glover (Parish Clerk), Toni Fagan (Ward Councillor); Angela Middleton (Footpaths Officer);

Meeting Opened: 7.32pm

Open session for comments from the public:

AM asked if the PC could add a summary of what happened at the PC meeting in the parish newsletter. KD agreed and said that the newsletter was being updated in the coming months. The Chair agreed to look at how we can utilise social media better, certainly to promote the agenda and meeting dates.

1.	Apologies – Janet Gwinnett.
2.	Declaration of interest – None.
3.	<p>Receive reports from</p> <p>i. Ward Cllr report (Cllr Toni Fagan)</p> <p>Broadband problems were identified based on the news that Gigaclear are reviewing their coverage. TF is looking at trying to get the villages released from the Gigaclear ‘tie’ that is stopping them accessing vouchers that would allow these remote villages to connect them selves with vouchers to pay for the work. LBPC asked her to fight for the vouchers to be released to give the village the option to do their own development.</p> <p>Climate Change journey in Herefordshire Council. They are looking at being carbon neutral by 2028. They have launched a county wide Carbon and Nature partnership. Waste and recycling has now got a new person leading that division, TF was very positive about how this would progress under their guidance.</p> <p>Leaders report will be circulated this week.</p> <p>ii. James Howell, Balfour Beatty - Reports sent weekly.</p> <p>iii. Police update – Nothing to report but cllrs and parishoners were encouraged to sign up to the police update online.</p> <p>iv. Footpaths officer- including discussion on bye ways and footpaths</p> <p>KD was unable to meet with AM prior to this meeting – they will reschedule so that they can look at ancient bridleways and footpaths keep their current status.</p> <p>TF told the meeting that public rights of way are coming back in house from Balfour Beatty in December this year.</p> <p>Action: KR to send the document outlining the rights of ways information. KD and AM to meet at 7.15pm before the December meeting. TF will look into the listing of paths in Little Birch to see what is currently listed as what.</p>
4.	<p>To accept minutes of the October Parish Council meeting</p> <p>Proposed: KD Seconded: PR</p> <p>All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.</p>
5.	<p>Action points from previous PC meetings</p> <p>All addressed, or on the agenda apart from:</p>

	Trees from woodland Trust; have been stalled as Castle Nebole are waiting for permission from DEFRA Before they can replant a hedge.
6.	Planning applications –
6.1	Premises Licence application for the Eternal Void, Maryland. Update: This was supported by the PC with a suggestion that the outdoor entertainment ended at 10pm. Castle Inn: Was supported but with the suggestion that it should not affect the pub as a community asset. 213321 – Land East of Castle Pool. Proposed repositioning of existing access and associated works. Update: The additional entrance, was not supported by TF or the Parish Council. It was pointed out that the corner entrance was to be replaced with the new, larger central entrance, it was not to be utilised as a bargaining chip. The hedgerow issue was looked at by the enforcement officer who deemed that the applicant had not done any thing that they can enforce.
6.2	Planning decisions made: None
6.3	Local Plan update discussion: It was noted how many new houses had gone up in the current core strategy (15) compared to the decades before. Action: MD and PR will have a look at the questions in the consultation to bring back to the Dec meeting.
7.	Lengthsman – update, identification of work; Request for TG to come and do the Parish grips and gullies (again). Also ask him if he wants to continue doing the job. Action: Clerk to contact him.
8.	Finances:
8.1	Balances: HSBC account (at 04.10.21) £ 7,094.16
8.11	Payments to be agreed: Parish Acct Clerks Salary September As listed Clerks expenses As listed HMRC PAYE Proposed: PR Seconded: MD
8.111	All in agreement. Payments to be made.
8.1v	Receipts – None
8.v	Requests for financial aid – None Budget and precept setting discussion. MD had suggested a 4-5% increase. Asking for £6,600 this year. Propose: MD Seconded: KR All were in favour in applying for this precept.
9.	Reports from any meetings or training attended: None
10.	To receive agenda items for the next PC meeting (no discussion) Car Share; clerks appraisal;
11.	To note date of next scheduled PC meeting – Wednesday 5 th January 2022 at 7.30pm (with the acceptance that if we need to meet for a planning matter or other PC business, the date in December will still be held)
	Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings 2021 to 2022

Only if needed due to urgent issue.	Wednesday December 1 st	7.30pm
2022	Wednesday January 5 th	7.30pm
	Wednesday February 2 nd	7.30pm
	Wednesday March 2 nd	7.30pm