

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL -PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 4th January at 7.00pm – at Little Birch Village Hall**

Draft Minutes

PRESENT: Councillors; (KD) Kate Dillon; (MD) Mike Davies; (ND) Nick Deacon (CA) Chris Atkinson (KR) Kate Robbins

ALSO: Neil Barrington (NB) (Parish Clerk), Angela Middleton (AM) (Footpaths Officer)

Meeting Opened: 7.00pm

1.	Open Session for members of the Public: There will be no longer than 10 minutes allowed for any members of the public present, to speak for up to 3 minutes each. Member of the public who has expressed an interest in becoming new footpath officer
2.	To accept apologies for absence - None
3.	To receive declarations of interest: None declared
4.	Reports: 4.1 Ward Councillor: (TF) reported on the following points. Restrictions on the field above Wigglesbrook Pitch communicated by email on 9/12/22. Highlighting the aforementioned parameters regarding crops. TF expressed she was pleased the Environment Agency was becoming much more proactive in tackling issues. Consultations on Health and Agriculture within Herefordshire were still ongoing. On the upcoming Budget briefing, regrettably looking at a budget shortfall. Plan for Children's services has now been submitted, with concerns on mental health still very apparent. Herefordshire is now participating in the Food standards pilot There is also a Household support fund available to people struggling with cost-of-living problems 4.2 Balfour Beatty: Report received 4.3 Police Update: Nothing to report 4.4 Footpath Officer report: (AM) Reported that she had written to the Duchy over trees on the footpath of LB16 The Parish Council were pleased to welcome Chris Fowler who has volunteered to become the new footpath officer. Councillors reiterated their thanks to (AM) for all her hard work and dedication to the role. (NB) will access the up-to-date job description for Footpath officer from HALC for Chris.
5.	To accept minutes of the December 7 Council meeting Proposed: KD Seconded: CA All in agreement. It was resolved to accept that the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

6.	Action points from previous PC meetings No action points currently outstanding.
7.	Planning Matters: Nothing currently to consider
8.	Finances: Balances: HSBC account (at 04.11.22) £ 7161.27 (NB) Stated he hadn't been able to obtain a current bank statement Payments to be agreed: Parish Acct Clerks Salary as per contract. Clerks' expenses £ 18.70 HMRC £ 44.84 Bank Charges (March) pd by DD £ not known as no current bank statement Proposed: ND Seconded: KR All in agreement. Payments to be made. Receipts – 2 nd half of Precept now received £3300 Requests for financial aid – None. Discussion on changing banks - MD was pleased to announce that the new bank account was almost ready to go live. (CA), (ND) and (KR) agreed to be signatories
9.	Discussion on release of Minutes to newsletter: It was resolved to supply a short summary of Parish Council meeting for the newsletter
10.	Items for the next meeting: PC will discuss making a request to Much Birch regarding some road markings around the primary school. In the meantime (MD) will write to Much Birch setting out the request
11.	To note the date of the next scheduled Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 1st February 2023 7pm Close 7.32pm

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday February 1 st 2023	7.00pm
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	Wednesday March 1 st 2023	7.00pm
	Wednesday April 5th 2023	7.00pm