

**LITTLE BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL –PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
Wednesday 1st March at 7.00pm – at Little Birch Village Hall**

Minutes

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

ALSO: Neil Barrington (NB) (Parish Clerk), Chris Fowler (CF) (Footpaths Officer) Toni Fagen (TF) (Ward Councillor)

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. None attended
2.	To accept apologies for absence – None received
3.	To receive declarations of interest: None declared
4.	Reports: 4.1 Ward Councillor: (TF) reported on the following points. Firstly, she articulated the poor children services report. She stated that the beginnings of progress have been made and it will be reviewed in 6 months. Furthermore a series of recommendations have been made and a robust handover strategy has been introduced for the scrutiny committee. Also a scheme has been introduced of an independent visitor to help a child over a 2 year period. There is to be a council cabinet meeting to discuss the “Master Plan” which includes discussion on an Eastern river crossing proposal to link up with the A438. Conversation on the Local Transport Plan. De-Phosphate commission. With comment on Phosphate trade-offs scheme between farms. Finally purple bag availability should anyone require 4.2 Balfour Beatty: Report received. 4.3 Police Update: Council were pleased to welcome 2 new policed support officers who came to the meeting to introduce themselves. To offer help and assistance for the community. Chair (MD) expressed gratitude for their attendance. 4.4 Footpath Officer report: (CF) was pleased to report he’d received some equipment from the Lengthsman. Also, he’d contacted the Public Rights of Way Officer (PRWO to give an update on work that had been highlighted at the previous meeting. (TF) offered to assist with (CF) in communicating over outstanding issues with (PRWO). He also mentioned the Parish walk on March 12
5.	To accept minutes of the February 8 2023 Council meeting Proposed: CA Seconded: KD 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.	<p>Finances:</p> <p>Balances:</p> <p>HSBC account (at 04.02.23) £ 5881.53</p> <p>Payments to be agreed:</p> <p>Parish Acct</p> <p>Clerks Salary as per contract.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Clerks' expenses</td><td>£ 14.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td><td>£ 33.63</td></tr> <tr> <td>HALC membership fees</td><td>£380.81</td></tr> <tr> <td>ICO renewal Fee (Direct Debit)</td><td>£35.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Transfer of funds to new Parish Bank account</td><td>£1000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bank Charges (March) pd by DD</td><td>£11 (Jan 4) £13 (Feb 4)</td></tr> </table> <p>Proposed: KD Seconded: ND</p> <p>All in agreement. Payments to be made.</p> <p>Receipts – 2nd half of Precept now received £3300 and £87.18 from Village Hall for Defibrillator</p> <p>Requests for financial aid – None.</p>	Clerks' expenses	£ 14.00	HMRC	£ 33.63	HALC membership fees	£380.81	ICO renewal Fee (Direct Debit)	£35.00	Transfer of funds to new Parish Bank account	£1000.00	Bank Charges (March) pd by DD	£11 (Jan 4) £13 (Feb 4)
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9.	<p>Discussion on dates for Parish Council meeting 2023:</p> <p>Dates agreed Apr 5, May TBC, June 7, July 5, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1 and Dec 6</p>												
10.	<p>Lengthsman work: Members of the Council were very pleased with completed work. However it was felt that some of the areas identified in the autumn walk round hadn't been addressed. (MD) will write to Lengthsman to seek clarification on this topic.</p>												
11.	<p>Gritting on Barrack Hill: It was felt that response to the email by (MD) to the issue with gritting in inclement weather on Barrack Hill was inadequate. There was a sense of disappointment that the issue had not been properly addressed. (MD) will write to highlight this problem again.</p>												
12.	<p>Councillors advising on whether they will stand for re-election: (ND) and (CA) both advised they wish to continue if re-elected. Regrettably (KD) and (KR) both indicated they would like to stand down in May. (MD) stated he will if re-elected continue in the short term. However he will stand down in the near future.</p>												
13.	<p>To Note date of next scheduled Parish Council meeting Wednesday 5th April 2023 7pm.</p>												

SIGNED:..... CHAIRMAN

Dated:.....

Future Meetings

	Wednesday April 5th 2023	7.00pm
	May tbc	
	Wednesday June 7 th 2023	7.00pm
	Wednesday July 5 th 2023	7.00pm
	Wednesday Sept 6 th 2023	7.00pm
	Wednesday Oct 4 th 2023	7.00pm