



## **BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL**

*Clerk – Angela Balcombe*

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Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on  
Tuesday 5 October 2021, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

*Present:* Cllrs: *Bowtle, Boyce, Campion, Ninnim & Windsor.*  
*In the Chair:* Cllr *Bowtle.*  
*Clerk:* *Angela Balcombe.*  
*Also present:* *Borough Cllr Maclean & two members of the public.*

### **21/50. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **21/51. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Cottrell and Cllr Walsh.

### **21/52. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 7 September 2021 were approved as a correct record of events.

**Proposed: Cllr Campion. Seconded: Cllr Ninnim. All agreed.**

### **21/53. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests on any matters covered by this agenda. No interests were declared.

### **21/54. REPORTS.**

**County Council** – apologies were received from Cllr Bentley.

**Borough Council** – Cllr Maclean gave a brief update on Borough Council matters and mentioned the Ward Councillor Grant which could be used for the village gateways or perhaps trees for the Queens Jubilee.

### **21/55. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

- Proposed transformer, discussed at item 21/57.

### **21/56. PROGRESS CHECK.**

Village Gateways – awaiting approval from ECC.

### **21/57. UK POWER NETWORK TRANSFORMER.**

UK Power Network to install a transformer at the bottom of School Hill (opposite the turning into Lower Road). Concerns were raised about the large size of the transformer and possible noise, and that it is not in keeping with the conservation area. The Clerk to email UK Power Networks to find out more information.

#### **21/58. PLANNING.**

**Application No: 212248.** Two storey side extension to match opposite side of the existing dwelling.

**Location:** Knotty Ash, Garlands Road, Layer Breton CO2 0PN. No objections.

**Application No: 202695.** The construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic ('PV') farm and associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks and landscaping.

**Location:** Land to the west of the village and adjoining Birch Road, Layer de la Haye. **No comments.**

#### **21/59. FINANCE.**

Payments made / money received:

101773 £381.92 A Balcombe (Salary/PAYE/Expenses)

101774 £350.00 Royal British Legion (Tommy Pair)

101775 £45.00 Clacton Business Services Ltd. (Payroll)

101776 £45.00 D Ninnim (Mill Lane Sign)

**Income** £7,066.00 second installment Precept.

#### **21/60. SPEEDING TRAFFIC.**

E-mail received from a resident regarding speeding in Mill Lane and what traffic calming measures could be considered. It is hoped that a Community Speed Watch group could be arranged for the village. It was suggested that a 20mph limit could be put in place for outside the school.

#### **21/61. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Age Concern** – letter of thanks for the £50 donation.

**ECC** – Temporary Traffic Regulation Order of Maldon Road, Birch – Temporary Introduction of 30 mph Speed Limit due to commence on 25 October for 4 days whilst ECC undertakes footway repairs and kerbing.

**RCCE** – AGM 13 October, 6.30pm at Layer Marney Tower.

#### **21/62. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

- A reminder that the budget/precept to be agreed at the November meeting.
- Poppy Wreath to be ordered.
- Zone Warden – the bin near the post office has been moved as it was being used for household rubbish.

#### **21/63. MEETING DATES 2021.**

2 November (Budget Meeting), 7 December.

***The meeting closed at 20.03 pm.***

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**