



BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Angela Balcombe

6 Shires Close, Great Notley, Braintree, Essex CM77 7FT

Tel: 01376 550927 E-mail: birchparishclerk@aol.com

www.birchpc.org.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on
Tuesday 6 July 2021, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

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

21/20. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

21/21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bowtle and Cottrell.

21/22. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of 1 June 2021 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Campion. Seconded: Cllr Windsor. All agreed.

21/23. 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.

21/24. REPORTS.

County Council – apologies were received from Cllr Bentley.

Borough Council – Cllr Maclean reported that the Borough Council has been very busy since the elections and hoped that the Council could now move forward doing what is best for the Borough.

21/25. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No matters were raised.

21/26. PROGRESS CHECK.

A brief update on any actions from the last meeting.

- **Blocked drains** – Cllr Bentley raised this issue and as a result the Officer in charge of this programme has visited the area. The drains have been added to the cleansing list to be done as quickly as possible.
- Other issues Cllr Bentley has raised on behalf of the Parish Council are; roadwork signs at the green off the B1022, the footpath condition outside the Village Hall, overgrown vegetation and an issue with the Hedingham bus service.

21/27. PLANNING.

Application No: 211151. Front single storey and two storey rear extension.

Location: 3 Priory Cottages, Hardys Green, Birch CO2 0NX. **Approved.**

Application No: 211214. Single storey rear and side extension for private use and extension to existing drive area.

Location: 22 Greenfield Houses, Greenfield Road, Birch CO2 0NJ. **Approved.**

21/28. FINANCE.

Payments made / money received:

101757 £397.28 A Balcombe (Salary/PAYE/Expenses)

101758 £122.10 Playquip UK Ltd (Repairs)

101759 £35.00 CALC (Annual Subs)

101760 £720 Hill Farm Landscapes (Grass Cutting)

101761 £72.60 RCCE (Annual Subs)

101762 £75.00 Birch Memorial Hall (Hire)

101763 £125 Birch & Layer Breton PCC (Newsletter)

101764 £33.00 Clacton Business Services Ltd.

21/29. AGE CONCERN COLCHESTER.

Request for funding (details circulated). It was agreed to donate £50.00 this year and to choose a different charity next year.

Proposed: Cllr Walsh. Seconded: Cllr Campion. All agreed.

21/30. NEW NOTICE BOARDS.

It was agreed to purchase one new notice board costing £1,450 this year and a second one next year.

Proposed: Cllr Ninnim. Seconded: Cllr Boyce. All agreed.

21/31. VILLAGE GATEWAYS.

It was agreed to purchase two gateways costing £2,400 this year and another two next year.

Proposed: Cllr Boyce. Seconded: Cllr Walsh. All agreed.

21/32. CORRESPONDENCE.

CBC – Saturday Household Drop-Off Service 2021 will run from 3 July to 25 September. Details available on the Colchester Borough Council website.

Essex Streetworks – temporary road closure of Birch Park is due to commence on 12 July for three days while ECC undertakes drainage investigation.

Essex Streetworks – temporary road closure of Hardys Green is due to commence on 13 July for three days while County Broadband undertakes installation of fibre optic cables.

21/33. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

Cllr Ninnim – there has been some low-level vandalism at the Play Area. Litter picking continues, more volunteers are needed.

Cllr Windsor – was there any action following the conservation report carried out in 2018? No further information had been received.

Cllr Walsh – advised councillors to remain vigilant around security once lockdown rules are lifted.

Cllr Campion – flood in Warren Lane to be reported to Highways.

Cllr Boyce – A12 widening presentation dates.

21/34. MEETING DATES 2021.

7 September, 5 October, 2 November (Budget Meeting), 7 December.

The meeting closed at 20.33 pm.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):

DATE: