



## **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](http://www.birchpc.org.uk)

Minutes of a Meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on  
Tuesday 5 March 2019, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

*Present:* Cllrs: *Bowtle, Champion, Cottrell, Gidlow, Ninnim.*  
*In the Chair:* Cllr *Bowtle.*  
*Clerk:* *Angela Balcombe.*  
*Also present:* *County Cllr Bentley and two members of the public*

### **19/37. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.**

Cllr Bowtle welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **19/38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Boyce and Cllr Walsh.

### **19/39. REPORTS.**

**Colchester Borough Council** – Cllr Ellis and Cllr Maclean were not present.  
**Essex County Council** – Cllr Bentley had previously circulated information on Brexit which he explained would have a big impact on Government. The pot hole scheme was mentioned; County Councillors can put in their two top issues (such as pot holes and pavements) which will then be given priority. Cllr Bentley had been approached by a local resident about speeding issues and he asked the Parish Council their thoughts on the possibility of having a speed indicator device (SID) at Heckford Bridge.  
**CBC Zone Wardens** – apologies were received from Gary Cole.

### **19/40. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 5 February 2019 were approved as a correct record of events.  
**Proposed: Cllr Champion. Seconded: Cllr Ninnim. All agreed.**

### **19/41. 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.

### **19/42. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

No matters were raised.

### **19/43. PROGRESS CHECK.**

- St Peters Church – no further update regarding the planning application. Article in the local newspaper with in accurate and misleading information.
- The Angel at Heckford – a copy of the response from Borough Cllr Ellis to Portia Star Lane Ltd has been circulated.

**19/44. EMERGENCY PLAN.**

To sign off the final version of the Emergency Plan. As Cllr Walsh was not present it was agreed to put this on the next agenda.

**19/45. PLANNING.**

**Application No: 190217.** Proposed new three-bedroom bungalow on land to the rear of Homelea. Resubmission of 182077.

**Location:** Homelea, Birch Street CO2 0NW. No objections.

**19/46. FINANCE.**

Payments made / money received.

101666 £323.97 A Balcombe (Clerks Salary & Expenses).

101667 £360.00 Hill Farm Landscapes.

101668 £125.00 Birch and Layer Breton PCC (Newsletter).

**19/47. PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE.**

To consider the quote from Playquip Leisure and to decide what work is to be done (quote attached). The approximate cost to carry out all of the work is around £12,300.00. Two additional quotes to be obtained. It was also agreed to apply for funding towards the cost.

**19/48. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**ECC – Definitive Map Modification No. 650 (Colchester Borough) Order 2019.**

**19/49. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

- Councillors continue to collect litter and thanks were noted to Gary Cole (Zone Warden, Colchester Borough Council) for supporting the council and getting fly-tipping removed promptly. Two companies have recently been fined for fly-tipping.
- The footpath outside the hall is currently closed, it is hoped the work is completed soon as it is dangerous for pedestrians, especially children, to walk past. Cllr Bentley will look into this.
- The Memorial Hall has recently passed a Health and Safety inspection, achieving exemplary standards.

**19/50. MEETING DATES 2019.**

2 April, 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December.

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

*The meeting closed at 20.15*

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**