



## BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

*Clerk – Angela Balcombe*

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Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on  
Tuesday 1 October 2019, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

*Present:* Cllrs: *Bowtle, Campian, Cottrell, Ninnim & Sherlock.*

*In the Chair:* Cllr *Bowtle.*

*Clerk:* Angela *Balcombe.*

*Also present:* Cllr *Kevin Bentley and 2 members of the public.*

### **19/30. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **19/31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Boyce and Cllr Walsh.

### **19/32. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 3 September 2019 were approved as a correct record of events.

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

### **19/33. 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.

### **19/34. REPORTS.**

**County/Borough Council** – Cllr Bentley reported on the following matters;

- Church Planning Application – no further news.
- Local Plan Consultation re Garden Communities.
- Warren Lane – a feasibility study has been done, the drawings have yet to be done but it will be a roundabout, funding is then needed. Although it is some years away it will be done.
- A12 (originally four routes) – consultation will be end October/early November. A public meeting will be held in Copford and Birch will be invited to this meeting.
- Road Closure re Half Marathon, Cllr Bentley is aware of the problems and asked that it be monitored and any problems on the day can be reported to him.
- Highways Winter Programme starts at the end of October, salt bins have been restocked.

**Zone Warden** – nothing to report.

### **19/35. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

Apologies were received from Mr Richard Carr.

- Heckford Angel – the Council was updated on the planning application, which is still being held up despite having the support from the Parish Council and nearby residents. Cllr Bentley advised the applicant to put in a viability report/business plan with details of how it would be run.
- The Council was advised that to collect more recycling sacks a voucher must be obtained from the Borough Council first.
- Cllr Cottrell has organised the reinstatement of the posts knocked down at the War Memorial.

#### **19/36. PROGRESS CHECK.**

A brief update on any actions from the last meeting.

- Play Area – the new nest swing has been installed plus the damaged cradle swing has been replaced. Football nets
- Hedingham School Bus Service – a reply from the company has been received which satisfies all the concerns raised.

#### **19/37. PLANNING.**

**Application No: 192345.** Garage conversion and construction of outbuilding/cart lodge.

**Site Address:** Lauriston, School Hill, Birch. No objections.

**Application No:** ESS/39/19/COL

**Proposal:** Erection of a pitched roof workshop building 26 x 16 x 7.14 metres to house machinery/tools and associated landscaped soil screening bund

**Location:** Birch Airfield, Blind Lane, Birch. **Granted.**

#### **19/38. FINANCE.**

Payments made / money received:

101693 £1,440.00 Hill Farm Landscapes (Grass Cutting inc. churchyard strimming).

101694 £361.92 A Balcombe (Clerks Salary & Expenses).

101695 £50.00 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Wreath).

101696 £50.00 Birch Memorial Hall (Hire)

101697 £259.35 Colchester Borough Council (Litter Picking/Bin Emptying)

**Income**

£5,066.00 Precept – 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment.

#### **19/39. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**ECC** - The Essex County Council (Various Roads, Stanway/Birch/Copford) (Colchester Zoo Half Marathon) (Special Events) (Temporary Prohibition of Traffic & One Way) Order 2019.

**Community Speed Watch** – one resident has expressed an interest to help.

#### **19/40. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

Cllr Ninnim had collected 7 bags of rubbish and carried out some hedge/tree work.

#### **19/41. MEETING DATES 2019.**

5 November, 3 December.

*The meeting closed at 20.17*

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**