



BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Angela Balcombe

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

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

In the Chair: Cllr *Bowtle.*

Clerk: Angela *Balcombe.*

Also present: Cllr *Maclean and 6 members of the public (including two representatives from the Hare & Hounds)*

19/42. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

19/43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

There were no apologies.

19/44. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

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

19/45. 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.

19/46. REPORTS.

County Council – apologies were received from Cllr Bentley.

Borough Council – Cllr Maclean reported that the Borough Council was very busy at the moment with the A12 widening scheme and garden communities.

Zone Warden – members were disappointed that Gary Cole has been moved from Birch to Greenstead, a trainee will replace him.

19/47. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

- No further news on the Church application (it is four years before the planning application expires).
- Public Exhibition regarding land at the rear of the Hare and Hounds; Consultation period 5 November – 19 November. The proposal is for four holiday homes. Planning permission is likely to be applied for around April 2020, the Parish Council will make their comments once the formal planning application has been received.

19/48. PROGRESS CHECK.

A brief update on any actions from the last meeting.

- Missing signage ref: 2634766 & 2634769 – have been assessed as not serious, it has been recorded and it will be considered when planning future works in the area.
- Potholes ref: 2634759 (School Hill) has been assessed and ECC are in the process of scheduling works.

19/49. PLANNING.

Application No: 181557 & 181558 LBC. Renovation and refurbishment of the Heckford Angel, including extension to accommodate a restaurant (new drawings and information received).

Site Address: The Heckford Angel, Maldon Road, Birch.
The Parish Council continues to support this application.

ELS Legal – Application under Schedule 14 to record Caper Lane and Straightway (parts of Footpaths 13 & 16) as Restricted Byways. Two applications have been made by Essex Bridleways Association to modify the Definitive Map and Statement by upgrading parts of Footpaths 13 & 16 to restricted byways. Any comments by 18 November.

19/50. FINANCE.

Payments made / money received:

101698 £374.80 A Balcombe (Clerks Salary & Expenses).

101699 £99.00 D Ninnim (Mark Harrod Ltd. - Goal Nets).

101670 £259.35 Colchester Borough Council (Litter Collection).

Cllr Cottrell gave her apologies as she had to leave the meeting early.

19/51. BUDGET/PRECEPT 2020/21.

The budget for 2020/21 was agreed. The precept amount for 2020/21 was agreed at £11,000.

Proposed: Cllr Bowtle. Seconded: Cllr Campian. All agreed.

19/52. REMEMBRANCE DAY.

Cllr Walsh will be laying the poppy wreath at the Service of Remembrance.

19/53. CORRESPONDENCE.

RCCE – Oyster Magazine.

CBC – Creating Safer Rural Communities (Safer Colchester Partnership).

19/54. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

- Cllr Ninnim has put up new football nets and 13 bags rubbish have been collected.
- Cllr Boyce attended a recent meeting at Marks Tey regarding the widening of the A12 scheme.
- 'Not suitable for heavy vehicles sign' at the turning by the Angel to Birch Park needs to be moved forward as lorries are turning in before they see the sign.
- Vehicles going over bridge at Birch Park exceeding the weight limit.
- Birch Road from Layer de le Haye to Layer Breton – potholes.

19/55. MEETING DATES.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 3 December 2019.

Dates for 2020:

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

The meeting closed at 20.37

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):

DATE: