



BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Angela Balcombe

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Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on
Tuesday 7 January 2020, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

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

In the Chair: Cllr *Bowtle.*

Clerk: *Angela Balcombe.*

Also present: *Borough Cllr Ellis and 2 members of the public*

20/69. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

20/70. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr Walsh.

20/71. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

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

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

20/72. 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.

20/73. REPORTS.

- **County Council** – apologies were received from Cllr Bentley.
- **Borough Council** – Cllr Ellis reported that planning permission has now been granted for the Heckford Angel with conditions attached. No further update on the Church has been received, Cllr Ellis to check the status of the planning application to find out one way or another whether it is still active. With regard to the Local Plan, examination part one opens next week and will run for a fortnight.
- **Zone Warden** – Cllr Bowtle has introduced herself to the new Warden. (It was noted that if Gary Cole (previous Zone Warden) does want to come back to cover the Birch area he would be more than welcome by the Parish Council and also by the Borough Council).
- The Clerk will contact CBC to see if they have a mobile CCTV scheme available to monitor fly-tipping spots.

20/74. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

The new Zone Warden, Liam Skelton, has been asked to collect bags of rubbish recently collected and left in Pudding Lane.

20/75. PROGRESS CHECK.

- Sunken drain cover and carriageway in School Hill was programmed for 16 December, this hasn't yet been done.
- Potholes/road surface at Hardys Green (ref: 2634769) has been scheduled for repair. This has still not been done, the Clerk will contact ECC again to say that the area has got worse and needs patching to make safe, as it is now urgent.

20/76. PLANNING.

Application No: 192698. Proposed shed.

Location: Teal Cottage, Birch Street, Birch CO2 0NL. **Approved.**

20/77. FINANCE.

Payments made / money received:

101704 £388.62 A Balcombe (Clerks Salary & Expenses).

101705 £360.00 Hill Farm Landscapes Ltd.

Precept 2020/21 - The grant from CBC is £500 plus £632 Local Council Tax Support Grant giving a total of £1,132 the same as last year. The Precept for 2020/21 was agreed at the November meeting as £11,000 – the actual Band D amount will be £36.09.

20/78. PLAY AREA / COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND.

The Parish Council has been awarded £5,662.00 from the ECC Community Initiatives Fund towards resurfacing of the Play Area.

20/79. CORRESPONDENCE.

None.

20/80. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

- 40 bags of rubbish have been collected throughout the village.
- The Clerk will contact CBC regarding dangerous trees on private land in Mill Lane to see if they are able to help/advise.

20/81. MEETING DATES 2020.

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

The meeting closed at 20.22.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):

DATE: