



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Council Office on Monday 26 April 2010 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs. Mrs Judith Jagger (chairman), Mrs Diane Carr, Mrs Rachel Banner, Mrs Chris Jenkins, Mrs Susan Whitehand.

In attendance: Roger Westbury (executive officer)

Appendices: The following documents will be appended to the signed minutes:

- a. chairman's report
- b. Report on planning applications
- c. RFO Report
- d. Receipts & Payments Account for year ended 31.3.10
- e. Bank reconciliation statement for year ended 31.3.10
- f. a report on correspondence received.

01/10 Apologies – County Cllr Peter McDonald; District Cllrs Ann Doyle and Richard Deeming Cllrs Alun Davies and Tom Gray whose reasons for absence as recorded in the attendance book were approved by the Council.

02/10 Declarations of Interest

- (a) The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted.
- (b) No interests were declared by Members.

03/10 Co-option of New Councillor

As there had been no call for an election following the resignation of Cllr David Gilburn, the Council resolved to fill the vacancy by co-option and invited Mrs Doreen Hawkley to join the Council. She agreed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Chairman welcomed her to the Council.

04/10 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 29th March 2010 were approved as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

No Parishioners attended the meeting.

05/10 Chairman's Report

The Council received a report from the Chairman, a copy of which will be appended to these minutes. She again highlighted the need for training for newer councillors and confirmed that she would be discussing the provision of suitable session(s) with CALC and our neighbouring Parish Councils of Cofton Hackett and Lickey & Blackwell.



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06/10 District and County Councillors' Question & Answer Session
No District or County Councillors were able to attend the meeting.

07/10 Infrastructure

Planning & Conservation

The Council received a report on planning applications received and decisions taken by BDC's Planning Dept. A copy is attached to these minutes.

The Council had no objections to applications received in respect of 18 Orchard Croft and 22 Sandhills Rd. Concerns had been expressed regarding applications from The Wick, Fiery Hill Rd and 5 Penzer Drive and the Planning Group had requested that these be referred to the District Planning Committee

The Planning Group advised the Council that it had heard nothing further regarding enforcement relating to Cherry Hill Road.

Highways & Lighting

The Council noted that there were still a large number of potholes in the village that required attention.

The Chairman advised that she would shortly be meeting with Blachere Illumination to discuss further enhancements to the Christmas lighting scheme.

Environment

The EO advised the Council that WCC Highways had not agreed to a request to increase the lengthsman scheme payments from the new lower level of £1810, but had instructed him to continue submitting claims in the usual way and that it may be possible to review the level of payments later in the financial year.

Cllr Banner reported that all business premises in the village were keen to have hanging baskets installed outside their premises and had agreed to take better care of them this year. She would monitor the condition of the baskets once they were installed.

Cllrs Banner and Hawkley agreed to investigate the marshy area at the bottom of the Playing Field to see if it would be necessary to lay hard core, bark or grasscrete there in time for the autumn.

08/10 Community Safety

Village Watch

The council noted that there had been no progress on the suggestion to amalgamate Neighbourhood Watch and PACT meetings.



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Health & Safety

The EO reported that safety inspections of the Park and Playing Field had been carried out in March and the inspection reports were awaited.

The Council noted the need for some form of disabled access ramp at the new Parish Council Office and the Chairman undertook to investigate the options.

Communication

The Council expressed its approval of the new layout of the Parish Newsletter and recorded its thanks to Mark Astle who had carried out the re-design. The Council noted the cost of £76 to print the flyers for the St Andrews Church centenary celebrations. This would be shared with the church.

09/10 Governance

Finance

The RFO circulated an updated report, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. Payments were approved.

The Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2010 was approved by the Council.

The Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2010 were approved by the Council. The Council noted that the external auditor had appointed June 14 as the date on or after which interested parties may exercise their rights.

The bank reconciliation statement for the period ended 31 March 2010 was received by the Council.

Office

The Council noted that the Parish Council Office was now up and running and that the Open Morning held on April 24 had been a success.

The Council noted that the pictures inherited from Mrs Mabey had been framed and mounted. The Council agreed to further expenditure to mount the two maps on the office wall (estimated cost £100) and to install a literature dispenser and workstation at a cost of approximately £305. It was agreed that set up and running costs of the office would be recorded separately in the cash book. Set up costs would be met from the Council's reserves using money received for communications as part of the Quality Parish Improvement Fund.



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Youth Council and School Governor

Cllr Whitehand reported that a meeting of the Youth Council had been scheduled for April 27 and that they continued to investigate possible grant opportunities.

WCALC/NALC – nothing to report

CPRE – nothing to report

Events

The Council noted that a flyer listing the St Andrews Church centenary celebrations had been printed and distributed with the Spring Newsletter. Cllr Carr was asked to liaise with Terry and Ann Peate regarding the Council's involvement in the Family Fun Day to be held on the Playing Field on 5 September.

- 10/10 Correspondence Received** – a report was circulated at the meeting and a copy is appended to these minutes.
- 11/10 Urgent Decisions** – none taken since last meeting
- 12/10 Future Agenda Items** – training for Councillors
- 13/10 Date and Venue of Next Meeting** – Monday 24th May 2010 at 7.00pm at the Parish Office at 80 Hewell Road was agreed. This would be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. The Council was reminded that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held at the Parish Centre on May 5.

The meeting ended at 8.25pm.

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Chairman May 24th, 2010