



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Centre on Monday 28th July 2008 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs. Mrs Judith Jagger (chairman), Mr David Gilburn (vice chairman), Mrs Diane Carr, Mr Tom Gray, Mr Rick Main, Mrs Susan Whitehand, and Mr David Harding.

In attendance: District Cllr Ann Doyle and Roger Westbury (executive officer)

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

- a. the Agenda
- b. Chairman's Report
- c. an updated report on planning applications
- d. an updated report from the RFO.
- e. Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 2008
- f. Report from BGYPC
- g. a report on correspondence received.

44/08 Apologies – Cllr Martin Peyton whose reason for absence is awaited by the Council.

45/08 Declarations of Interest

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

46/08 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 30th June 2008 were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

No parishioners attended the meeting

47/08 District and County Councillors' Question & Answer Session

District Cllr Ann Doyle updated the Council on requests she had received from local residents and on BDC's review of parking passes

48/08 Chairman's Report

The council received a written report from the Chairman, a copy of which will be appended to these minutes. The chairman reminded members of the need to channel through the executive officer any written communications to District and



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County Council members or officers which represented the views of the Parish Council.

49/08 Infrastructure Planning & Conservation

The council received an updated report on applications received and decisions taken by the District Council's Planning Committee, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Cllr Whitehand presented a draft response to Bromsgrove District Council's proposed plan for adopting Parish Plans. It was agreed that councillors would consider the draft and advise Cllr Whitehand of any suggested amendments by July 30th. The response and a copy of the Parish Plan and Appendix 1- Planning for Character would be sent to BDC in time for its August 1st deadline.

The council considered BDC's request for responses to their proposals on Local Neighbourhood Partnerships. The council agreed to establish a working group to draft a response to the proposal. This would be chaired by Cllr Peyton and members would be Cllrs Jagger, Carr, Main and Whitehand.

Highways & Lighting

The council noted the following:

1. Vehicle activated speed signs had been installed on Bittell Road
2. Progress was being made with WCC Highways following meetings with Tom Comerford. A copy of Mr Comerford's latest update had been circulated to members. Cllr Gilburn agreed to forward a copy of this and other relevant documents to Cllr Doyle.
3. Pavements in Poplar Drive had been moved down the priority list for resurfacing.

Environment

Cllr Main presented an update on the proposed improvements to Millennium Park and Parker's Piece. The total project cost of £28629 was approved by the council. The Council noted that work would begin immediately on the installation of new swings in Millennium Park, followed by the other works with a target completion date of mid-September.

The Council agreed with Cllr Gray's proposed responses to BDC's community transport review questionnaire and the EO was asked to submit the completed document to the District Council.



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50/08 Community Safety

Village Watch – the chairman and vice chairman advised that they had attended a presentation by West Mercia Police on community safety..

Health & Safety – several councillors had observed older children playing in an anti-social way in Millennium Park. It was agreed that any such incidents should be reported to the police and that individual councillors should not approach the children concerned.

Communication – the EO advised that the deadline for copy for the Autumn Newsletter is September 30. He confirmed that Barnt Green Sailing Club would be the next organisation to be featured in the newsletter.

51/08 Governance

Administration – the Council approved a recommendation from the Staffing Committee in respect of increases to the executive officer's salary.

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

The Council received a bank reconciliation statement for the three months ended 30 June 2008

The Council noted that an internet banking facility had been set up with Unity Bank. This would enable regular suppliers to be paid via the internet rather than by cheque. It was agreed that the EO would present details of any proposed payments, with supporting invoices, to the monthly Council meeting for approval prior to inputting details on the Unity Bank website. The system then requires two councillors to authorise the payments online.

Youth Council – The Council received a report on the activities of the Youth Parish Council, a copy of which will be appended to these minutes.

Office & IT – no progress to report..

School Governor – nothing to report

WCALC/NALC – nothing to report

CPRE – Cllr Main had attended a recent CPRE meeting where District Cllr Dyer had given an update on the electrification of the railway line to Bromsgrove, the Bromsgrove town centre redevelopment and the Longbridge development.



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- 52/08 Correspondence Received** – a report was circulated at the meeting and a copy is appended to these minutes.
- 53/08 Festivals**
The council noted that the date for the 2009 Barnt Green Festival would be June 27th.
The Council agreed in principle to expenditure on new Christmas lighting in Hewell Road in time for the Christmas Fayre on December 7th. The Council noted that a meeting had been arranged for August 1st with the lighting suppliers, after which details of proposed expenditure would be circulated to all members.
- 54/08 Future Agenda Items –**
Festivals – an update will be given on the 2008 Christmas Festival and the 2009 Summer Festival.
- 55/08 Urgent Decisions**
None taken since last meeting.
- 56/08 Date and Venue of Next Meeting** – Monday 29th September 2008 at 7.00pm at the Parish Centre was agreed.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm.

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Chairman September 29, 2008