



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Centre on Monday 30th June 2008 at 7.00pm

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

In attendance: 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. a list of members of council working groups.
- e. an updated report from the RFO.
- f. a report on correspondence received.

31/08 Apologies – Cllr Tom Gray whose reason for absence as noted in the attendance book was accepted by the Council.

32/08 Declarations of Interest

- (a) The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted. Cllr Harding requested an amendment form in order to register a new interest.
- (b) No interests were declared by Members.

33/08 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 19th May 2008 were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned to allow Ms Kathy Dally to address the Council. She expressed her concern at the parking arrangements on Hewell Road. The Council assured Ms Dally that it shared her concerns and was in dialogue with both West Mercia Police and Worcestershire County Council with a view to agreeing a safer, more efficient system.

34/08 District and County Councillors' Question & Answer Session

No District Councillors or County Councillor were able to attend the meeting.

35/08 Chairman's Report

The council received a written report from the Chairman, a copy of which will be appended to these minutes.



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36/08 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.

The Council discussed Bromsgrove District Council's proposed plan for adopting Parish Plans. It was agreed that Cllr Whitehand draft a response in time for the August 1st deadline.

Highways & Lighting

The council noted that the following:

1. Mike Walton was now back in post as District liaison engineer for WCC Highways.
2. A letter had been received from Mr Walton advising that he had secured funding for two vehicle activated speed warning signs to be installed on Bittell Road.
3. A costing is still awaited on the new welcome signs.
4. WCC Highways has procured a new lorry to repair potholes, which will be working in the Brant Green area on July 1st.
5. A meeting will be held with Tom Comerford of WCC Highways on July 10th to receive an update on outstanding highways matters in Barnt Green.

A discussion followed on the Parish Council's effectiveness in achieving results with regard to highways matters. It was agreed that some progress was being made and that the situation should be reviewed at the end of 2008.

Environment

The Council noted that two quotations had been received for the resurfacing of the path in Millennium Park. As these varied widely it was agreed that an updated quotation would be requested from SAT who had originally quoted in March 2007. A top figure of £5000 was agreed for this work

The council noted that Ellteve Lighting had quoted £1850 to install electrics for the new lighting in the Park. The council agreed to accept this quotation

The EO advised that he had received two quotations for replacement swings for the Park. The Council resolved to accept Wicksteed Playscapes' quotation of £11160 for replacement 8ft high swings and wetpour base.

The Council discussed a response to BDC's community transport review questionnaire. It was agreed that this would be referred to Cllr Gray for a draft response in view of his involvement in matters affecting the elderly.



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37/08 Community Safety

Village Watch – the Council noted that a meeting of Barnt Green Neighbourhood Watch had been held in June and that only 8-10 streets in the village were currently covered by the scheme. The council noted that BGNW had a supply of NW/Smartwater signs and agreed to purchase five of these to affix to the new village welcome signs if suitable.

Health & Safety – the EO advised that he had requested quotations for a new entrance gate to Millennium Park in yellow to comply with DDA requirements.

Communication – the EO advised that copy for the Summer Newsletter was now due.

38/08 Governance

Administration – the council resolved to accept the revised Standing Orders and the amended membership of council working groups. A copy of the latter document is attached to these minutes.

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

The council agreed to fund the provision of three small prizes for the best maintained hanging baskets on Hewell Road

The council agreed to a 12-month trial of internet banking as requested by the EO.

The council agreed to an increase in the lengthsman's hourly rate from £10 to £11 with effect from July 1st in view of the fact that the rate had remained unchanged since the lengthsman's appointment in 2005. The council agreed to review the rate on an annual basis from now on.

Youth Council – The Council noted that the Youth Council had secured a grant of £2500 towards the installation of a trim trail on Parker's Piece. The council approved a grant of a maximum of £2500 towards the cost of a safety surface for this trail.

Office & IT – no progress to report. The council agreed to take no action in respect of 67 Hewell Road until such time as the premises had been restored to a lettable condition by the current leaseholder.

School Governor – nothing to report

WCALC/NALC – nothing to report

CPRE – nothing to report.

