



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Centre on Monday 29th September 2008 at 7.00pm

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

In attendance: District Cllrs Ann Doyle and Richard Deeming, and Roger Westbury (executive officer)

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

- a. the Agenda
- b. Chairman's Reports on Christmas lighting and Millennium Park
- c. an updated report on planning applications
- d. an updated report from the RFO.
- e. an updated income and expenditure account.
- f. Report from BGYPC
- g. a report on correspondence received.

57/08 Apologies – Cllr Susan Whitehand whose reason for absence as noted in the attendance book was accepted by the council. The council resolved not to accept Cllr Martin Peyton's apology for absence in view of the lateness of its arrival.

58/08 Declarations of Interest

- (a) The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted. Councillors were reminded that they must submit their interests on the correct form that complies with the Local Government act 2000 section 81(1) and the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.
- (b) No interests were declared by Members.

59/08 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 26th July 2008 were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

No parishioners attended the meeting

60/08 District and County Councillors' Question & Answer Session

District Cllrs Doyle and Deeming updated the Council on the waste collection service and on changes to the planning process which would be the subject of a presentation at the Parish Councils Forum to be held on September 30th.



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61/08 **Chairman's Report**

The council received written reports from the Chairman on Christmas lighting and on the refurbishment of Millennium Park, copies of which will be appended to these minutes.

62/08 **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 noted that the planning group had recommended refusal of St Andrew's School's application for the erection of a 2.5 metre security fencing at the rear of the school premises.

The council noted that the public hearing into the Longbridge Area Action Plan would commence on October 14th.

The council noted that a response had been sent to BDC on their proposals on Local Neighbourhood Partnerships.

Highways & Lighting

The council noted the following:

1. Some progress was being made with WCC Highways regarding outstanding highways issues. Four of the five welcome signs had been installed and the Bittell Road footway had been resurfaced. Progress on the bollards on Bittell Road and at the Twatling Road triangle was awaited.
2. A letter had been sent to Ian Bamforth regarding revised parking arrangements on Hewell Road. However, county councillor Peter McDonald had advised that changes to parking arrangements were the responsibility of Bromsgrove District Council. The council agreed to write to Kevin Dicks, chief executive of BDC, regarding this matter.
3. The Chairman gave a written report on the situation regarding Christmas lighting, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The council approved by a majority vote the proposed expenditure of £8970 on this in view of the pledges that had been received from village traders. The council agreed to continue to press Tesco for a contribution to this expenditure.

Environment

The chairman presented a report on the refurbishment of Millennium Park and the council noted that many compliments had been received from residents on



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the scheme. The council agreed to purchase two new waste bins to complete the scheme.

The council agreed to spend up to £1000 on the purchase and installation of bulbs and plants in Millennium Park and on the verges by the railway embankment at the bottom of Fiery Hill Road and on Hewell Road.

63/08 Community Safety

Village Watch – the council noted that a Neighbourhood Watch meeting had been held recently and that a PACT meeting had been arranged in Blackwell on October 16th.

Health & Safety – the council noted that a new gravity closure gate had been installed at the entrance to the Millennium Park play area to comply with DDA legislation.

Communication – the EO advised that the deadline for copy for the Autumn Newsletter is September 30. The council agreed to accept, on a trial basis, a quotation of £232 to produce the Autumn Newsletter in full colour.

64/08 Governance

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

The council received an income and expenditure account for the six months ended September 30, 2008.

The finance group advised that it would be meeting shortly to consider the budget and precept for 2009-10 and would present its recommendations to the November meeting of the council.

The council noted that an unqualified audit opinion had been given on the Annual Return for 2007-08

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 – the council noted that a letter had been received from Messrs Truslove outlining a proposed agreement for the rental of 67 Hewell Road. This included the complete refurbishment of the premises. The council agreed that it would take no action until the refurbishment had been completed, but resolved as a target to spend up to ten per cent of the precept on premises.

School Governor – nothing to report

