



Barnt Green Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Centre on Monday 28th September 2009 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs. Mr David Gilburn (vice chairman), Mrs Rachel Banner, Mrs Diane Carr, Mr Alun Davies, Mrs Chris Jenkins, Mrs Susan Whitehand and Mr Tom Gray

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

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

- a. the Agenda
- b. a report from the Chairman
- c. an updated report on planning applications
- d. an updated report from the RFO.
- e. an updated list of members of PC working groups
- f. a report on correspondence received.

58/09 Apologies – Cllr Mrs J Jagger (sickness); County Cllr McDonald (prior engagement). Cllr Gilburn chaired the meeting in Cllr Jagger's absence.

59/09 Declarations of Interest

- (a) The requirement to keep the Register of Interests was noted.
- (b) No interests were declared by Members.
- (c) The vice chairman welcomed Alun Davies to his first meeting as a Parish Councillor

60/09 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 27th July 2009 were approved as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. District Cllr Doyle advised the meeting that she had presented her apologies prior to the last meeting but these had not been recorded. The EO explained that it was not normal practice to record apologies from County and District Councillors, but the Council agreed to change this policy and to record such in future.

No Parishioners attended the meeting.

61/09 Chairman's Report

The vice chairman read out a written report from the Chairman, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.



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62/09 District and County Councillors' Question & Answer Session

The Council asked how much money Bromsgrove District Council had spent on activities for "Older People's Week". Cllr Deeming replied that it was "minimal", and that he would endeavour to ascertain the actual figure.

Cllr Deeming advised that all work on the Longbridge development had been temporarily suspended following a dispute over the funding of infrastructure services between St Modwen and Birmingham City Council.

Cllr Doyle advised that an armed robbery had taken place at Lickey Post Office on September 25th. She informed the council that the police had asked her to reassure residents that they would be making 'more of a police presence' over the coming months.

Cllr Doyle requested that a contact telephone number for the executive officer be included on the Parish Council's website. The Council and EO agreed to this suggestion.

The Council resolved to seek a meeting with County Cllr McDonald in order to agree a protocol on consultation between the Parish Council and its County Councillor.

63/09 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 has recommended refusal of permission for planning application 0587/09 in respect of vehicular access on land behind 2 Fiery Hill Road.

Highways & Lighting

The Council noted that Cllr McDonald had recently held a meeting with residents of Fiery Hill Road to discuss parking arrangements, but that the Parish Council had not been informed of or invited to the meeting. The Council has since learnt that there was no conclusion to the meeting as the attendees could not agree on a preferred option.

The vice chairman advised that the Highways Group was continuing to develop an alternative parking scheme for Hewell Road and had met with the area manager for Tesco Express to outline the Council's thinking. A further meeting will be held shortly.

The Council noted that shopkeepers on the southern side of Hewell Road had been asked not to obstruct the pavement with vehicles or A-Boards. The request had met with a mixed, but generally supportive response.

The Council resolved to accept quotations for the supply and installation of additional Christmas lighting. The figures are: Blachere - £293.25 per annum hire charge for two years and £2070 one-off purchase price for equipment; Ellteve



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Lighting - £1265 (maximum) for installation. The Council resolved to review the whole Christmas lighting scheme early in 2010.

Environment

The Council resolved to accept a quotation of £1085 from Hosking Ground Maintenance for various jobs on Fiery Hill Road and Parker's Piece. The EO advised that for the municipal year 2010-2011 these costs would be rolled into the general mowing contract for Parker's Piece so that an overall maintenance contract could be set up for the year.

The EO was asked to speak to the Parish Lengthsman regarding the refilling of the planters on Hewell Road.

The Council resolved to accept a quotation of £400 from Bromsgrove District Council for the supply of two replacement litter bins for Parker's Piece.

The Council noted that the new bins for Millennium Park had been delivered and would be installed in October.

The Council noted that the water leak in Millennium Park appeared to have been resolved by Severn Trent Water. The Council agreed that a letter drafted by the EO requesting compensation of £2335 from ST Water for the Council's expenditure in attempting to fix this leak, should be sent.

64/09 Community Safety

Village Watch

The Council noted that a Neighbourhood Watch meeting had been scheduled for October 7th and a PACT meeting for October 15th.

Health & Safety

The Council expressed its concern at the condition of the wheelchair ramp outside the Tony's Handyman block of shops.

It was also noted that the footway outside No 1 Bittell Road was very overgrown and the EO was asked to instruct the Lengthsman to investigate.

Communication

The Council noted that the deadline for the Autumn Newsletter was September 30. Additional items suggested by the Council were a profile of Cllr Alun Davies and a piece on the new management team at The Victoria.

65/09 Governance

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

- The Council noted that the Finance Group would meet in October and would present a draft budget for 2010-11 at the full Council meeting to be held on October 26th.



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- The Council noted that an unqualified audit opinion had been given on the Council's Annual Return for 2008-09.

Administration

The Council passed a resolution confirming that it was happy to continue to receive the Meeting Summons and associated papers by email.

The Council agreed the revised membership of the Council's Working Groups, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Cllr Davies agreed to represent the Council at CPRE meetings.

The Council agreed to increase the EO's salary in accordance with the national Joint Council for Local Government Services agreement.

Youth Council and School Governor – nothing to report

Office - nothing to report.

WCALC/NALC – the EO confirmed that Power of Well Being training for all councillors would be held at The Parish Centre on Tuesday 13 October at 7pm. Four representatives from other Parish Councils would be joining the session.

- 66/09 Correspondence Received** – a report was circulated at the meeting and a copy is appended to these minutes.
- 67/09 Urgent Decisions** – none taken since last meeting
- 68/09 Future Agenda Items** – the “Green Barnt Green” initiative
- 69/09 Date and Venue of Next Meeting** – Monday 26th October 2009 at 7.00pm at the Parish Centre was agreed.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm.

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Vice Chairman October 26, 2009.