

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting
held at Barnt Green Baptist Church lounge, B45 8LU**

on Monday 18 February 2019 at 7.00pm

Barnt Green Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence, June 2015

Members present: Cllrs R Cholmondeley (Chairman), R Briggs in attendance from 7.20pm, J Jagger, J Nilsson, P Perry, H Rone-Clarke in attendance from 7.37pm

In attendance: A representative of The Village magazine
Executive Officer, Tracy Bodley

19/016 Apologies

Cllr C Hotham (vice-chairman)
Worcestershire County Councillor P McDonald (Beacon Division)
PCSO Stuart Taylor, West Mercia Police

19/017 Declarations of Interest: Councillors were reminded that to ensure transparency and retain public confidence in the council's decisions they are required to -

- a) Keep their Register of Interests form up to date;
 - b) Declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and any Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in agenda items and the nature of those interests.
- Cllr Hotham has a standing declaration in his role as a member of the district council's planning committee; any comments made at parish council meetings on planning matters are made prior to possession of the full facts and would not amount to pre-determination.
 - Cllr Cholmondeley declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute no. 19/027 Planning Ref. 19/00100/HP and 19/00101/FUL The Spinney, Aqueduct Lane, in the fact that he was familiar with the resident.

19/018 To consider any dispensations

No dispensation requests had been received.

19/019 Adjournment of meeting to hear from:

- a) **Members of the Public**
None present.
- b) **Supporting organisations**, eg Safer Neighbourhood Team, Footpath Warden
None present; apologies from the Safer Neighbourhood Team.
- c) **Worcestershire County Councillor** – Peter McDonald (Beacon division)
Not present.
- d) **Bromsgrove District Councillor** - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood)
Due to illness Cllr Hotham was not present but submitted a report on District matters which in his absence was read aloud by Cllr Cholmondeley:

'It is budget setting time and whilst the medium term financial plan developed by the controlling group, shows a balanced budget for 19/20 significant deficits are predicted for the next 3 years amounting to some £3.3m. So some serious saving will be required in coming years.

BDC council tax is being raised by 2.99%, this is the maximum without a referendum.

The Independent group are preparing an alternative budget.

I am concerned about the proposed changes to shift patterns being worked at Bromsgrove Fire station. These changes could potentially add 5 or 6 minutes to response times between 6 pm and 8 am.

A public consultation will take place and I would hope that as a Parish Council we would wish to respond.'

The meeting resumed.

19/020 To adopt previous minutes

a) To approve adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 21/01/2019
AGREED

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 21/01/2019 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

b) To approve the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held 11/02/2019
AGREED

The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held 11/02/2019 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

19/021 Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that there were no further topics of discussion unrelated to the items on the agenda.

19/022 Executive Officer's Report

To be advised of any decisions taken under delegated powers since the last meeting and receive updates to ongoing matters and a list of office communications since the previous council meeting.

a) Station	<p>A letter has been drafted and sent to the Secretary of State for Transport, Christopher Grayling, a copy also sent to Sajid Javid MP for Bromsgrove requesting that a response to previous letters for elevators to be installed at Barnt Green Station be actioned.</p> <p>An email has also been sent to Richard Brooks and Francis Thomas of West Midlands Rail regarding the absence of any screen information on Platform 1, the need for an additional ticket machine to avoid going to Platform 3 and that car park spaces need realigning.</p> <p>A holding response has been received from Richard Brooks.</p>
b) Elections Seminar	<p>Briefing notes have been forwarded to committee members regarding the nominations process. Should councillors have any queries on the process then they should address them to the Executive Officer or a member of the elections staff at Bromsgrove District Council.</p> <p>It was also advised that guidance could be sought using the electoral commission website.</p>

	<p>The chairman requested that this be placed on the next agenda as a reminder to prospective candidates.</p>
<p>c) Barnt Green Stream Quotation – Trash Screen</p>	<p>An email had been received from Thomas Curwell with an update since his attendance at the PC meeting, 19/11/18.</p> <p>It is proposed to drive the screen into the ground rather than excavating out and building a head wall to fix it to. The benefit being to prevent debris getting in and leading to potential blockages through the village.</p> <p>It was also reported that North Worcestershire Water Management would not be paying for the undertaking of this work.</p> <p>NWWM asked if a contribution from BGPC and/or the Blackwell road residents be possible.</p> <p>COST: To supply and install a new galvanised culvert grill - £675</p> <p>BGPC requested that a further breakdown of the quotation be requested as it appears expensive.</p> <p>Further discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It was considered doubtful that residents would wish to contribute to the project. ii. BGPC would bring back to next agenda to discuss funding possibilities and if installed adding the clearance of natural debris to the Lengthsman duties. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a request would be made for a further breakdown of quotation. 2. That this item would be placed on the next agenda for future discussion. </div>
<p>d) Severn Trent Scheduled work on Hewell Road</p>	<p>It was reported that a letter was received stating that excavation works would commence on 20 February for 3 days. Temporary Traffic Lights will be in place.</p> <p>There would be no planned interruptions to the water supply during this time.</p> <p>Parking congestion is expected.</p> <p>Planned Work also will be carried out in Oakdene Drive toward the end of 2019, Samantha Pedley from AMEY will update with dates once they have been agreed.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the comments were noted.</p> </div>
<p>e) Police Crime Prevention Surgery</p>	<p>It was reported that this event would take place on Saturday 23 March 2019 on the frontage of Butterwick Close (Car park on Fiery Hill) between 10 am and 12 noon. Due to concerns of the recent burglary.</p> <p>PCSO Stuart Taylor requested that this be brought to the attention of the committee at the parish meeting in his absence.</p>

	<p>It was stated that this information will also be placed on BGPC Website and facebook page.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the comments were noted.</p> </div>
f) Annual Playground Inspection	<p>It was reported that an annual playground equipment inspection by ROSPA will take place during March 2019 – cost will be £137 for the two sites.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the comments were noted.</p> </div>

19/023 Finance

- (i) To note the bills for payment
The list of payments is attached at 235, was agreed.
- (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by the Executive Officer
None.

19/024 Committee, Working Party and Members' reports on meetings attended

a) Environment Committee meeting held 11/02/2019

- (i) Minute No. E19-05 b – Outdoor Parish Caretaker – to Include a monthly litter pick on Hewell Road, Station Approach and the lower part of Fiery Hill Road.
Approved
- (ii) Minute No. E19-05 c - Replacement bounce back bollard to be installed by Indian Restaurant. **Approved**
- (iii) Minute No. E19-05 d – Replacement ornamental bollards to be purchased from Glasdon. **Approved**

AGREED

That the Environment Committee decisions were ratified.

- (iv) Minute No. E19-08 – Councillors' reports - To make recommendations to discuss the possibility of funds being made available by Bromsgrove District Council from the Cala Homes development to make improvements to the Barnt Green Playing Field path. Further suggestions also included the extension of the footpath into a looped walk and addressing drainage issues at the bottom of the field.

RESOLVED:

That the comments would be forwarded to BDC Cllr Hotham to request what steps are required to secure funding for this project.

b) Feedback on the Christmas Lights Working Party held 7/01/2019 – Meeting Notes appended.

Cllr Perry outlined discussion points from the Christmas Lights Working Party and stated that in the first instance a feasibility exercise would be required to see if the plans were possible.

It was noted that a meeting has been arranged on Tuesday 26 February 2019 at 12 noon with GJH Electrical to discuss the feasibility of wrap around lights in the large tree in Millennium Park and other lighting ideas.

19/025 Events

- a) Police Pop-Up, at the parish council office – Tuesday 26 February 2019 at 11am. Cllr Cholmondeley also stated that during this event there would be a briefing regarding the SmartWater project. It was hoped following this information gathering exercise that councillors would volunteer to go door to door to enlist residents on the scheme.
Discussion also took place suggesting that a SmartWater initiative could be placed at one or more of the upcoming events to impart the information more economically given the number of parish residents to the number of councillors.
- b) Fun Run 2019
No further information has been received.
- c) Summer Treasure Hunt
Discussion took place regarding the feasibility and coordination of such an event. Ideas circulated as follows:
- i. Cllrs Cholmondeley and Perry to co-ordinate.
 - ii. Volunteers enlisted – Cllrs Whitehead and Nilsson.
 - iii. Following the event, food and drink to be made available in Millennium Park.
 - iv. Ice Cream Vendor could also be in attendance.
 - v. Possible date: 1st weekend in July – With the need to check neighbouring villages to avoid clashing with other events.

19/026 Environment & Community Wellbeing

- a) **Speeding, Hewell Lane:** Reports have been received from a resident of Hewell Lane regarding the number of parked work vans on the lane and the speed from vehicles using this lane. The resident was advised to report it through the worcestershire.gov website or alternatively to canvass their local member. An article has also been written in the next publication of 'The Bulletin' on advice on how to report concerns on matters relating to speeding vehicles in built up areas in the village.

RESOLVED:

That the comments were noted.

19/027 Planning

- a) Members' response to the following consultations:

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
19/00087/FUL	18 Fiery Hill Road, Barnt Green,	Demolition of garage and erection of new dwelling to rear of 18 Fiery Hill Road
<p>PC Comment: Recommend Refusal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed development adds additional housing in the conservation area which, by its very name, was drafted to maintain the status quo of the area. The PC does not agree with the argument put forward in the supporting papers that this new house adds to the character of the conservation area. 2. The supporting papers state that a precedent has already been set for housing development behind these houses in Fiery Hill Road. The PC does not accept that this statement is accurate because comparison is not being made on a like for like basis. In the row of houses with similar plots, 18 to 22 Fiery Hill Road, this is the first application for development behind the existing house. 		

<p>3. The loss of the garage at number 18 is a concern because a facility is being lost to the house in the conservation area which ought to be preserved, not necessarily in its identical state. There is no provision for electric car charging with this loss or with the proposed new house.</p> <p>4. The green belt land behind the properties 18 to 22 Fiery Hill Road is owned by the respective houses. There is no provision for maintaining access in respect of 18 Fiery Hill Road.</p> <p>5. With the loss of one of the highway access points to 18 Fiery Hill Road, a resolution of the right of access across the land fronting 18a Fiery Hill Road is needed.</p>		
19/00100/HHP RIO	The Spinney Aqueduct Lane Alvechurch	Single storey rear extension
PC Comment: Recommend Approval . No objection.		
19/00101/FUL	The Spinney Aqueduct Lane Alvechurch	Single storey rear extension
PC Comment: Recommend Approval . No objection.		
19/00164/FUL	Bramley House, 2 Rosewood Drive	Proposed Single Storey Rear and Side Extensions
PC Comment: Recommend Approval . No objection.		

19/028 Future Meetings and items for future agendas

Councillors were reminded of meetings to be attended and used this opportunity to raise items for future agendas.

- a) Bromsgrove Rail User Group – Wednesday 20th February 2019, Cllr Cholmondeley to attend.

19/029 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next ordinary parish council meeting will be Monday 18th March 2019, 7pm at Barnt Green Baptist Church.

This meeting ended at 20:07hrs.

Signed:..... Date.....
Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council 18/03/2019

Agenda Item 19/023 (i)

Excerpt from the Financial Spreadsheet for February Payments

Payments for February 2019		Description	Payments Gross	Payments VAT	Payments Net
s/o	v181	Grounds Maintenance at playing field	278.89	46.48	232.41
d/d	v182	Office landline, broadband for December 2019	6.00	1.00	5.00
d/d	v183a	footpath lighting energy, dusk2dawn	223.38	37.23	186.15
d/d	v184b	footpath lighting energy, continuous	12.25	0.58	11.67
BACS	v185	Cutting of Side Hedge of Playing Field	60.00	-	60.00
BACS	v186	Annual subscription – Clerks & Councils Direct	100.00	-	100.00
BACS	v187	Outdoor Parish Caretaker, January 2019	416.66	-	416.66
s/o	v188	Repairs and replacement lamps	138.83	23.14	115.69
BACS	v189	Christmas Lighting Hire	624.00	104.00	520.00
BACS	v190	expenses and miscellaneous items	71.58	-	71.58

Christmas Lights Working Party

Notes of meeting held 7/2/2019

Present: Philip Perry, Judith Jagger, Rosemary Briggs Apologies: Harrison Rone-Clarke

The purpose of the first meeting was to discuss ideas on how the Christmas tree display could be improved for 2019 and to plan what needed to be done to check the feasibility and costs of implementing these ideas. It was noted that Tracy Bodley has experience of arranging Christmas tree lighting from when she worked for Droitwich Spa Town Council.

1. It was agreed that even if existing trees in Millennium Park were lit, there was a need to provide a traditional fir Christmas tree as well. However, the lights used in 2018 were considered old-fashioned and somewhat tatty, so need replacing.
2. Judith suggested that it might be possible to obtain a suitable fir tree, possibly free, from the Lickey Hills Society.
3. The large tree in Millennium Park would look spectacular if wrapped with white led lights and all wanted to pursue this possibility. Phil to get Tracy to set up meeting with Mike Dickinson to check how difficult it would be to fit the lights.
4. It was also thought that uplighters would like good on other trees in Millennium Park. These can be white, coloured, or can change colour. Phil to investigate further.
5. Judith and Rosemary said that the lights over the Tesco block of shops are now looking in need of replacement. Nobody in the meeting knew if these were Parish Council lights or provided by the shops. Phil to get Tracy to find out and if the P.C.'s, to check alternatives with Blachere.
6. The Angel light designed be a child at St Andrew's School had been damaged by a van in 2018. It needs replacing or repairing under insurance. Phil to take up with Tracy.
7. A further lighted, Christmas fir tree on the corner of Bittell Road/Hewell Road would look very good and would help to 'signpost' the shopping area at that end. But it might cause driver visibility problems on the corner and would need to be near a street light for power. Also, permission from the owner of the corner house would be required. Rosemary and Judith to check this out.

Actions:

- (i) Phil to get Tracy to set up a meeting with Mike Dickinson to discuss the feasibility of lighting the large tree in Millennium Park with white led lights.
- (ii) Phil to ask Tracy to find out who provides the Christmas lights for the Tesco block canopy.
- (iii) Phil to meet with Tracy to get her to set up a meeting with Blachere rep. They should bring their lights catalogue so that we can see what they can offer for: fir tree lights; led lights to wrap the large tree in Millennium Park; tree uplighters; Tesco block canopy light replacement. Alternative suppliers should also be investigated. A meeting with the lights' installer will also be needed.
- (iv) Phil to ask Tracy to pursue repair/replacement of the Angel light under insurance.
- (v) Judith to discuss Christmas tree provision with the Lickey Hills Society
- (vi) Judith and Rosemary to look into the suitability of a tree on the corner of Bittell Road/Hewell Road.