**Birdham Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council**

**held on Monday 21st January 2019**

**at 7pm in Birdham Village Hall**

**Present**: Cllr Pocock (Chairman), Cllrs Hamilton (Vice Chairman), Bird, Churchill, Glover, Campbell, Richardson and Firmston.

**Apologies**: Cllr Barrett (CDC).

**In attendance**: The Clerk, Cllr Montyn (WSCC) and 22 members of the public.

**84-18 Election of Chairman.**

As Cllr Pocock was likely to be late and Cllr Hamilton would have to leave early it was proposed, seconded and resolved that Cllr Firmston should chair the meeting.

* 1. **Declaration of Interests:**

There were none.

**86-18 Approve and sign the minutes of the 17th December 2018:**

**It was resolved** to adopt the minutes of the 17th December 2018 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**87-18 Public Question time from residents of Birdham in accordance with Standing Orders 1d -1l:**

A Resident asked what the situation was regarding the gypsies.

The Chairman said that there were a number of aspects affecting the decision made by the Inspector at the appeals into the refusal of planning permission.

To recap the Inspector dismissed the appeal ordering the applicants to remove themselves from the site and return the site to its original condition within three months. This as we know has not happened.

The situation has been exacerbated further by the decision of the High Court to refuse to take any further action until all appeals and enforcement notices have been dealt with.

Since then further applications have been submitted, which have been refused and the necessary enforcement notices issued to vacate the site. We are told that the applicants have or will be appealing these decisions within the allocated time frame.

Until then the hands of CDC and our own are tied however, we are continuing to apply pressure to the CDC Planning Enforcement Team who we believe are doing all that they can within the framework of the law.

A Resident spoke about parking with the vicinity of Oak Meadow. It was becoming both dangerous and intrusive into the lives of local residents. The Church had been spoken to to try and enlist their help in resolving the problem but to date nothing has changed.

Another Resident said that, on behalf of the church, car owners had been asked to be more considerate but they were unable to enforce anything as there are no parking restrictions in that area.

A Resident asked when the Parish Council would be reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan and who would be involved. Would it require another referendum?

The Chairman said that the NP would indeed be reviewed however, not until the Local Plan was sufficiently further forward as the NP was subordinate to the Local Plan.

**88-18 Planning matters including appeals, applications and CDC delegated decisions:**

1. **Planning Applications to be decided.**

BI/18/03359/DOM - Holly Bank Martins Lane Birdham .

New low boundary wall, swimming pool, pool store and alternations to the appearance of an existing side extension.

The Parish Council **OBJECTS** to the removal of part of the holly hedge from which the house gets its name. The removal of this protected species would also start to urbanise the street scene to the detriment of the local area.

The Parish Council does **NOT OBJECT** to the swimming pool, the pool store or the appearance of the existing side extension.

BI/18/03352/FUL - Sarnia Main Road Birdham Chichester

Development of 4 no. 3 bed dwellings

The Parish Council does **NOT OBJECT** to this application however it would like the following conditions to be imposed;

1 - The distance from the proposed development to the fuel tank vent valves is checked to ensure that the development is safe.

2 - That delivery and collection vehicles servicing the construction site are of a smaller size in order to mitigate damage and disruption to existing properties and residents.

3 - That construction works do not take place on Saturdays and Sundays and are operating only during the hours of 8.30 am. to no later than 4.30pm during weekdays.

BI/18/03372/DOM - The Snipe, Lock Lane, Birdham

Shed.

The Parish Council raises **NO OBJECTION** to this application but would ask for an imposed

condition to ensure that all external elements of the wood cladding are painted black.

**It was resolved** to authorise the Clerk to notify the Councils decisions to CDC Planning.

1. **Delegated Decisions to be noted.**

BI/18/02026/OBG Mr John Matuszewski (Martin Grant Homes)

Rowan Nursery And Pippins Bell Lane Birdham Variation of a S106 agreement for BI/17/00316/FUL. Amended affordable housing tenure split. **PERMIT WITH S106**

BI/18/03294/PNO Mr A Strange Hundredsteddle Farm Hundredsteddle Lane Birdham

Grain store and machinery store. **PLANNING PERMISSION REQUIRED**

**89-18 Clerks’ Report:**

1. **WSCC** – There was nothing to report.
2. **CDC** – There was nothing to report.
3. **Reports from Members of WSCC/CDC –** Cllr Montyn (WSCC) said that the Council were struggling to get the budget to balance but, it has now gone through to the relevant committee for checking prior to coming before full Council.

Disappointingly the Highways England had ruled that the proposals put forward to take the A27 to the north of the City as too expensive and had ruled out any alterations to the existing A27 as there was no ‘community agreement’. Our MP was in the process of seeking a meeting with the SoS and the Leaders of the both the WSCC and the CDC.

Cllr Campbell said that in the Local Plan CDC have come with an option that looks rather like the Opt 2.

Cllr Montyn said that CDC has to come up with a plan in mitigation and have chosen that option. The link road suggestion will probably not be paid for by HE.

Cllr Hamiton speaking as a CDC Councillor said that the Local Plan is now online and will be debated by this Council.

The Local Plan seeks to insist on 125 new homes in Birdham which is far too many to be integrated into the Village. The Link Road is planned from Fishbourne to Mile End Pond and would need to be raised to prevent the road from flooding.

Cllr Montyn said the Harbour Conservancy is extremely concerned the National Park is seemingly to be allowed to pass on the development of 41 new homes in the AONB.

1. **Other related matters –** There are no other matters to discuss.

**90-18 Finance and Corporate:**

1. **To receive and approve the financial report.**

The Clerk tabled the financial report up to and including the 14th December 2018 shown at Annex a. The current balances are as follows;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Balances held at Bank as at 1st April 2017 | £ 36967.81 |
| Designated Funds | £ 29654.17 |
| Ring Fenced Funds | £ 34350.00 |
| Available Funds | £ 18207.06 |
| Creditors | £ 5609.41 |
|  |  |

The Clerk presented the financial statement to Councillors and asked if there were any questions. As there were no questions it was **resolved to adopt** the financial statement.

1. **To determine the viability and installation of a goal post/s on the playing field.**

This was thoroughly discussed during resident’s questions. The upshot of the request was that tacit agreement was given by the Council who would give positive consideration to the proposal as soon as was feasibly possible.

1. **To consider and agree the previously circulated draft budget.**

The budget documentation having been circulated to all Councillors was **Resolved** at £48792.00 for the Council Year 2019-2020.

1. **To set a Precept for the 2019/20 Council Year.**

Having agreed and resolved the Budget for the Council Year 2019-2020 it was further **Resolved** that the precept request should be £48792.00. This would mean an overall rise of 3.47% over the 2018-2019 Council Year. The Band D tax rate would rise by £0.37 per year or £0.01 per week to an annual rate of £59.18.

1. **To potentially determine a response to the CDC Draft Local Plan. (Consultation runs from 13th Dec 2018 – 7th Feb 2019).**

A draft response had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. A number of minor additions and alterations were suggested such as the lack of school places, medical and dental facilities, the apparent front loading of housing units, foul water treatment, the lack of recognition and respect to the AONB etc. The Chairman suggested that members should email there amendments to Cllr Campbell who would then amend the document in sufficient time for it to be sent to the Clerk for final submission. It was **resolved** that the Chairman’s suggestion be adopted.

1. **To agree the wording of the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Report.**

A copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Report had been circulated to all councillors. Amendments had been made and incorporated into the new report which is proposed and when put to the vote was **resolved** as the adopted report to be submitted to CDC Planning.

1. **To discuss the formation of a Birdham Heritage Trail and infrastructure.**

Cllr Firmston had circulated a copy of a Heritage Trail brochure for Church Norton and had drawn up a similar trail for Birdham. He said that this was a project that he could take on with a modicum of help and would not incur other than minor costs if any to produce. Councillors encouraged Cllr Firmston to continue with the project and request help as and when needed.

**91-18 Correspondence – Not previously circulated: -**

There was none.

**92-18** **Reports**:

1. **Play Area and Playing Field**. – The Clerk reported that the self-closing gates had now been installed as had the ‘no dog signs’. Cllr Firmston reported that the bridges had now been completed and he had received emails thanking the Council for carrying out the work.
2. **Village Green and Pond and Condition of Village Ditch/Drain Network.** – The Clerk reported that whilst he had received no information from WSCC concerning the Op Watershed application he had made, he had seen a paragraph in the local free paper that it has been agreed.

The Chairman said that he had received a quotation from a local company to suction silt from the pond to increase the capacity of the pond and to allow the MWHG Volunteers who working on the pond to do so safely. He was concerned about the cost as the Council did not have a budget to do this. He asked the Clerk for his advice on the best way to ensure the work was carried out. The Clerk said that indeed there was a budget for the improvement of the pond which was more than sufficient to allow for the work to be carried out.

The Chairman then proposed that the Clerk be given the authority to place and order for the work which was required. The Chairman’s proposal was put to the vote and **resolved** accordingly.

1. **Communication Working Group.** – Nothing to report.
2. **Community Resilience. –** Nothing to report.

**93-18 Reports of meetings attended by Councillors; -**

Cllr Churchill said that he had attended a meeting of the Hospital Trust for Surrey and Sussex.

**94-18 Items for inclusion on the next agenda:**

There were no specific suggestions.

**95-18 Date of Next Meeting:**

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the**

**18th February 2019 at 7pm in Birdham Village Hall**

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was declared closed at 9.00pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

**Annex a.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | **Birdham Parish Council** | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **Financial Statement as at 18th January 2019** | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  | £ |
| Bank Accounts as at 1st April 2018 | | |  | |  |  | 36967.81 |
| Receipts to date | |  |  | |  |  | 90239.17 |
| Expenditure to date | |  |  | |  |  | 39386.34 |
|  |  |  |  | | **Balance** |  | **87820.64** |
| **Represented by;** | |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Current Account (Barclays Community A/c) | | | | |  |  | 30539.62 |
| Deposit Account (Barclays Premium Business A/c) | | | | | |  | 50345.37 |
| National Savings | |  |  |  | |  | 6935.65 |
|  |  |  |  | **Total** | |  | **87820.64** |
| **Less** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| Reserve @ 50% of Precept | |  |  |  | |  | 21063.13 |
| Loan Reserve for half year | |  |  |  | |  | 8591.04 |
| Outstanding Cheque/s - | |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **Total** | |  | **29654.17** |
| **Ringfenced Funds** | |  |  |  | |  |  |
| Op Watershed | |  |  |  | |  |  |
| NHB Play Area Gates | |  |  |  | |  |  |
| Culvert Maintenance | |  |  |  | |  | 2300.00 |
| Catchment pond improvement fund | | |  |  | |  | 5500.00 |
| Adams bequest (Fencing) | |  |  |  | |  | 1550.00 |
| CIL Payments | |  |  |  | |  | 25000.00 |
|  |  |  |  | **Total** | |  | **34350.00** |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| **Available Funds** | |  |  | **Total** | |  | **18207.06** |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| **Signed** | David J Siggs | | |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  | **Clerk to the Council** | |  |  | |  |  |
|  | **18th January 2019** | |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| **Payments to be considered** | | |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| B Geary (Litter Picking) | |  |  |  | |  | 70.00 |
| Clerks Expenses (Telephone, broadband) | | | |  | |  | 38.00 |
| Arbus Limited ( Play area gates) | | |  |  | |  | 5228.51 |
| SSE (Electric lighting) | |  |  |  | |  | 272.90 |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **Total** | |  | **5609.41** |