**Birdham Parish Council**

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

**held on Monday 18th November 2019**

**at 7pm in Birdham Village Hall**

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

**Apologies**: There were none.

**In attendance**: The Clerk, Cllr Montyn (WSCC), Cllr Barrett (CDC) and seven residents in attendance.

* 1. **Declaration of Interests:**

There were none declared

**62-19 Approve and sign the minutes of the 21st October 2019:**

**It was resolved** to adopt the minutes of the 21st October 2019 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**63-19 Public Question time from residents of Birdham in accordance with Standing Orders 1d -1l:**

A number of residents spoke about traffic problems in and around Birdham Village. One spoke about the problems associated with the ‘one-way’ system from Church Lane to Crooked Lane and its poor directional signage and requested the Council contact WSCC Highways asking for more signs.

Another resident stated that he was in the process of starting a petition requesting that the Parish Council institute a 20mph speed limit throughout the Village. It was pointed out that this was not in the remit of the Parish Council and would have to be dealt with by WSCC Highways.

Cllr Montyn said that it would not be an easy option to introduce a 20mph zone but it would help if a plan was submitted with an application.

The resident said that enforcement would be a problem but he and a number of residents were already being trained under the ‘Speed Watch’ system.

It was **resolved** to authorise the Clerk to write to WSCC Highways explaining the situation and requesting feedback with potential assistance.

A resident asked what the position was with the proposed CPO.

Cllr Hamilton said that it had been left off the agenda of CDC Cabinet as the applicant’s solicitors were not yet in a position to make representation to the District Council.

A resident commented on the future flooding reports which concluded that Birdham would be impacted.

Cllr Glover said that this was recognised by the MPAG who are looking at flooding issues with regard to development on the Manhood Peninsula.

**64-19 Planning matters including appeals, applications and CDC delegated decisions:**

1. Notifications of new Planning Enforcement Notices – **to be noted**.

None received.

1. Notification of Planning Appeals – **to be noted.**

APP/L3815/C/19/3236475 Mr Paul Knappett, Kellys Farm Bell Lane Birdham

1. Updates on Planning Enforcements – **to be noted.**

There were none.

1. Compulsory Purchase Order (H9 Site Crooked Lane).

Deferred for further information coming from the applicants solicitors and CDC.

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

There were none.

#### Delegated Decisions to be noted

BI/19/01396/FUL Houseboat Living The Dream Berth No.1 Chichester Marina Birdham

Replacement houseboat. **PERMIT**

BI/19/02180/TPA 7 The Saltings Birdham

Reduce widths (only) back to previous pruning points on 1 no. Walnut tree (T2 quoted as T1) subject to BI/81/00022/TPO. Crown reduce by 1m (all round) on 2 no. Field Maple trees (T2 quoted as T3 and T1 quoted as T4) subject to BI/97/00033/TPO. **PERMIT**

**65-19 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 fatal accident in Bracklesham Lane was still the subject of investigation.

The potential of excessive speed was rumoured but not proven. In the main, speed limits are being adhered to by 85% of drivers whilst in three years traffic flow has increased by 15%. These figures have been put to CDC with the question that they might like to determine their relevance in the face of increased housing numbers.

The efforts of Chichester Harbour Trust in acquiring land around the harbour has been rewarded with an agreement ‘in principle’ to purchase additional land.

The promised consultation concerning the viability of mobile waste collection service on the Manhood Peninsula has started and will end on the 13th December 2019.

Cllr Richardson said that he had put up some flyers about the consultation process.

Cllr Barrett (CDC) reported that the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020-21 would remain at the same level as that for 2019-21. Averaged over the 5 year period the Financial Strategy and Plan 2020-21 to 2024-25 the annual budget/expenditure will be positive, and in regard to the 2020-21 Council Tax increase for the District the referendum criteria was set at 2% rather than the 3% for the previous two years.

There are no planned changes to the off street parking charges free parking periods currently in place however; it is proposed that the charges periods will be raised by around 3%. Changes for the two years from April 2020 will be put out to consultation.

Cllr Hamilton said that the road repairs to Church Lane between Martins Lane and Court Barn Lane would be carried out shortly.

1. **Other related matters –**

**66-19 Finance and Corporate:**

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

The Clerk tabled the financial report up to and including the 15th November 2019 shown at Annex a. The current balances are as follows;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Balances held at Bank as at 1st April 2019 | £ 98111.43 |
| Designated Funds | £ 21063.13 |
| Ring Fenced Funds | £ 103329.26 |
| Available Funds | £ 39329.26 |
| Creditors | £ 6298.87 |
|  |  |

The Clerk presented the financial statement to Councillors and asked if there were any specific questions which he would be pleased to answer. He pointed out that the Balances had been grown by £8438.24 which are the funds received against the NHB applications. As there were no questions it was **resolved to adopt** the financial statement.

1. **To report the progress on the successful 2019 New Home Bonus projects.**

The Clerk reported that as the funding had now been received the projects could be commenced but, he suggested that the Goal Post Project should not be started until a risk assessment had been completed and a Method of Use Policy had been adopted by the Council. He went to say that as Cllr Richardson had taken the lead on this project he might like to consider carrying out the suggestion.

The Clerk then went on to recommend that the Tractor/Trailer and Swing Project be left until the new Clerk was in post and the ground was drier.

The Clerk went on to suggest that he should contact Jane Reeve concerning the Fence and Gate Project to Triangle Copse.

It was **resolved** to adopt the Clerks suggestions.

**67-19 Correspondence – Not previously circulated: -**

An application for grant funding had been received from 4Sight Vision Support in order that help might be continued for the three residents of Birdham currently receiving support from Outreach Service of the charity.

This would be held over to the end of the Financial Year.

**68-19** **Reports**:

1. **Play Area and Playing Field**. – There was nothing to report.
2. **Village Green and Pond and Condition of Village Ditch/Drain Network.** – The Clerk reported that the Dingles Drain Project under Op Watershed had been completed. The residents who had been affected by the work had asked the Parish Council for funding to install fencing to replace the overgrown brambles etc. that had been removed to facilitate the work. This had not been agreed. It was also pointed out that the farmer who had given access to his land to allow the work had said that he would be planting a number of trees in the area of concern.

The Clerk also reported that two applications had been made to the Op Watershed fund in order that additional work might be carried out in Crooked Lane.

The Chairman reported that he had been informed by the MVHG that within the Triangle Pond considerable improvement to the Flora and Fauna had already been identified with the re-emergence of some species which had not been seen for some time.

1. **Communication Working Group.** – The Chairman reported that both he and the Clerk had been trying to find a company to print the Parish Newsletter at a competitive rate whilst improving the quality of the content layout.
2. **Community Resilience. –** There was nothing to report at this time other than to give notice of a potential exercise in 2020.
3. **MPAG.**- Cllr Glover reported that the meeting that took place with MPAG and our MP turned out to be an interesting discussion even though she is no longer an MP due to the General Election. There will also be a meeting with her on the 29th November at Hunston Village Hall where the main topic will be the environment rather than development numbers.
4. **To receive proposals for the future of the WSCC Mobile Recycling Service.**

The meeting that had taken place to try and resolve this issue was not entirely successful as so many different proposals had been put forward with none receiving any real support. It had been decided that a consultation period between the 14th November and the 13th December would take place to determine if the service was still needed and how it might be paid for.

**69-19 Reports of meetings attended by Councillors; -**

There were none at this time.

**70-19 Items for inclusion on the next agenda:**

The setting of a Budget and Precept for 2020-2021

WSCC Mobile Recycling Service.

**71-19 Date of Next Meeting:**

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

**16th December 2019 at 7pm in Birdham Village Hall**

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was declared closed at 8.15pm.

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

Chairman

**Annex a.**

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|  |  |  | | | **Birdham Parish Council** | | | | | |  |  |
| **Financial Statement as at 15th November 2019** | | | | | | | |  |  |  | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  | | |  |  | £ | |  |
| Bank Accounts as at 1st April 2019 | | | | |  | | |  |  | 98111.43 | |  |
| Receipts to date | |  | | |  | | |  |  | 112416.95 | |  |
| Expenditure to date | |  | | |  | | |  |  | 31665.65 | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  | | | **Balance** |  | **178862.73** | |  |
| **Represented by;** | |  | | |  | | |  |  |  | |  |
| Current Account (Barclays Community A/c) | | | | | | | |  |  | 51359.13 | |  |
| Deposit Account (Barclays Premium Business A/c) | | | | | | | | |  | 120517.65 | |  |
| National Savings | | | |  | |  | |  |  | 6985.95 | |  |
|  |  | | |  | |  | | **Total** |  | **178862.73** | |  |
| **Less** |  | | |  | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| Reserve @ 50% of Precept | | | |  | |  | |  |  | 21063.13 | |  |
| Loan Reserve for half year | | | |  | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| Outstanding Cheque/s - | | | |  | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
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|  |  | | |  | |  | | **Total** |  | **21063.13** | |  |
| **Ringfenced Funds** | | | |  | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| Op Watershed | | | |  | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| Culvert Maintenance | | | |  | |  | |  |  | 2300.00 | |  |
| Catchment pond improvement fund | | | | | |  | |  |  | 1900.00 | |  |
| Adams bequest (Fencing) | | |  | | |  | |  |  | 1550.00 | |  |
| CIL Payments | | |  | | |  | |  |  | 68873.94 | |  |
|  |  | |  | | |  | | **Total** |  | **74623.94** | |  |
|  |  | |  | | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Available Funds** | | |  | | |  | | **Total** |  | **48660.68** | |  |
|  |  | |  | | |  | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Signed** | David J Siggs | | | | | | |  |  |  | |  |
|  | **Clerk to the Council** | | | |  | | |  |  |  | |  |
|  | **15th November 2019** | | | |  | | |  |  |  | |  |
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| **Payments to be considered** | | | | |  | | |  |  |  | |  |
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| B Geary (Litter Picking) | |  | | |  | | |  |  | 70.00 | |  |
| Clerks Expenses (Telephone, broadband) | | | | | | | |  |  | 41.00 | |  |
| M H Kennedy & Son (Grass Mowing) | | | | | | |  |  |  | 309.60 | |  |
| A Dover (Grass Mowing & Bus Shelter clearance) | | | | | | | | |  | 80.00 | |  |
| Landbuild (Dingles ditch - Op Watershed) | | | | | | | |  |  | 34014.38 | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  | | | **Total** |  | **34514.98** | |  |
|  |  |  | | |  | | |  |  |  | |  |