



Minutes of the ELECTORS' MEETING
Wednesday 8th May 2024 at Birdham Village Hall

Present: Cllr Tim Firmston, Cllr Catherine Salamons, Cllr Elizabeth Hamilton, Cllr Susan Taylor and Cllr Gordon Churchill

CDC Iain Ballantyne

3 members of the public

Apologies received from Cllr. Pieter Montyn

The Chairman, Timothy Firmston, opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and asking if they had any observations or questions. There were no questions.

The Chairman outlined some current activities of the Parish Council.

- the Council is looking into the installation of a second all-weather footpath from the corner of Farne Close down to the edge of the bridge as the first path has proven very popular. There is a narrow window weather-wise in which this could be implemented.
- the Parish Council is having a teen shelter installed which will be located in the corner of the field next to the playground. The money has been allocated by CDC and the council is just waiting for the final decision.
- the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Birdham is underway with the collection of data from the Speed indicator devices. There is a larger proportion of people not sticking to the speed limit on Sidlesham Lane. The radar gun is less successful as people slow down when they see it. A petition is needed from Birdham residents showing that they support the slower traffic initiative.
- Cllr Firmston had a meeting with two other parishes Apuldram and Donnington to discuss a joint initiative to slow traffic from the A27 Stockbridge roundabout to the petrol station at Birdham. They are looking

at the speed limits in particular the 30 – 40 -50 limit on the Crouchers bend which has become very dangerous. A good start has been made and each parish has their specific problems and those that are more generic.

Cllr Salamons gave an update on the Birdham Community Orchard project – Cllrs Salamons and Hamilton together with Mr Mark Hobson have been liaising with Michael Pierce of CDC (officer for tree planting). They had a meeting last week and he had some useful input on the layout and what can and cannot be done in order to qualify for a grant. The objective is to build a tree canopy. There can be no cutting back of the current oak trees. Mr Hobson had drawn up a rough idea of where to start. Water and access need to be thought about. The grant expires early in 2025 so the application would have to be made now and trees planted for the Autumn.

The community needs to be involved and a proposal put together. A further footpath would be required from Longmeadow to the site.

End of reports.

Cllr Firmston asked the meeting if they would like a repeat of the Community Drop-In that was held last autumn. It was agreed that a year was too soon and not long enough to implement the requests made at last autumn's meeting. It was agreed that the Community drop-in should be every two years, but that a meeting for residents could be held in the autumn perhaps with a speaker.

The meeting closed at 6.55pm