

**Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2019
at the Birbury, Birdingbury**

Present: Cllr Mrs Davy, Cllrs Preston, French and Cutts

In attendance: Jackie Chapman (Clerk)

1. Welcome.

Cllr French opened the meeting at 19:30 hrs and welcomed those present.

2. To accept apologies for absence

Cllr Morton – due to work commitments, Cllr Mrs Crane

3. Declaration of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Representations from the public

No public were present.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 18th June 2019 were agreed as a true and complete record.

6. Reports from County and Borough Councillors

District Cllr Crane was not present.

County Cllr Roberts was not present.

7. Reports from Councillors

Cllr French advised he had been contacted by a resident of the village regarding the underside of the old railway bridge; she had found bricks on the ground. This matter has been reported to Warwickshire County Council. The Clerk was asked to report this to Sustrans.

ACTION – Clerk to report the falling masonry to Sustrans

8. Planning Applications

8.1 The following planning applications have been received.

Application No	Address	Details	BPC Comments
19/0772	Land adjacent to Stockton Road	For: Removal/variation of conditions 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 of approval R18/1486 (Erection of one new dwelling) dated 23rd August 2018.	

This planning application was discussed, the Clerk advised the Parish Council having spoken to RBC Planning Department in the scheme of things the variations being requested are relatively minor and there is little which can be objected about. The Clerk was asked to submit a comment reflecting the Parish Council's objection to the original planning application and if any variation to planning is granted the changes improve the overall appearance of the property.

The Parish Councillors also discussed planning application 19/0925 Davenport Farm, Long Itchington Road, Birdingbury. This is a new planning application following the demolition of the original barn. The Clerk has confirmed with the RBC Planning Department that this application will be treated as a new application as opposed to a variation of the original planning application which was to convert a disused barn into residential accommodation. The Clerk was asked to submit objections to this planning application on the following grounds;

- The application goes completely against the principles of RBC’s Local Plan/Planning Policy
- There is no established need for this building.
- This development will not benefit the community socially or economically.
- The proposed development is outside the village boundary. The Local Plan states development in rural villages will be permitted within existing boundaries only
- The development will be isolated and this is contrary to para 55 of the NPPF which states specifically that “local planning authorities should avoid new isolated homes in the countryside”.
- A new building in this location is inappropriate and does not enhance the area or village.
- According to the Local Plan this development will be classed as being built in a countryside location as it is not defined by a settlement boundary and are therefore generally unsuitable for development. The Local Plan states “Development in these types of locations will be resisted”.
- The application runs contrary to the Local Plan which does not identify Birdingbury as a Main Rural Settlement. “Main Rural Settlements have a sufficient level of services or access to services to allow for development within the existing settlement boundaries”. Birdingbury is categorised within the Local Plan as a Rural Village. “Rural Villages will not play a role in helping to deliver Rugby Borough’s strategic growth...the level of services is more limited...there will be a greater restriction limiting new development to within existing settlement boundaries”. Birdingbury has no local services or facilities. There is therefore still no requirement for Birdingbury to supply housing to meet RBC’s housing needs.

8.2 The following planning decision has been received.

Application No	Address	Decision
19/0721	Masters Barn, Masters Yard, Birdingbury	REFUSED

8.3 Appeals – none

8.4 Birdingbury Parish Council Planning Protocol

The following amendments were requested:

Para 2.2 First line, change Sites to Site.

Para 2.2 Fifth line remove the first “the” so it reads “applicant was present and whether the site”.

Para 2.6 remove completely.

Protocol to come back to the next meeting for adoption.

9. Financial Issues

9.1 Payment made since last meeting

Payee	Amount £
Rugby Borough Council – contribution to election costs	156.61

9.2 Approval of cheques

Payee	Amount £
Clerks fee July 2019 including mileage	
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement for signed for postage charge – members declaration of interest	2.26
Frank Mann Farmers – grass cutting June (11 and 26)	348.00
Birbury – Room Hire charge 15.01.19, 26.02.19, 19.03.19, 16.04.19, 30.04.19, 14.05.19 and 18.06.19	35.00
HMRC April 2019 – June 2019	105.48
Clerks fee Aug 2019 – post-dated as no meeting in August	

It was proposed by Cllr French, seconded by Cllr Cutts and **RESOLVED** the payments be made.

9.3 Bank Balance Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation was signed by Cllr French as being correct.

9.4 Budget Report as at 28.06.19

Noted

9.5 Renewal of Annual Insurance Policy

Insurer	Annual Premium	3 year set premium
Zurich (current provider)	£560.66	
Business Services at CAS Ltd	£302.40	£287.28

It was proposed by Cllr Preston, seconded by Cllr French and **RESOLVED** to accept the 3 year Insurance Policy offered by Business Services at CAS LTD.

10. Highways

Nothing to report.

11. Recreation Ground

No action required.

12. Defibrillator

12.1 West Midlands Ambulance Service – The Circuit. The National Defibrillator Network

The Clerk advised WMAS are approaching defibrillator owners asking them to register their defibrillators with them. WMAS are doing this of their own accord and are not working with the Heartbeat Charity who supplied Birdingbury's Defibrillator. Heartbeat are contracted to provide cover for the defibrillator for the next five years, there is no need or purpose to register Birdingbury's defibrillator with WMAS.

13. Birdingbury Village Club

Cllr French advised Cllrs an informal meeting had taken place between the Chair of Birdingbury Club, the Chair of the Birbury Management Committee and Cllr French, Chair of Birdingbury Parish Council. Councillor Mrs Davey advised the Birdingbury Management Committee, at a recent meeting agreed in principle to the proposal subject to safeguards and conditions to be agreed. In summary the following initial safeguards and conditions were discussed for incorporation into the proposed co-operative's founding document.

- the co-operative needs to serve two different groups of stakeholders, i) its members and ii) the inhabitants of the Parish, and this difference needs to be recognised
- the community-led nature of the new organisation should be reflected in village representation on the co-operative's committee
- the co-operative should have Parish-specific obligations that set out the services that it will provide to the Parish and its inhabitants
- the co-operative should report on their delivery against these obligations (e.g. at the Annual Village Meeting)
- the co-operative should consider some form of 'user group' with representatives of regular village users, i.e. PC, PCC and other village bodies.

It was also assumed the current lease remains in place for a period. If it is to be released at some point, the Council will need an equivalent time-bound commitment that guarantees access or re-instatement should the co-operative be wound up or dispose of the property.

The Council also understand the Birdingbury Management Committee will have other issues to consider in relation to these changes and to agree with the Charities Commission, but these can be progressed in parallel.

14. Rugby Borough Council – Consultation Special Expenses Review 2019

The Clerk will respond to this.

15. Allotment Shed

Cllr Morton is due to meet with an allotment representative on Saturday 21st July 2019.

16. Section 137 Grant Policy

The Clerk was asked to change town to village”

It was proposed by Cllr French, seconded by Cllr Mrs Davy and
RESOLVED the Section 137 Grant Policy be approved.

17. Newcomers to the Village

17.1 The Clerk to check all phone numbers cited in the Welcome Booklet are correct

17.2 There are newcomers in Marton Road.

18. Correspondence received and action required

Noted

19. Items for the next Agenda

None

20. Date of next meeting 17th September 2019

Cllr Cutts offered his apologies for the meeting due to take place on Tuesday 17th September 2019.