

**Draft Minutes for the Meeting of Birdingbury Parish Council**  
**21<sup>st</sup> May 2013, held at The Birbury, Birdingbury**

**Present**

Councillors: D Turner (Chair), G Davy, T Healey, Borough Councillor Hazelton and County Councillor Roberts.

**In Attendance**

Joanna Bloomfield (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence.**

Councillor Turner opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Councillors Tipton and Morton had sent their apologies.

2. **To accept apologies for absence.**

It was agreed to accept the apologies for absence from Councillors Tipton and Morton.

3. **Declarations of interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Representations from the public.**

There were no representations from the public.

5. **Report from Borough Councillor Hazelton.**

- Borough Councillor Hazelton reported that he had not been re-elected at County level but would still be representing Birdingbury at Borough level.
- He was dismayed to hear that the Speed Aware work was not yet completed. Councillor Turner explained that the Council had written to Graeme Fitton but had received a very non-committal reply. Borough Councillor Hazelton agreed that going straight to the new portfolio holder for Highways, when known, with the email trail including his own letter, was the best course of action.
- The culvert which was damaged during the winter was now being attended to. It proved to be much more dangerous than was first thought and was being rebuilt.
- Flood Warden meeting coming up, but not a major item for Birdingbury.

**Report from County Councillor Roberts.**

- Flood Warden meeting now cancelled - £500,000 funding was coming to the County and future spending depended on how much was coming on to the Borough.
- The new portfolio holder for Highways is Peter Butlin. Councillor Roberts asked to be copied into the email exchange.
- County Councillor Roberts explained that he was looking forward to good communications with local parishes. As an independent, he has no political masters and hopes to use Parish Councils, including Dunchurch Panel, as focus groups. He advocates separate meetings for smaller parishes who can get lost between Stretton and Dunchurch. Wants meetings with Parishes to be a platform to voice their problems, rather than acting as a notice board.
- Councillors asked to be kept informed on the new changes to Planning. A follow-up meeting had been promised but not yet arranged.
- Councillors described the building of the new Bus Shelter, a community project

with the village coming together to raise the money and construct the shelter, involving the children in the design. They extended an invitation to attend the Grand Opening on the 1<sup>st</sup> June.

- Councillor Roberts reported that he had been elected to the Regulatory Committee.

#### Action

**Clerk** to write to Peter Butlin, portfolio holder for Highways, explaining situation and forwarding email trail.

#### 6. **Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013 were unanimously approved and signed as a true record.

#### 7. **The Parish Plan.**

Following the discussion at the Village Meeting, Councillors agreed that the feeling of the meeting had been hard to read, but at least one resident had voiced an agreement to a new Housing Needs Survey. Councillors agreed that the fluidness of the situation with regard to Governments intentions makes it more necessary to have the villager's views on record. The Clerk was asked to contact RBC requesting advice on how to proceed.

#### Action

**Clerk** to contact RBC regarding new Housing Needs Survey

#### 8. **The Archive Store.**

The Archive Store is currently being filled up and contents listed by Leslie Turner, as the History Group archivist. It was agreed that the archive store should be labelled to deter opportunist burglars from jemmying it open. Leslie Turner agreed to do this as a temporary measure, out of sight from the lower floor, and would arrange a more permanent label in due course. The PCC had yet to approve the protocol, having run out of time at their last meeting.

#### 9. **The Recreation Field.**

The Clerk had contacted Morrall Play, who will advise on an inspection date some time towards the end of May/beginning of June. It was agreed that Councillor Turner and at least one Councillor other should attend during the inspection.

#### 10. **Bus Shelter.**

The new bus shelter is now almost complete, David Harrison having installed a beautifully crafted seat. The few remaining items, including the guttering and lead plumbing would be done by Saturday week in time for the Grand Opening. This would take place at 12.00 noon during Swap Shop. The Clerk was asked to arrange for timetables. Councillors discussed the budget and decided that it would stretch to a new seat for the area just outside the shelter. Councillors Turner and Davy agreed to investigate and, if possible, order for delivery in time for the opening. Councillors discussed the tremendous work put into replacing the bus shelter, particularly the generous donation of time and effort of a number of individuals.

#### Action

**Clerk** to contact bus companies and arrange for timetables.

11. **Reports from Councillors.**

Councillor Turner: reported that 8 or 9 people had turned up for the litter pick. A shocking amount of rubbish was collected on Long Itchington Road – obvious signs of drinking, although most of the rubbish seemed to be fast food wrappers thrown out of cars. A report would appear in BirdSong.

12. **Correspondence requiring action** (and not elsewhere on the agenda).

There was no correspondence requiring action.

13. **Financial Issues**

13.1 The following cheques were approved for signing:

- Clerk's fee and expenses, April 000532 - £167.85
- MFM Grass Cutting, 000533 - £268.00
- Birbury Rent, 000534 - £50.00
- David Harrison, 000535 - £1,232.49
- A.G. Interiors, 000536 - £550.00

13.2 The financial statement was circulated

13.2 It was agreed that the Clerk should increase the insurance to cover the completed bus shelter and new seat.

Action

**Clerk** to contact insurance company and increase cover.

14. **Planning Issues.**

There were no planning issues.

15. **Highways.**

The Highways issue had been covered earlier in the meeting.

16. **Newcomers to the village.**

Councillor Healey had been unable to make contact with a new resident. As he was to be away for a few days, Councillor Turner agreed to try.

17. **Business considered urgent by the Chair** (and not elsewhere on the Agenda).

There was no business considered urgent by the Chair.

18. **Date of next meeting.**

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7.30pm at the Birbury.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Signed ..... (Chair)

Date .....