

BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

80 Hewell Road, Birmingham, B45 8NF

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Barnt Green Baptist Church lounge, B45 8LU on Monday 17th September 2018 at 7.00pm

Barnt Green Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence, June 2015

Members present: Cllrs R Cholmondeley (Chairman), C Hotham (vice-chairman), R Briggs, J Jagger, J Nilsson, P Perry, H Rone-Clarke.

In attendance: Two members of the public
Mick Simpson, We Don't Buy Crime
A representative of The Village
Executive Officer, Gill Lungley

18/128 APOLOGIES

Apologies received and noted from Cllr S Whitehand

18/129 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the need to keep the Members' Register of Interests up to date and, in keeping with the Members' Code of Conduct, were asked to declare either any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) where relevant.

- Cllr Hotham has a standing declaration in his role as a member of the district council's planning committee; any comments made at parish council meetings on planning matters are made prior to possession of the full facts and would not amount to pre-determination.

18/130 CONSIDERATION OF DISPENSATION REQUESTS

No dispensation requests had been submitted in advance of this meeting.

18/131 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING to hear from:

a) Mick Simpson, Project Manager, We Don't Buy Crime initiative

West Mercia Police, supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner, seek to proactively reduce the likelihood of residents falling victim to burglaries and theft of property. To do this they promote the use of SmartWater (other products are available, but SmartWater is the product available to WMP). Mick Simpson provided details of the product, how and where it is used and its cost.

b) Members of the public

Pam and Alfred Eves (Troop Aid) were invited to talk about their idea to commemorate the centenary of WWI Armistice by creating a memory board to be added to by the community. Starting with a visit to the school and engaging the pupils, their parents and grandparents before moving to a specific venue at a time and place to be agreed for wider community participation.

c) Supporting Organisations:

Simon Richards, Footpath Officer had sent apologies.

d) Worcs County Councillor: Peter McDonald, Beacon division had sent apologies.

e) Bromsgrove District Councillor: Charles Hotham, Barnt Green & Hopwood ward:

- The District Council's Issues and Options 8-week consultation will concentrate on the methodology to be used in the Green Belt review and is not an opportunity to identify sites for future development.

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- The PiP (Planning in Principle) is a newly introduced 2-stage mechanism for planning applications to be considered for any small housing developments of up to 9 houses. The first stage is for the planning authority to provide, or not, an 'in principle' permission; the second (costlier) stage is for the developer to provide technical details of the application. Parish Councils are consulted but have a shorter period (17 days) in which to respond.
- Coun Hotham has submitted a motion to the next meeting of the District Council to consider adopting unitary status, to be in the form of either a county-wide unitary authority, or two Worcestershire unitary authorities (a north and south).

18/132 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of meeting held 28/08/2018, agreed a true record, were signed by the Chairman.

18/133 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr R Cholmondeley

- a) The annual community walk will take place on 22nd September and the Chairman hopes for good weather and that it will go well.
- b) Pleased to see the rail public right of way footbridge installation work has started; completion of work is expected by Jan/Feb 2019.

18/134 UPDATES AND DECISIONS taken by the Executive Officer (EO) since last meeting

- a) Barnt Green station Letter sent to West Midlands Trains asking for improved signage regarding timetable screens at platform 1 and better access to a ticket machine.
- b) Network Rail Public Right of Way footbridge installation work has started; access road is being installed off Bittell Farm Road.
- c) Pollinator support The site is to be prepared; an explanatory letter will be sent to nearby residents. Mrs Banner has requested the installation of an interpretation board, subject to BGPC approval of costs.
- d) Office The premises have been inspected by the landlord's Fire Safety Officer. The overall summary for the three suites is 'tolerable'. The dry-powder type of fire extinguisher in the office is not suitable for an enclosed space and will be removed (it is suitable for use at outdoor events).
- e) Fun Run Barnt Green Chuggers had provided a summary of this year's event. Detail of whether to accept part of the funding raised will be discussed at the next parish council meeting.
- f) Parliamentary constituency boundaries The boundaries suggested during the consultation are to be recommended to Parliament for adoption. If adopted then Barnt Green will become part of the Redditch constituency.
- g) List of visitors to the parish council office and correspondence received was available to view.
- h) Reports to WCC
 - Broken manhole cover, pavement Kendal End Road (outside parish): WCC have referred to Severn Trent Water for attention.
 - With regard to overhanging hedges it was believed that the district council has delegated powers to deal with these when causing an obstruction.
- i) Items actioned and awaiting response
 - Barnt Green cricket club are yet to provide pictures of benefit of grant funding. Despite promise to provide the information the Club has provided nothing to date.
 - Christmas tree removal on corner Hewell Road/Sandhills Road; the Lengthsman is to action this.
 - Wayleave at Millennium Park.

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- i) Items carried forward
- Community bus
 - Blackwell Road litter bin
 - Upper Bittell reservoir valve works (record for archive)
 - Commuters' car park

18/135 FINANCE REPORT

- i) *Current financial position* – bank reconciliation to 31/08/2018 was noted:

Bank Reconciliation to 31/08/2018			
Cash book		Bank Statements	
Cash in hand at 01/04/2018	76,693.45	Current account	1,214.65
Add receipts to 31/08/2018	36,336.45	Deposit account	28,583.24
Less payments to 31/08/2018	-28,330.88	Building society	54,801.13
	0	Pocket card	200.00
	0	Less u/p payments	0
	84,699.02		84,799.02

The imbalance of £100 (due to a recording error) will be corrected in next month's accounts. See page 212 for the record of receipts and payments for the month to date.

- ii) **Expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer:** None

- iii) **To receive and note the external auditor's report following the annual audit**

The external auditor, PKF Littlejohn, has provided an unqualified opinion which has been published on the parish council's website and notice board:

"On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met."

- iv) **To consider providing a grant to Citizens Advice Bromsgrove & Redditch**

- **AGREED**

A grant of £200 would be provided to Citizens Advice Bromsgrove & Redditch.

18/136 COMMITTEE, WORKING PARTY and MEMBERS' REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

- a) Bromsgrove Area Worcs County Association of Local Councils meeting 12/09/2018. Presentations had been given by Mike Dunphy for Bromsgrove District Council's Local Plan, Issue and Options Consultation; Sarah Knight for Clinical Commissioning Group Neighbourhood Teams.
- b) Village Team Meeting held 13/09/2018. The current retail economic situation was discussed; there are real concerns about the suggestion the mains water pipe is to be replaced which may involve road closures for a considerable period of time. If this is to occur the Council will contact WCC Highways and Commercial officers. Plans for the Christmas lights-on event and possibilities for 2019 summer event were also discussed.
- c) WWI Armistice Centenary Working Party
- Flagpole.
- **AGREED**
- The preferred supplier is Flagpole Express who would be asked to visit site as soon as possible to ensure suitability.

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 LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
FOUNDATION

- ii. Memory Board
 - **AGREED**
The suggestion to create a community memory board was not supported.
- iii. Other suggestions
 - Plant a Worcester Black Pear tree.
 - Install a commemorative bench in the playing field.
 - Install a tree trunk seat in the playing field.
 - Install a drinking fountain in Millennium Park.

18/137 EVENTS

a) Preparations for the Annual Community Walk 22/09/2018

Plans were in hand for this event involving 3 different walks of 8 miles, 5 miles and 3 miles and refreshments and live music afterwards in Millennium Park.

b) Dates of other 2018 events: Christmas Lights-on 01/12 and Wassail Walk 27/12.

18/138 ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY WELLBEING

a) AgeUK questionnaire

- **AGREED**

To issue a questionnaire to all parish houses, with the six questions advised by AgeUK to all residents at the same time as a questionnaire relating to SmartWater, if agreed at the council's next meeting on 15/10/2018.

b) Budget delegation of up to £600 to Environment Committee to decide on replacement bollards in Hewell Road

- **AGREED**

To delegate decision-making and funding of up to £600 to the next meeting of the Environment Committee regarding replacement bollards in Hewell Rd.

c) Newsletter

The most recent Bulletin had been distributed; items were required for the parish council's next contribution to The Village for the November issue.

18/139 PLANNING

a) Response to consultation:

18/01120 / log no 101	32 Fiery Hill Road B45 8LG
Demolition of flat roof garage, new side two storey extension front gable raised and replacement rear first storey extension and ground floor orangery which would be permitted development.	
PC Comment: The Parish Council would approve this application.	

b) Format of consultation with Bromsgrove District Council on their 8-week District Plan Review Issues and Options Consultation

- **AGREED**

To request a Saturday morning exhibition at a venue in Barnt Green and to ask about what is involved (format, timings etc) in the proposed workshops.

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18/140 ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE AND CONSULTATIONS

a) Associate school governor

It was noted that Cllr J Nilsson would represent Barnt Green Parish Council on the St Andrews Church of England Barnt Green First School governing body.

18/141 FUTURE MEETINGS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Environment Committee meeting 20/09/2018, 2pm
- b) Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting 08/10/2018, 10am

18/142 Date and Venue of Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 15th October 2018, 7pm: Barnt Green Baptist Church.

This meeting ended at 21:10hrs

Signed: Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council

Date 15th October 2018

Minute no. 18/135 (1)

Extract from parish council spreadsheet to show receipts and payments, part September 2018.

		subtotal for the month	4,869.12	5,320.07	305.59	5,014.48
		total for year to date	36,336.45	28,330.88	1,829.24	26,501.64
Sep-18	Description	Receipts	Payments Gross	Payments VAT	Payments Net	
s/o	v087	August retainer re footpath lighting	-	364.00	44.00	320.00
s/o	v087	August retainer re footpath lighting		264.00	44.00	220.00
BACS	v089	Hire of meeting venue		90.00	-	90.00
BACS	v090	Publicity for community walk		219.00	29.00	190.00
s/o	v091	Grounds Maintenance at playing field	-	278.89	46.48	232.41
BACS	v092	Annual Audit		360.00	60.00	300.00
BACS	v093	Newsletter printing		250.00	-	250.00
d/d	v094a	Dusk to dawn footpath lighting energy		245.05	40.84	204.21
d/d	v094b	Continuous footpath lighting energy		12.88	0.61	12.27
BACS	v095	Outdoor parish caretaker, August 2018		416.66	-	416.66
d/d	v096	Office mobile phone	-	5.00	0.83	4.17
BACS	v097a	Millennium Park grass cut, August 2018	-	114.00	-	114.00
BACS	v097b	High street verges cut, August 2018	-	56.00	-	56.00
d/d	v098	Staff pensions		168.14	-	168.14
s/o	v099	Staff salaries		1,098.53	-	1,098.53
d/d	v100	Office landline and broadband		35.19	5.86	29.33
d/d	v101	Quarterly bank charges		18.00	-	18.00
				-	-	-
				-	-	-
		subtotal for month	-	3,267.34	183.62	3,083.72
		total for year to date	36,336.45	31,598.22	2,012.86	29,585.36