

Belmont Rural Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council, held on Thursday 5th March 2015 At Northolme Community Centre, Northolme Road, Belmont

Present: Mr. A. Myatt
Mr. A. Bridges
Mr. D. Cook
Mr. R. Loft
Ms. D. Parish
Mr. M. Schoffer

In attendance: Mrs. E. Kelso Clerk
1 member of the public

031/15 **Apologies, Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensation**

Apologies were noted from Councillor Hubbard and Councillor Edwards

The following declarations of interest were received:

Name	Nature of Interest	Agenda item/Minute ref.
Mr. A. Myatt	Non Disclosable pecuniary interest as home borders land under discussion	Agenda item 10
Ms. D. Parish	Non Disclosable pecuniary interest as a director/trustee of Northolme Community Centre Association	Agenda item 16
Mr. A. Bridges	Non Disclosable pecuniary interest as a director of Northolme Community Centre Association Disclosable pecuniary interest as payment being made to family member	Agenda item 16 Agenda item 7(b)

There were no further declarations of interest.

There were no requests for dispensation.

031/15 Public participation

During this period of public participation no items were raised by members of the public present.

032/15 Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February had been provided to Members. It was agreed that the Chairman be authorised to sign the Minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

033/15 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report, as provided to Members, was noted

034/15 West Mercia Police/Parish Watch

West Mercia police were not in attendance at the meeting . It was noted that a burglary had taken place in Dorchester Way over the previous weekend whilst residents were out of the house. The property was known to have suffered a previous burglary some years ago.

035/15 Correspondence

Since the last meeting, the following item of correspondence, other than items dealt with elsewhere on the agenda, had been received:

- Balfour Beatty will be holding two Parish Briefings on Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th March at their Thorn office. Members wishing to attend either briefing should notify the Clerk.
- The clerk has received a complaint from a resident in Rowan Tree Close that the waste contractor vehicles are crossing a grassed area damaging the erge and leaving mud on the road. The matter has been passed to Councillor Edwards as the closest parish councillor for action.

036/15 Financial Matters**(a) Report from the Finance Working Party**

Members the report from the Finance Working Party meeting held on 26th February.

(b) Payments

Authorisation was given to make the following payments :

Petty Cash Reimbursement	£100.96
Mrs. K. Bridges Delivery of newsletter and flyer	£120.00

ABC Print	
Printing newsletter and flyers	£378.00
SLCC-CiLCA	
Registration fee for CiLCA	£250.00
HALC	
Purchase of reference book	£56.25

Having declared an interest, Councillor Bridges and Councillor Parish abstained from voting.

(c) Account balances

Current account:	£500.00
Deposit account:	£87,460.24
Petty cash:	£24.04

(d) Other Financial Matters

Members noted that following advice from Herefordshire Council with regard to the Precept, the Band D equivalent council tax payment in respect of the parish element for 2015-2016 will be £34.70 (£34.97 for 2014-2015).

037/15 Planning Matters

(a) Applications

There were no planning applications for consideration since the last meeting, and no notifications of development under permitted development rights.

Members noted enforcement action in connection with the building of a wall in Whitefriars Road which impacts on visibility for vehicles entering the road from Priory View.

(b) Update on Neighbourhood Development Plan

- It was noted that the Section 14 consultation is currently in progress and scheduled to end at midnight on 23rd March.
- As noted in the Finance Working Party report, a final report has been submitted to Localities in connection with the grant which ended on 31st December 2014 with total expenditure of £5409.50 claimed against an agreed grant of £5420.00. The remaining payment of £531.50 awaiting confirmation and receipt.
- A consultation event will take place at the same time as the Information evening on 12th March, and
- An opportunity for further funding is now available for this financial year. The Clerk will discuss this with Kirkwells before putting together an application.

038/15 Ward Councillors Reports

Members noted a written report from Councillor Edwards and a verbal report from Councillor Bridges.

039/15 Jubilee Field Management Plan Working Party

Members noted an update on progress from Councillor Bridges and a revised Management Plan which has been updated and is now to be presented to Balfour Beatty for consideration and their comments.

040/15 To consider request for additional parking in Green Ash Close

Members considered a request from a resident in Green Ash Close for the provision of additional car parking which would result in a small area of public open space being lost. It was noted that Balfour Beatty did not support this application. After some discussion it was agreed that as a matter of principle this parish council did not support the application. The Clerk was instructed to notify Balfour Beatty accordingly.

041/15 To consider renewing subscription to Herefordshire Association of Local Councils

Members expressed concern at the increase in affiliation fee and per elector charge for Herefordshire Association of Local Councils but noted that the fee had been agreed by members at the last HALC AGM. It was agreed that HALC membership would be beneficial to the parish council particularly in an election year when new councillors would benefit from the training provided by HALC and to support the Clerk's CiLCA training. It was agreed to renew the membership for 2015-2016 but to review this in a year.

042/15 Elections to be held in May 2015

The Clerk briefed members on the timetable for the elections and in particular the requirement for nomination packs to be hand delivered to the Elections Office so they can be checked. An update on arrangements for the Information Evening for prospective candidates was also provided and members reminded that this would take place on March 12th.

043/15 Amendment to the date of the May meetings

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting date be changed to 21st May to allow sufficient time for notices to be given to any new Parish Councillors following the election on 7th May.

It was further agreed to hold an informal in-house training event on 14th May at Northolme Community Centre for new and returning Parish Councillors to provide a background briefing for any new Members.

044/15 Payment for home office use

It was agreed that the payment to the Clerk for expenses to cover the use of her home as the office for the Parish Council be increased to £200.00 per annum with immediate effect, in accordance with revised Inland Revenue allowances.

045/15 Funding application from Herefordshire Wildlife Trust to fund Wildplay sessions in the Parish

Members reviewed an application from Herefordshire Wildlife Trust for a grant of £500.00 towards the cost of running four “Wildplay” sessions within the Parish during the summer school holidays. It was agreed to offer the grant on the following terms and conditions:

- The funding is to be used solely for the purpose set out in the application dated 24th February and in particular can only be used for sessions held within the Parish of Belmont Rural,
- All activities funded must be accessible to children residing within the Parish and marketed within the Parish. This does not preclude residents from other parishes attending sessions
- Any marketing or similar material should acknowledge the support of Belmont Rural Parish Council,
- In the event that sessions do not take place as planned, Belmont Rural Parish Council reserves the right to request repayment of part or all of the funding provided pro rata to the number of sessions delivered, and
- No later than three months from delivery of the last session, the applicant provide a report to the Parish Council to include the following information:
 - The number of children attending each session and the postcodes of those attending
 - At least one example of any marketing or promotional material produced
 - A brief summary of how the grant monies have been spent.

Having declared an interest, Councillor Bridges and Councillor Parish abstained from voting on this matter.

046/15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th April at Belmont Community Centre, Eastholme Avenue, Belmont, commencing at 7pm.