

BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 September 2012 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms, The Street, Birdbrook, Essex

PRESENT: Mr R Bolton (Chairman) Mr D Hoy
 Mrs H Hodge Mr L Carter
 Mr S Rhenius Mrs A Beetson

OFFICERS: Mrs D Hilliard, Parish Clerk

12/58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr T R Walker

12/59 OTHER ABSENCES

None.

12/60 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 JULY 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed. All in favour.

12/61 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Robert Bolton reported that should any members need to discuss anything to do with New England site he would declare a personal and prejudicial interest, vacate the Chair and leave the room whilst the item was discussed.

12/62 COMMUNICATION AND REPORT OF THE CLERK

Speed strips for A1017 – The Clerk will proceed with the form and liaise with Derek Hoye where required.

Fenland Leisure playground inspection – It was agreed the Clerk will request Fenland Leisure to carry out the annual playingfield inspection.

Salt Bag Scheme – It was agreed not to take part in the scheme.

Essex Youth Bus visit – The Clerk will contact the scheme to see how well supported the visit was and report back.

12/63 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT

Clare Wind Farm - noted
Essex Highways Order - noted
EALC County updates - noted
ECC Sustainable Drainage - noted
EALC AGM - noted
Witham Puppet Festival - noted

ECC State of Comm Involvement - noted
Broadband - Steve Rhenius will look into and report back

12/64 MEMBERS REPORTS

(a) **Pond** – Derek Hoye reported that he had unsuccessfully tried to float the duckhouse and would try again shortly. It was agreed to reimburse Derek for some expenses incurred making the duckhouse. Some complaints had been received over algae in the pond.

(b) **Parks** – Ann Beetson reported that the parks appear in good order.

(c) **Highways** – Derek Hoye reported that the A1017 had been resurfaced some ¾ weeks previously but the white lines have not yet been repainted. The Clerk will report this. Fell Road is subsiding at the edges. The Clerk will report. It was agreed that the contact point for reporting potholes would be put in the Birdbrook News.

12/65 PARISH PLAN

Leigh Carter reported that the RCCE has allocated Birdbrook a grant of £1500 towards the costs of producing the parish plan. They are just awaiting confirmation and receipt of this amount. The Parish Plan committee have put together 2 questionnaires which they would like the Parish Council to review. One is for adults and the other is for youths (11-17). Comments will be required by 14 September. The questionnaires will then be piloted by issuing them to members of the public outside of Birdbrook. If the feedback is positive then it will be issued. Leigh Carter asked whether the Parish Council are happy for things to proceed even though funding has not yet been received.

12/66 REGISTER OF INTERESTS

The Clerk issued the new forms with a request that they be completed and returned as soon as possible.

12/67 PLANNING

Application No: 12/01188/FUL – Not all parish councillors had yet seen the application and would look online and report any necessary comments. The only other comment was the safety of the site access with regard to increased traffic movement.

12/68 FINANCE

The financial report was agreed. Leigh Carter asked why there was no mention of the transfer of funds to reserves as discussed at the last meeting. The Clerk replied that she had gone to the bank to transfer funds but had been told authorised signatories were required. This will now be held over in case funds are needed to support the parish plan until the grant is received (see item 12/65 above)

12/69 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

12/70 TIME, DAY AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 1 November 2012 at 7.30pm.
There being no other matters to discuss the meeting closed at 8.15pm.