

BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 May 2012 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms, The Street, Birdbrook, Essex

PRESENT: Mr T R Walker Mr D Hoy
 Mr R Bolton Mr L Carter
 Mr S Rhenius Mrs A Beetson

Officers – Mrs D Hilliard, Clerk
Members of public – 8
Essex County Councillor – Cllr D Finch (arrived approx 8.15pm)

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC

The members of public had attended regarding the licence application made by the landlord of The Plough, Birdbrook for playing of live and recorded music and late night opening. The members of public were objecting to the application and had approached the parish council. The Chairman responded that this application was outside the remit of the parish council as they are no longer consulted on licence applications. They were advised to contact Braintree District Council direct and also speak to their District Councillor, Robert Bolton. Subsequently 2 more members of the public arrived and explained that the application was withdrawn and that an application would be made for individual events only.

12/31 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman – Richard Walker was proposed by Robert Bolton and seconded by Derek Hoye. Agreed.

Vice Chairman – Robert Bolton was proposed by Steve Rhenius and seconded by Derek Hoye. Agreed.

12/32 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs H Hodge

12/33 OTHER ABSENCES

None

12/34 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed. Leigh Carter reported that the parish plan meeting was subsequently changed to 22 March 2012 (see minute 12/22).

12/35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Robert Bolton declared an interest in item 9(a) of the agenda – Planning.

12/36 REPORT OF THE CLERK

Adoption of BT boxes – The Clerk reported that the BT boxes were now officially adopted. They should be insured for £2,000 each. The clerk will organise this with the insurers.

Quote for moving bench – A quote had been received from Mr Shears for moving the bench in Baythorne End. The amount is £90.00. The clerk will ask Mr Shears if this involves provision of a concrete base and/or anchoring the bench down.

Parish Plan – A second meeting had taken place. Advice was now being sought on the questionnaire and a meeting will be arranged with the RCCE.

12/37 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT

Bus Passenger News March/Apr – noted

St Edmundsbury BC re Canhams Farm – noted

Making the Links March & April 12 – noted

EALC County Update April & May 12 – noted

Birdbrook PCC – noted

Anglian Water – noted

ECC March update – noted

12/38 MEMBERS' REPORTS

a) *Pond* – Now full due to recent heavy rain. Derek Hoye reported he may now have access to a boat to install the duck house.

b) *Parks* – The painting will be finished as soon as weather permits.

c) *Chairman's report* – The benches have all been cleaned and restored as required. The Jubilee Oak tree was planted on 31 March 2012 with a ceremony which was quite well attended with coffee provided by The Plough afterwards. Birdbrook has now achieved Quality Status. It had been suggested that the two phone boxes be repaired and sealed up to remain as a landmark

d) *Highways* – An number of items require reporting. The clerk will undertake this. It was also noted that the public can report potholes direct to Highways themselves.

12/39 PLANNING

Site at New England under allocations development plan – It was noted that the allocation was for no further development within the parish as there is no infrastructure to support the same. The clerk will draft a response to Carter Jonas and circulate to councillors before it is issued.

Application 12/00530/FUL – 2 Whitley Farm Cottages – No comment.

Application 12/00569/FUL – 1 School Field – The application is as a result of an enforcement and is for an annexe. Some concerns raised over the use of the building and the fact that previous applications from other properties to build separate accommodation in gardens has been refused.

Application 12/00601/PLD – Lanthorn, Baythorne End. – No response required.

Application 11/01169/OUT – Westrope Haulage Yard, New England – Noted that this application has now been agreed.

12/40 FINANCE

(a) Councillors received the Annual Return including the Statement of Accounts for 2011-12. The internal audit had been carried out with not comments to make. Robert Bolton proposed and Steve Rhenius seconded that the accounts be agreed and the Statement signed by the Chairman.

(b) Councillors agreed the Statement of Assurance that the accounts for 2011-12 had been properly carried out. Proposed by Robert Bolton and seconded by Steve Rhenius. The Statement was signed by the Chairman.

(c) It was agreed to nominate the Clerk, Deborah Hilliard as Responsible Financial Officer for the year 2012-13.

(d) It was agreed to nominate Mr Alan Siggery as internal auditor for the year 2012-12

(e) It was agreed to grant the application from Birdbrook PCC for grass cutting of the church yard for 2012-13.

(f) The financial report of the clerk was agreed. It was noted that the amount of £90.00 to Mr Shears for moving a bench is a quote which is not yet agreed and had not yet been paid.

12/41 BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL STREETSCENE 2012/13

Agreed and signed.

12/42 SUMMER ACTIVITY DAYS 2012

It was noted that Birdbrook had again not been allocated a date. The clerk will respond and mention that this is the second year that Birdbrook had been unsuccessful.

12/43 QUALITY PARISH STATUS

Birdbrook has achieved its Quality Parish Status. A presentation will take place later.

12/44 TIME, DAY AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5 July 2012 at 7.30pm in the community rooms, The Street, Birdbrook. There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.50pm.

Signed:

Dated: