

**BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

**THURSDAY 4 JULY 2013**

**PRESENT:** Mr Richard Walker (Chairman)      Mrs Hazel Hodge  
Mr Robert Bolton                                      Mrs Ann Beetson  
Mr Steve Rhenius                                      Mr Derek Hoye  
Mr Leigh Carter

**CLERK:**      Mrs Debbie Hilliard

**13/44 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Finch

**13/45 OTHER ABSENCES**

None.

**13/46 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed. Proposed by Derek Hoye and seconded by Leigh Carter, all in favour.

**13/47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**13/48 COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORT OF THE CLERK**

*Footpath 29- water on path* – the email from Adam Jenkins, Footpaths Officer of Essex County Council was read out and noted.

*Salt bag scheme* – It was agreed to respond asking for 1 tonne of salt. Debbie will return the form accordingly.

*Local Highways Panel* – The form will be adjusted and sent in.

**13/49 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT**

*EALC June County Update* – Noted.

*RCCE Annual Review* – Noted

*Braintree District Council SHMA* – Noted

**13/50 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

(a) Pond – The banks are overgrown and the pond is very weedy with some sort of reed growing. The pond needs dredging. Debbie will get some estimates from pond clearers.

(b) Parks – Nothing to report.

(c) Chairman's report – The website manager could not get a reduction for a 4 year contract so a 2 year contract was agreed. The free software rules are changing and it will cost £50.00 to upgrade the service. This was agreed.

(d) Highways – The potholes are a continuing problem with apparently little progress. The Chairman returns on 3 September and it was suggested that the Clerk tries to organise a meeting with Cllr Finch for later in September.

The Highways issues are in the parish plan so it will be necessary to report back by December 2013.

Mr Hoyer asked if the barbed wire fence on land between 1 Hill Road and Baythorne Park, Baythorne End is on Highways land.

**13/51 PLANNING**

Nothing to report.

**13/52 PARISH PLAN**

Leigh and Richard have had 2 meetings since May and the plan is now ready to publish. For the September agenda – Youth Club (July issue) and Highways meeting should be underway.

**13/53 GRASS CUT**

Mr Shears has submitted his quote for the next 3 years. It was agreed to renew. The Clerk will ask Mr Shears about sweeping the cut grass off the pavement in Baythorne End.

**13/54 YOUTH BUS/CHILDREN'S DAYS**

Unable to proceed.

**13/55 FINANCE**

Agreed.

**13/56 TIME, DAY AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 5 September 2013 at 7.30pm in the Community Rooms, Birdbrook.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at approximately 8.45pm.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....