

BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 July 2014 at the Community House, Birdbrook at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr T R Walker Mr D Hoye
Mr L Carter Mrs A Beetson
Mr S Rhenius Mr R Bolton

Clerk: Mr D Hilliard

14/48 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

14/49 OTHER APOLOGIES

Hazel Hodge. It was noted that Hazel had sadly been taken seriously ill and it would be unlikely that she will continue as Parish Councillor.

14/50 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1 May 2014 were agreed as amended and signed. Robert Bolton had noted that he was elected Vice-Chairman at the May meeting in his absence.

14/51 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

14/52 COMMUNICATION AND REPORT OF THE CLERK

Winter Saltbag Scheme – Agreed to obtain salt. The Clerk will organise.
RCCE – Agreed to join for 2014/15.

14/53 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT

EALC County update – Noted
NHS England – Steve reported he was on the Patient Participation Scheme and would report on behalf of the Parish Council if needed.
Aon – Noted.

14/54 MEMBERS REPORTS

Pond – Is in need of some work as covered in weed. It was noted that other ponds and waterways in the area seem to have a similar problem. The Conservation Volunteers may be an option at a cost of £200/day. The Clerk will make some enquiries. The duck house is tilting slightly.

Parks – Grass a little long but all else in order.

Chairman's – Dog fouling remains a problem despite the installation of dog bins which are being used. The Chairman will put a piece in the newsletter as a reminder to dog walkers to clear up after their dogs.

Highways – The Chairman was going to issue his letter re highway problems but some work has now been carried out so he will alter it accordingly and then send.

14/55 PLANNING

The planning lists are now circulated by the Clerk. It was noted that there was one incident whereby work was carried out before formal permission had been granted. This will be monitored.

14/56 PARISH PLAN

Richard mentioned the Chairman's report and has been in touch with Neighbourhood Watch re establishing neighbourhood watch in Birdbrook. He has been put in touch with the relevant co-ordinator who will come out for a meeting. This meeting should be separate to the regular Parish Council meeting.

A meeting will be arranged for end Sept/early Oct. Richard will liaise with the co-ordinator to arrange a date.

Telephone boxes – These are in need of refurbishment. The clerk has details of a company which supplies spare and will make enquiries and report back.

Plaque for Jubilee Oak – A concrete plinth was suggested. Derek Hoye will make some enquiries.

The bin by the telephone box in Baythorne End is unused and needs removing. The Clerk will ask Kevin Shears to remove it.

14/57 COMMUNITY OWNED ENERGY SCHEMES

This was circulated by Steve Rhenius. It is a scheme suggested that there should be a joint parish effort to produce energy and sell surplus to the national grid. It would appear that an occupant of Finkle Green has identified a piece of land near Ridgewell for a wind turbine but Birdbrook PC has not been contacted or made aware of this. The Clerk will contact Jan Cole of RCCE and ask for details. Any decision on this would probably require a public meeting and/or referendum.

14/58 RESPONSE FROM BDC RE PRESS RELEASE LETTER

The letter had been circulated to Members and was noted.

14/59 FINANCE

The Finance Report was agreed. The Chairman proposed that a further £2,000 be moved to reserves and this was agreed in full. The Clerk will check the figures and report back to the September meeting.

14/60 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

None to exclude.

14/61 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

14/62 TIME, DAY AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10 September at 7.30pm in the Community House.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 9.00pm

Signed: Dated: