

BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Angela Balcombe

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Minutes of the Birch Annual Assembly held on Tuesday 7 May 2024 at 7pm at the Birch Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Bowtle, Boyce, Campion, Harris & Ninnim.
In the Chair: Cllr Bowtle.
Clerk: Angela Balcombe.
Also present: 4 members of the public including 2 representatives from SOS/Birch InSpire.

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Cottrell, Cllr Windsor and Loess Overbury-Tapper.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

The Chairman gave a report of the Council's activities over the last year.

4. RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S (RFO) REPORT.

The RFO gave a summary of the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.

No report received.

6. CITY COUNCILLORS REPORT.

No report received.

7. BIRCH INSPIRE.

A presentation was given from Birch InSpire (formally SOS) on Birch Church and possible ideas going forward.

The Diocese has agreed to an accompanied structural survey inside the church in the next couple of weeks. Birch InSpire are part way through setting up a CIO which takes around 40 days. Lottery Heritage funding will be applied for although there is no idea of the cost yet. A Feasibility Report was mentioned and the Parish Council asked if an electronic copy could be provided. A Business Plan cannot be completed until it is known what the community wants. A survey is ready to go out but Birch InSpire would like the views of the Parish Council before it is sent out. Parking and access was raised as a serious concern. A meeting is scheduled with the Diocese at the end of June where an extension of another six months will be asked for. The Parish Council were thanked for their time and for listening.

8. ANY OTHER REPORTS / QUESTIONS.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

SIGNED (Chairman):

DATE: