



BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Angela Balcombe

6 Shires Close, Great Notley, Braintree, Essex CM77 7FT

Tel: 01376 550927 E-mail: birchparishclerk@aol.com

www.birchpc.org.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on
Tuesday 7 June 2022, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs: *Bowtle, Boyce, Campion & Ninnim.*
In the Chair: Cllr *Bowtle.*
Clerk: Angela *Balcombe.*
Also present: County/Borough Cllr *Bentley, Borough Cllr Ellis and five members of the public.*

22/60. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

22/61. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr Cottrell and Cllr Windsor.

22/62. CASUAL VACANCY.

Following the election in May, there is a vacancy for a parish councillor. The Council must co-opt to fill the vacancy as soon as is practicable.

22/63. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of 10 May 2022 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Boyce. Seconded: Cllr Ninnim. All agreed.

22/64. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Other Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests on any matters covered by this agenda. No interests were declared.

22/65. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

With regard to planning objections, it was questioned whether a petition counts as one objection. It was thought that this was the case however, Cllr Ellis will check.

County/Borough Councillors Report.

Proposed Birch Solar Farm; the collective view is that it is the wrong site with transportation and access being a major concern. National Grid proposal of 180km of pylons between Norwich and Tilbury, although not directly affecting Birch could cause issues regarding traffic during the works. The County Council is objecting to this proposal. A12; the County Council has objected to all of the proposed junctions.

22/66. PROGRESS CHECK.

- The car in the ditch has still not been removed, the police transcript to be sent to Cllr Ellis who will chase it up.
- Brambles, the timescale for removal of the container to be checked.

22/67. PLANNING.

Application No: 221012. Application for variation of condition 2 of approved application 200826.

Location: Shemmings Farmhouse, Hardys Green, Birch CO2 0NY. No objections.

Application No: 221249. Extension of existing chalet bungalow. Existing outbuildings to be removed. Proposed outbuilding ancillary to the main dwelling to provide car parking with annexe accommodation. Facade design changes to include finishes, windows and doors.

Location: Parc Gwyn, Maldon Road, Birch CO2 0LT. No objections.

Application No: 220655. Amendment to previous consent (201901) to add velux windows and an access door to the storage area to provide light as no electricity supply to the building. (Retrospective)

Location: Brambles, 4 Birch Street, Birch CO2 0NF. **Approve Conditional.**

22/68. FINANCE.

Payments made / money received:

101812 £384.26 A Balcombe (Salary/PAYE/Expenses)

101813 £1,200.00 Hill Farm Landscapes (Churchyard Strimming)

101814 £626.86 BHIB Ltd. (Insurance)

101815 £150.00 D Ninnim (Jubilee Disco)

22/69. ZIP-WIRE FUNDING APPLICATION.

Applications for funding from Enover and the Community Initiatives Fund to be completed ready for submission in August.

22/70. CORRESPONDENCE.

Email – regarding the future of the Church.

ECC/EALC – launch of the Community Initiatives Fund (deadline for applications 19 August 2022).

RCCE – Invitation to ‘Building Community Led Housing Together’ Monday 13 June 2022 at 12.30pm (online event).

Highways – temporary road closure of Beckingham Hall Road due to commence on 28 June for 3 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes carriageway patching works.

Proposed Birch Solar Farm - an additional in-person event will be held at Copford Village Hall on Wednesday 15 June 2022 therefore the consultation feedback submission deadline has been extended to Sunday 19 June 2022.

22/71. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

- Cllr Ninnim five bags asbestos tiles were collected, the grass has been strimmed near school and signs have been cleaned. Thanks noted to Jasmine who has taken on litter picking at the Play Area.
- The broken wooden bridge on the footpath in Mill Lane Layer Breton, has been reported previously, to be reported again.
- Angel at Heckford Bridge – waiting for the architect for a progress report.
- Two 30mph signs at Hardys Green are falling over, also at the junction of Lower Road and Orpens Hill the sign is bent over.

22/72. MEETING DATES 2022.

5 July, 6 September, 4 October, 1 November (Budget Meeting), 6 December.

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):

DATE: