



## **BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL**

*Clerk – Angela Balcombe*

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Minutes of a meeting of Birch Parish Council, held on  
Tuesday 3 March 2020, 7.30pm at Birch Memorial Hall.

*Present:* Cllrs: *Boyce, Cottrell, Ninnim and Sherlock.*  
*In the Chair:* Cllr *Boyce.*  
*Clerk:* Angela *Balcombe.*  
*Also present:* Cllr *Kevin Bentley and 3 members of the public.*

### **20/95. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **20/96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bowtle, Cllr Campian and Cllr Walsh.

### **20/97. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 4 February 2020 were approved as a correct record of events.

**Proposed: Cllr Ninnim. Seconded: Cllr Cottrell. All agreed.**

### **20/98. 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.

### **20/99. REPORTS.**

**Essex County Council** – Cllr Bentley reported that contingency plans were in place for the Coronavirus pandemic. Due to the recent heavy rain the roads were not in great shape, Highways will prioritise important roads and potholes. Cllr Bentley will be leading in the Members Pothole Scheme.

**Colchester Borough Council** – an update on the Church application was discussed. This is still waiting to go forward to the Planning Committee for a decision. The main concern at present is the safety of the site and it was suggested that planners should visit the site to see the dangers for themselves. The Parish Council will write to the Church Commissioners requesting a safety inspection or to see a copy of the most recent one.

**Zone Warden** – no report received, however it was agreed that the Warden is doing a good job.

### **20/00. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

**St Peters Church Application** – covered under Reports.

### **20/01. PROGRESS CHECK.**

No matters were raised.

**20/02. PLANNING.**

**St Peters Church Application** – covered under Reports.

**Application No: 200167.** Change of proposed use of part of cart lodge approved under application 192358 to create a guest room for use as Bed and Breakfast accommodation and internal alterations to existing dwelling house to create 2 no. further guest rooms for B & B use.

**Location:** Lauriston, School Hill, Birch.

Areas of concern were increased traffic and parking.

**Application No: 192766.** Proposed car park lighting, 4 no. luminaires.

**Location:** Birch Business Centre, Maldon Road, Birch. **Granted.**

**20/03. FINANCE.**

Payments made / money received:

101710 £10.00 EALC (Retirement Donation)

101711 £371.23 A Balcombe (Clerks Salary & Expenses).

101712 £240.00 Playquip Leisure (Maintenance Inspection)

**Income:** £200.00 Colchester Borough Council – contribution to the VE Day Afternoon Tea.

**20/04. CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Essex Police** – copy of a press release regarding drug supply and weapon carrying in Colchester (circulated).

**RCCE** – Essex Village of the Year Competition.

**20/05. PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

Cllr Ninnim – a safety inspection has been carried out and all is satisfactory.

**20/06. MEETING DATES 2020.**

7 April, 5 May (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting),  
2 June, 7 July, 1 September, 6 October, 3 November (Budget Meeting),  
1 December.

***The meeting closed at 20.37***

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**