

**Minutes of the meeting of Birdingbury Parish Council  
held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in The Birdingbury Club, Birdingbury**

**Present:** Cllrs French, de Nahlik, Kendell, Preston, Kent, and Mrs J Chapman (clerk)

**1 Welcome**

Cllr French opened the meeting at 19:31 hrs and welcomed those present.

**2. To receive and accept apologies for absence**

None

**3. Declarations of interest**

None

**4. Representations from the Public**

Two member of the public were present.

**5. Minutes of meetings**

It was proposed by Cllr Kendell, seconded by Cllr Preston and  
**RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on  
18th November 2024.

**5.2 Action Plan**

Noted

**6. Reports from Borough/County Councillor**

Not in attendance, apologies offered

**7. Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Preston remarked on how well the Sustrans track between Long Itchington and Marton has been created. Clerk asked to write to Sustrans and congratulate them and also check if they have any update for the stretch of the line near Birdingbury. Cllr Preston advised the dragons teeth painted on the road by the church are disappearing. Clerk to ask County Cllr if he has any capacity in his budget for the teeth to be repainted.

Cllr French advised he had attended a Birbury Management Committee. The Committee is facing the same changes with Lloyds Bank (charges being introduced) as the Parish Council did. The Birdingbury Club is looking for refurbish the Birbury, the club will need to seek permission from the Birbury Management Committee. Cllr Keeling has provided the Birdingbury Club with a grant of £1,000 towards the refurbishment of the Birbury.

**8. Planning Applications**

**8.1** The following planning application has been received since the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

Planning Number	Address	Proposals	Comments
R25/0028	Gate Cottage Main Street Birdingbury	Proposed rear conservatory	No comment submitted 30.01.25

**8.2 Planning Decisions**

No planning decision have been received since the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**8.3** Appeals - none received.

**9. Financial Issues**

**9.1 Standing Order/Direct Debit payments made since the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Clerk November 2024 salary paid 01.12.24 (standing order)	
Clerk December 2024 salary paid 01.01.25 (standing order)	
Hugofox – website 13.11.24	11.99
Hugofox – website 13.12.24	11.99
Hugofox – website 13.01.25	11.99
IONOS 13.11.24	13.20
IONOS 18.12.24	3.92

**9.2 Payments made since the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Playdale Playgrounds invoice 0000058413 balance of inspection – site visit	90.00
St Leonards Church Birdingbury – Allotment rent 2023 and 2024	200.00
Sovereign Site inspection	238.80
Community Heartbeat annual support cost 15.1.24 – 15.10.24 (paid 17.09.24)	198.00

**9.3 Payments for approval –**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Playdale Invoice 0000058655 – deposit for site visit	90.00
Frank Mann grass cutting and hedge cutting Oct, Nov, and Dec	1070.74
HMRC 01.10.24 – 31.12.24 £140.20 due less credit of 119.80 = £20.40 due	20.40
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement for Cloudnext payment (email provision for period 15.01.25 – 14.01.26)	59.98
Unity Trust application opening balance	1000.00

It was proposed by Cllr French, seconded by Cllr Kendell and **RESOLVED** all the payments be made.

**9.4 Bank Balance Reconciliation**

Bank statement and reconciliation as at 31.12.24 - noted and Cllr French signed the reconciliation as being correct.

**9.5 Budget Report as at 31.12.24** Noted

**9.6 Hampshire Trust**

**9.6.1 Statement of account** – remains at £5,000 - noted

**9.6.2 Mandate for signing**

Clerk took receipt of the signed mandate form, which is to be sent to Hampshire Trust Bank.

**9.6.3 Notification of reduction in interest as from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 from 4.5% AER to 3.95 AER.**

Noted

## 9.7 Budget 2025 – 2026

It was proposed by Cllr Kendell, seconded by Cllr de Nahlik and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for 2025 – 2026 and increase the precept by 7.5%

## 9.8 Clerk – number of hours worked

The Clerk confirmed there was an error in the number of hours logged between 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (15 hours). The hours have been deleted in full as the Clerk is no way of confirming what hours she worked that week.

## 9.9 Unity Trust Bank

Cllrs French, Kendell, and Kent signed the application form

## 10. Recreation Ground

### 10.1 Supplier information

Cllr French advised he has met with Playdale and Sovereign at the recreation ground. As there is evidence of one of the bolts failing on the play frame, both companies have stated the log cabin, play frame and nursery swing need replacing. They suggest replacing the items with a single activity unit for ages 5 - 12 and a single or double unit nursery swing. There is a possibility the climbing frame may have similar issues with its bolts.

Sovereign have also suggested replacing the Burma Bridge.

Both Playdale and Sovereign will quote for a replacement slide.

### Actions

Cllr French will put a notice in Birdsong stating the log cabin, play frame and nursery swing are no longer safe to use.

Clerk to obtain "Danger Tape" and Do Not Use signs

Cllr French to ask via Birdsong is anyone is able to help demolish the items.

Cllr French to John Edgar if he will provide a quote to demolish the items.

Clerk to ask Micheal Mann if he wishes to quite to demolish the items

Clerk to obtain a quote for a new slide from HAGS

### Cost to replace the items

Playdale £26,500 + vat

Sovereign £15,500 + vat

### Parish Engagement regarding the play items

To be raised at the village coffee mornings

Use of the village Whatsapp for a poll. Cllr French will create the poll on Whatsapp.

## 11. Highways

### 11.1 Culvert Stockton Road/Leamington Hastings Road

The culvert has flooded recently particularly when there has been heavy rain. On one occasion when there was ice, a vehicle went into the hedge/fence opposite the junction. Cllr French has chased the Locality Officer, who in turn has chased the contractor due to undertake the work to the culvert. Cllr French is currently awaiting confirmation from WCC.

### New development adjacent to the culvert on Stockton Road/Leamington Hastings Road.

The Parish Council has received complaints relating to the development:

- pumping water from the site on the road and into the culvert,
- damage to the access into the Barney's field,
- damage to the grass triangle on the Stockton Road
- query regarding the connection into the sewerage network.

Clerk to raise these queries with RBC Enforcement.

- 12. The Hovel**  
Cllr French stated he had no response to his request via Birdsong for people to collect any belongings they may have in The Hovel. Cllr French will request a quote from John Edgar to clear the Hovel.
- 13. Storage of original website information**  
  
It was proposed by Cllr French, seconded by Cllr Kendell and **RESOLVED** the Clerk to open a Microsoft Business Basic account at £4.90 + vat per month and use this for the storage of the Parish Councils records
- 14. Emergency Plan**  
Clerk to update the plan and bring to the meeting in March 2025.
- 15. War Memorial**  
Cllr de Nahlik has come across a way to clean the War Memorial but needs to obtain further information/advice. To defer to next meeting.
- 16. Newcomers to the village.**  
None
- 17. Items for the next Agenda**  
Emergency Plan, Recreation Field, Unity Trust, The Hovel, War Memorial, HMRC Credit, Bonfire Funds, Litter Picking, Annual Parish Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025
- 18. Date of next meeting.**  
17th March 2025

Meeting closed 21.09

Signed

Date