

# BETLEY, BALTERLEY & WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting of 10th January 2013

### PRESENT

Cllrs Robert Bettley-Smith, Steven Ball, Karen Burton, Seb Daly, David Hales (from min.2), Simon Harrison, Richard Head, Jo Thomas and Chris Watkin.

### IN ATTENDANCE

Two members of the public.  
Gwyn Griffiths (Clerk).

1/13 Apologies for absence were received and accepted as valid reasons for absence under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 from Cllrs Berrisford (unwell), Kerr (unwell) and Speed (work).

[Cllr Hales joined the meeting at this point]

2/13 Members considered the declaration of interests in agenda items.

Cllrs Daly & Hales each declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 12/00789 as they were both close friends of and had business dealings with the applicants. All other members declared a personal interest in the same matter as they were acquainted with the applicants.

3/13 The meeting was adjourned to allow public participation.

One member of the public (the applicant) wished to comment on planning application 12/00789 (Change of use of part of existing furniture showroom to tea rooms at Betley Court Farm). The purpose of the application was to allow a family member to gain employment and to further the diversification of the existing business. She wished to stress that the venture would be a tea rooms; there was no intention to compete with local restaurant facilities or to open in the evenings. The applicant responded to questions from members regarding the possibility of offering a 'take out' service, and the size of the proposed venture.

4/13 The Clerk advised members of actions taken under Urgent Business provisions since the last meeting. The Clerk had paid an invoice received from the Council's website provider and was now requesting reimbursement.

Two planning applications had been dealt with following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman:

12/00756/FUL New garage and first-floor extension, 18 Ladygates, Betley – no objection;

12/00759/AGR Agricultural storage building, Old Hall Farm, Betley – no objection, as the Parish Council considers the proposal is preferable to the location proposed in the application previously made.

### **RESOLVED**

**a) that the actions taken as Urgent Business be endorsed;**  
**b) that the Clerk be reimbursed for the payment made to mh-p internet.**

5/13 Members considered the following planning application:

**12/00789/COU Change of use of an area of existing furniture showroom to use as a tea room, Betley Court Farm, Main Road, Betley**

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application as it provides for further diversification of the existing agricultural and commercial enterprise and offers opportunities for further employment in a rural area.**

[Having declared prejudicial interests Cllrs Daly & Hales withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of this item]

6/13 Members considered the following planning application:

**12/00762/FUL Ground floor extension to provide double garage and first floor front/side extension, The Vicarage, Church Lane, Betley**

**RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no objection.**

7/13 The Chairman reported on a meeting between the Chairmen of local parish councils with the Leader of the Borough Council. The Chairman advised that he had been impressed by the general approach of the new administration, particularly in respect of the budget approach where savings of £1.8M had been identified; more than sufficient to match the level of savings required.

8/13 The Clerk advised members of further developments regarding the adjustment of the Tax Base and its potential impact on the setting of the Council's precept. At the November meeting the Parish Council had indicated that it wished the sum payable by households to be restored to the 2011-12 level and the Clerk advised that this would – if there were no further changes to the Tax Base – be achieved by setting a precept of £9,769.

**RESOLVED**

- a) that the Budget set at the meeting of November 2012 be retained;**
- b) that an additional £1,551 be drawn down from the Council's balances to require a precept of £9,769;**
- c) that the above resolutions be subject to there being no further changes in the Tax Base by the Borough Council;**
- d) that in the event of any further changes the matter be reconsidered at the meeting of 24th January.**

9/13 Members considered the proposed changes to the level of service at Betley Post Office.

[Cllrs Bettley-Smith, Burton, Daly, Head, Thomas & Watkin declared personal interests in this matter as customers of the Post Office]

**RESOLVED that the Council broadly supports the refurbishment and regards the Post Office and retail outlet as a vital village facility, but wishes to express the following concerns:**

- a) that saving should be encouraged by continuing to offer Premium Bonds for sale;**
- b) that change giving is an important facility for local businesses;**
- c) that any reduction in staffing could adversely impact on retailing at times of demand.**

10/13 The Clerk advised members of correspondence received since the last meeting.

**RESOLVED that consent be granted for the Cricket Club to display an advertisement on the Memorial Garden for its forthcoming Beer Festival, subject to the provision of a Risk Assessment and evidence of appropriate insurance cover.**

Cllr Head advised the Council of the Village Hall Committee's appreciation of the supply of grit provided to stock the new grit bin. The Chairman also advised that two bags of grit had been supplied to the Church.

11/13 The Clerk provided details of invoices to hand and payments due.

**RESOLVED that the Council authorise payment of the following:**

<b>G Griffiths</b>	<b>reimbursement</b>	<b>£684.00</b>
	<b>(website)</b>	
<b>DT Askey</b>	<b>meml gdn maintenance</b>	<b>£200.00</b>