

Birdlip Parish Council



MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting of Birdlip Parish Council on Wednesday 19th March 2025 at St Mary's Church Birdlip at 7pm

Present: Councillors: J Lavington, E. McKay, P Ritchie, D Partridge, M Crossley, O Hale and J Twydell. District Cllr Judd and 12 member of the public.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman

- 3-25/1. Apologies for Absence**
- 3-25/2. Declarations of Interest** None
- 3-25/3. Public Participation regarding items on this Agenda (3 minutes per person allowed)**
The Chairman deferred participation to Agenda Items 3-25/14 and 3-25/15.
- 3-25/4. Minutes**
- I. **To approve minutes of meetings held on 15th January 2025** Approved
 - II. **Action points from previous meeting 15th January 2025– unless currently itemed on agenda**
- 3-25/5. To Receive Report from Parish Clerk** (sent in advance) No actions from report.
- 3-25/6. To Receive District and County Councillor Reports** – Cllr Judd report distributed in advance.
- 3-25/7. Planning and Ownership of verges throughout the Parish** – To note no further update
- 3-25/8. A417 Missing Link** To receive report from the Chairman
The Chairman has asked for the details of the new Air Balloon Way and the sections of road that will become a restricted byways to be added to the Agenda for the April meeting of Parish Councils and WCH groups. He urged residents to visit the Kier Drop in Visitors Centre.
- 3-25/9. Bus Shelter & defibrillator:** To note bus shelter, defibrillator, benches & village signs have been inspected.
Chairman reported he had at the request of the British Heart Foundation and Ambulance Service, registered the defibrillator on the new “Circuit” website.
- 3-25/10. Running water on Cirencester Road from entrance of Birdlip House** – To note no further Update
- 3-25/11. Village CCTV** Update to include application on TPO - to minute decision made by Councillors outside full meeting to accept quote of £600 received by Watts Garden Services to prune tree. Use of streetlighting, and unmetered electricity supply is still ongoing.

Council approved the agreement from Birdlip School regarding access to WiFi. They asked for one addition - **3. Responsibilities of the School** c. The School agrees to provide a constant internet connection 24 hours a day, with the exception of routine maintenance or outages. Clerk approved to sign agreement on behalf of the Parish Council.

- 3-25/12. CIL Payment Expenditure** - To consider request from School to allow for the upgrade of school wi-fi in this (24-25) financial year and make payment of £1090.00. **Agreed**
- 3-25/13. Residents Survey** – The Parish Council agreed the report and were encouraged by the 78% overall response from residents completing and returning the questionnaire. The Chair had summarised the responses in a report attached to the survey which has been uploaded to the Parish Council website. <https://www.birdlippc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Residents-Questionnaire-Results.pdf>
- The overall preference of residents for any new development should be on brownfield land or by conversion of agricultural properties or by infilling of land on existing properties. In terms of any large scale development (9 units plus) 90% of residents are against but if this has to happen then there was an overwhelming view that this should be outside the accepted existing settlement area and preferably to the North/North east of the Parish avoiding the loss of current agricultural land.
- The Chair stated that historically development within the Parish had been on brownfield land, which could now be in short supply. Councillors agreed to ask National Highways what would happen to the works compound on completion of the A417 Missing Link project. Would this be returned to the landowner as usable agricultural land.
- Although the questionnaire had given the Parish Council a good overall opinion of residents, it has to be noted that every planning applications will have varying and complex individual issues which are not easily categorised into type, scale or location of the application.
- Councillor Partridge asked that Councillors continue to ensure decisions on future planning applications be taken on merit to protect and further enhance the sustainability of the Village and the community facilities already in place.
- It was agreed that completed questionnaires would be retained for 12 months with any personal data removed.
- 3-25/14. To discuss response to email received by Councillors on 17th February 2025 from a representative from the LIVEDIN company regarding Housing Development in Birdlip.**
- The contents of the email and plan had not been published prior to the meeting, but would be added to the Minutes. **Appendix A**
- Mr Howard spoke on behalf of “Livedin” and the landowner, regarding their vision of a multi-build, self-build development on two plots of agricultural land.
- Comments were received from the Public, Parish and District Councillors and included an email from the School headmaster.
- After much debate, Cllr Ritchie proposed and the decision was carried, to decline a meeting as the Parish Council would not support a development of this type and scale on agricultural land at these locations.
- 3-25/15. Planning**
- 25/00411/FUL** - Erection of a replacement self-build dwelling and retention of 'The Nest' for ancillary use and the demolition of barn and erection of detached ancillary garage at The Nest Birdlip Farm Birdlip Gloucestershire GL4 8JH <https://publicaccess.cotswold.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SRBQRUFH4300&activeTab=summary>
- SUPPORTED – with previously requested restrictions.**

25/00579/FUL Erection of single storey rear extension and associated works (Resubmission of planning application ref: 21/04235/FUL) at Hawcote House Hawcote Hill Cirencester Road Birdlip Gloucester Gloucestershire GL4 8JL <https://publicaccess.cotswold.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SS14KOFIHF00&activeTab=summary>

Parish Council agreed NO COMMENT

Planning Update for Information only

To note email received by Chairman regarding Permitted planning application **23/03709/FUL** Erection of two storey rear extension at Kestrel House 1 Ermin Drive Birdlip Gloucester Gloucestershire GL4 8BP

24/03692/LBC Repairs to curtilage listed wall and **24/03691/FUL** Construction of 1 no. dwelling with associated works, including repairs to curtilage listed wall at Cotswold Cottage Birdlip Gloucester Gloucestershire GL4 8JH – **Permitted**

24/03860/OUT Outline planning application for the erection of one self-build dwellinghouse with all matters reserved except for access at Land To Rear Of Fern Cottage Ermin Way Birdlip GL4 8JH - **Permitted**

- 3-25/16. To agree invitation to renew GAPTC membership for 2025-26 £86.85 Agreed**
- 3-25/17. To agree purchase of refreshments for Annual Parish Meeting**
A Budget of £40 was agreed for refreshments.
- 3-25/18. Finance**
- I To note Following payments have been issued NOTED**
HMRC tax January 25 £16.00
Clerks Salary January 25 £300.80 and Expenses £85.99 (includes Microsoft subscription)
HMRC tax February 24 £16.00
Clerks Salary February 24 £300.80 and Expenses £75.18 (includes stationary)
PATA Payroll services £149.40
 - II Agree and give authority to issue online payments for the following: AGREED**
Annual Meeting Room Hire at St Marys £250.00
Watts Tree Service £600
GAPTC annual membership £86.85
GAPTC training £45
 - III To note payments made since last meeting and agree reconciled bank balance attached AGREED**
- 3-25/19. Items for the next agenda including requests from the public**
- 3-25/20. Date of next meeting Wednesday 16th April to include Annual Parish Meeting 7pm at St Mary's Church, Birdlip.**

The Chairman thanked those in attendance and the meeting closed at 20.19

Signed.....

Date.....

Appendix A

Dear Parish Councilors,

It was very timely to receive your housing survey in the last few days.

We are working with the landowner of the big field which bounds much of the North and East of Birdlip, considering options for its future. To date it is tenant farmed, and is only of moderate agricultural value. We are interested in a mix of ingredients for this which we think could/ should deliver a range of benefits to the community.

Some time ago we sketched out the attached plan, which probably best helps describe the sort of thing in mind. A summary of the main moves are:

1. Provide better access and parking for the school (currently a dangerous problem). This could be via a new road running round the North side of the cricket pitch, alleviating traffic flows through the village.
2. Potentially a new school hall (could combine for community hall)
3. Avoid a dead end section of redundant road to the North, addressing reasonable concerns from the community of creating a venue for antisocial behaviour. As part of these works move field gates closer to the village, and extend the speed restriction zone further North, reducing the traffic speeds into the village from the North.
4. Provide an opportunity for farm shop/ community shop (local and passing trade) at the Northern corner of the attached plan, and possibly also a GP surgery (currently none anywhere local).
5. Create a significant biodiversity corridor linking the head of the Golden Valley to the Escarpment; something that the Glos Wildlife Trust have expressed significant interest in.
6. Create a band of allotments encircling the Northern edge of the village
7. Provide some self-build housing opportunities for a range of needs (probably mainly young families and downsizers wishing to live independently in the village into old age)

We have spoken with the school about this (you will note I have copied in James Pugh - the Head) and they are very supportive of the principle. It could help address a number of their current issues on site.

We have not yet consulted CDC planning as we'd be interested to take initial soundings with you and the wider community first.

Perhaps we could arrange a time to meet representatives of both the PC and the school in the next couple of weeks to discuss in a little more detail, with a view to working towards holding an open drop in event for members of the wider community.

With kind regards


For and on behalf of:
LIVEDIN



Linking the head of the Golden Valley to the Escarpment providing a valuable natural habitat corridor and releasing pressure on other nearby wildlife sites.

mix of housing (mainly self-build)

Community Cricket Club

School Fields

School & Hall Expansion

Community Car Park

mix of housing (mainly self-build)

Allotments and Green Public Space

Bio-diversity Corridor

Move the centre of gravity and activity of the village Eastwards, away from traffic, creating better community facilities - improved school, village hall, perhaps community shop? A shared growing space to be enjoyed by the residents and nature protection belt around the North and East of the village.

New roadworks road to be detrunked and replaced with 3m hard paving, 2m soft surface and additional planting. Work proposed by others.