

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BIRCHWOOD TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT
PARKERS FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE, DELENTY DRIVE, RISLEY
ON TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2016

Present: Councillor Ellis in the Chair
Councillors Allman, Atkin, Breslin, Evans, Fitzsimmons, M. Hearldon,
T. Hearldon, Linney, Nelson and Reeves

Clerk – Mrs. F. McDonald
Deputy Clerk – Mrs. C Caddock
Business and Finance Officer - Mr. G. Crowe

2 Residents

PCSO Bingham

Apologies: Councillor Bowden

Councillor Evans proposed, Councillor M. Hearldon seconded and it was resolved that:

The Minutes of the October Meeting of the Town Council which took place on Tuesday, 25th October 2016 be approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

Code of Conduct – Declaration of Interests

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any personal interest or prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when the item is reached.

Councillors Atkin, Breslin, M. Hearldon, T. Hearldon and Nelson – Birchwood Carnival Committee

289/16-17 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

(a) **Police Monthly Update**

(i) **General update**

PCSO Bingham gave a brief update on recent Police activity in the Birchwood area. He stated that the biggest issue at present is anti-social behaviour, particularly around the public footbridge at the railway station, Birchwood Mall, the Tennis and Leisure Centre and outside the newly re-opened McDonald's. There have been at least 25 incidents reported to the police involving a large group of youths.

Several of the youths have been identified on CCTV and Police are taking various actions to deal with these matters.

There has been one reported burglary from residential property and one from a business.

Councillor Nelson stated that on social media there have been several reports of people being aware of someone trying their doors.

PCSO Bingham said that the Police had received two reports from the public about their doors being tried. He stated that the Police will default to an area where reports are being received of such incidents in 'downtime'. They will keep an eye on the area as and when they can.

PCSO Bingham said that people need to phone the Police on 101 if they have concerns, as the Police react to reported incidents.

The Police continue to request that anyone who has any issues of concern regarding anti-social behaviour, suspicious behaviour or other incidents that are not an emergency - please report them on 101. This will allow the Police to build up a picture of what is happening in the area and will help to enable them to deploy their resources more effectively. It will also build up statistics, if needed, for future reference.

If one area is reporting incidents to the Police and another is not, the Police are more likely to monitor the area where incidents are being reported more closely than the other area.

Social media is a fantastic resource for keeping in touch with family, friends and the community - but if you are worried enough to alert your friends to something concerning you in the area, please alert the Police as well.

Dial 101 - you can make a report anonymously if necessary.

In an emergency always dial 999.

PCSO Bingham carried on to report that there have been 5 thefts from motor vehicles and a small spate of criminal damage where wing mirrors have been targeted.

PCSO Bingham has seen reports about a tent in a locality, but on attending did not see anyone in the tent and no litter or belongings in, or around, it.

Members had been concerned that it might have been a homeless person living there, who may have needed some help.

Another area that is being monitored by the Police is the new MUGA at the Forest Park as a resident had reported finding a couple of needles in the area.

PCSO Bingham said the issue that he is pushing for more regular Police support on is speeding in the area as he has only been able to go out once in the last month with the speed sign. He is trying to promote the need for training on the new lasers; which can be used in formal enforcement and will allow tickets to be issued to offenders.

The Clerk enquired about the public footbridge at the railway station and asked whether the Police were aware that one of the panels appears to have been kicked out.

PCSO Bingham said that the state of the footbridge is very poor and is an area where a group of youths hang out.

The Clerk said that Warrington Borough Council has the responsibility for keeping this bridge clean and it has been reported to them.

PCSO Bingham said that he also has concerns about the footpath that runs towards Longbarn over the bridge.

The Clerk stated that we had been informed that Network Rail were going to cut the shrubbery back and undertake some maintenance work on the path, but this does not appear to have been done. We will chase this matter up.

Action Clerk's office to contact Network Rail again about the maintenance of the footpath.

As Members had no other questions, the Chair thanked PCSO Bingham for attending.

The Police Twitter address is @PoliceWarr.

(b) **Residents' Queries**

(i) **Christmas Trees**

A resident stated that in Fairfield and Howley, WBC operatives have planted 4 small, real Christmas Trees in the area, including one in St Elphin's Park. The trees have 'battery operated' lights installed on them. The Town Council was asked why we cannot do the same in Birchwood and have at least one tree in each of the 'villages'; Oakwood, Locking Stumps and Gorse Covert.

Councillor Nelson stated that the Town Council had tried to get a Christmas Tree and lights installed on the Oakwood Gate islands in previous years, but this had not been allowed due to health and safety issues. The Friends of Oakwood Local Park had one in Oakwood one year, but it was prohibitively expensive to repeat the installation of a tree the following year.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that this was something that we would look into again as a possibility for future years.

Action Clerk's office to look into the possibility of installing live Christmas Trees for future years and investigating what the logistics and costs would be.

(ii) **Forest Park Query**

A resident said that they had heard (a rumour) that a Borough Council Officer had spoken to the Junior Football Club that plays at Birchwood Forest Park asking them to sign a five year contract in order to stop the Forest Park being sold for housing land.

This information had allegedly come from someone associated with the football team.

The resident queried whether this was, in fact, true and was looking for reassurance that the Forest Park was not in line to be sold for housing development.

Members were taken aback and very surprised to hear the rumour and wanted to know where it has come from. Although they do not believe that the land has been earmarked for development.

Action Clerk's office/Councillor Nelson to make enquiries regarding this rumour.

(iii) **Street Lighting**

A resident stated that the light levels of the new street lighting had been raised at the October 2016 meeting. Since then nothing has changed and people have to walk around some areas with a torch because it is so dark and can be frightening.

Councillor Ellis reminded those present that once all the street lighting has been installed in Birchwood that an audit will take place of lighting levels.

290/16-17 OPERATION SHIELD

At the October meeting Sgt Gibbard had explained that Operation Shield entailed supplying properties with a kit containing a small bottle of liquid, each of which has a unique marker in it – like individual DNA, which can be used to put an almost invisible mark on any property from a household. The household has to register with the company that makes the liquid, which holds their details on a database.

If stolen property which is marked is recovered, the details of the owner can be found by examining the dried liquid. The liquid will also leave its mark on whoever has touched the property – therefore it may help in discovering who has stolen items or handled stolen goods.

At tonight's meeting, the Clerk circulated some information she had received from Selecta DNA in one of their marketing packs and showed Members a sample bottle of the liquid that is included in the pack. Bulk costs were also circulated to Members.

Councillor Ellis stated that the impact in reducing burglaries in areas can be quite effective. There may be some additional costs in relation to signposts for installation on lighting columns, making people aware that properties in an area are covered by Selecta DNA.

It was agreed that Members would take the information away with them to give them time to consider it properly and that further discussion regarding Operation Shield would be deferred to a future meeting.

291/16-17 PCSO RESOURCES

The Clerk stated that Chief Superintendent Andy Southcott has asked if he could arrange a meeting with Councillors, free of an official agenda, to talk about the future funding of PCSOs.

Following a discussion it was agreed that a date would be set in January for a lunchtime meeting (between 12 noon and 1pm) with Chief Superintendent Southcott. All Members are welcome to attend. The date is to be confirmed.

Action Clerk's office to arrange a date for the above meeting and circulate details to Members.

292/16-17 LANDSCAPING

(i) **Your Housing Group Areas – tree maintenance**

The Clerk informed Members that one of the Housing Officers, Darren Hardie, is moving to work in Levenshulme. There will be another Officer moving into the Birchwood area.

The Clerk stated that Michael Anders had been asked some questions regarding the recent walkabout, particularly about crown lifting work in an area of Locking Stumps.

Your Housing contractors have since done some work, but not to the extent that had been hoped for. There are no plans to do any more at the location.

The Clerk stated that due to the danger imposed by the sheer volume of leaf litter in the area left by the trees, the Town Council's Maintenance Team had to spend a day removing them. They filled the tipper van twice with the leaves. Your Housing does not do leaf blowing or leaf removal in any of their areas except around sheltered accommodation/care homes they own.

Councillor Linney said that several residents had expressed their appreciation to her for the work that our team have done in the area, along with being pleased that some tree work has been undertaken.

The Clerk reminded Members that YHG insist that our Team undertakes a ‘toolbox’ talk regarding the pruning of tree branches to British Standard before they can remove any on Your Housing Group land with a pole pruner.

As the Landscaping Manager is currently not covering Birchwood, he is not available to do the ‘talk’ so the Town Council is not currently in a position where operatives can prune any overhanging branches on Your Housing Group Land.

(ii) **Your Housing Group Areas – litter picking**

Councillor Nelson raised the issue of the amount of litter and flytipping removal that our team has to undertake in Your Housing Groups area – often left thrown in bushes.

The Clerk stated that our Maintenance Team litter picks all of the Your Housing Group estates.

Your Housing Group’s contractors do not appear to have a policy of inspecting the areas to see that they have been properly litter picked once shrub maintenance has been undertaken, which the Housing Association advise they should do - this seems to be done on an ad hoc basis. The Town Council subsequently receives complaints from areas where the litter has been exposed and not removed – which our teams then have to clear.

Your Housing used to employ a litter picker who picked some of their streets, but this role has not existed for some time.

Councillor Nelson asked if Your Housing Group could be contacted at a high level of management to ask for a discussion regarding these matters.

Councillor Ellis stated that it is intended that a meeting will be arranged in the New Year to discuss these and other matters.

(iii) **Gorse Covert Road**

The Clerk reported that some of the landscaping on Gorse Covert Road, leading up to the shop from the roundabout has been trimmed back by contractors working for the Land Trust. There still appears to be a couple of trees that have yet to be removed.

Councillor Reeves commented that although they were wearing hi vis jackets, they did not appear to have the areas where they were working in the road signed properly and questioned whether they were working safely.

The Clerk stated that this has been raised with The Land Trust.

293/16-17 **CHATFIELD DRIVE**

The Clerk reported that we have still not received a response from the Borough Council regarding the possibility of extending the 20mph speed limit past the high school, or whether double yellow lines will be extended on Chatfield Drive.

294/16-17 **BINS**

The Clerk reported that the new bins have now been installed and added to our list for emptying.

295/16-17 **BIRCHWOOD CARNIVAL**

The Clerk stated that the AGM of the Carnival Committee took place on 30th November 2016.

The next Carnival Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on 11th January 2017 at Parkers Farm.

296/16-17 **RISLEY MOSS VISITOR CENTRE – AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT**

The Clerk reported that Councillors Evans and Atkin went to a meeting regarding an update on the current status of the Borough Council's bid regarding the Great Manchester Wetland Partnership Carbon Landscape Project.

Councillors Evans reported that it was a good meeting, but the funding is not available yet to undertake the 'audio video' display project.

Councillor Atkin added that it is still an ongoing work in progress. It has been indicated that funding will have to be shared between several sites, rather than all being allocated, if approved, to Risley Moss.

Councillor Ellis stated that perhaps applications could be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund as the 50th Anniversary of Birchwood is approaching – but that is for discussion at future meetings.

297/16-17 **LOCKING STUMPS NIGHT TIME WALKABOUT**

Several issues raised on the walkabout on 15th November were already mentioned earlier in the meeting (see Minute 292/16-17 (i) and (ii)).

The Clerk reiterated that there would be ongoing issues with the London Plane Trees in Strawberry Close and the huge amount of leaf litter they create. This was so hazardous that our teams had to remove two van loads of leaves. However, Your Housing Group has no plans to do any additional work on the trees.

Councillor Linney said that we need to push for more lopping and thinning. She added that these are Your Housing Group trees and they should deal with them and the issues they cause.

The Clerk reported that issues with uneven footpaths and missing bollards on Bracken Close and Violet Close were to be dealt with by YHG.

Action To continue to liaise with Your Housing Group regarding these and other issues.

298/16-17 **PUBLIC USAGE OF A FOOTPATH – BIRCHWOOD WAY/LOCKING STUMPS LANE**

Councillor Evans stated that although the next Rights of Way meeting has been postponed until January, he had a conversation with John Thorpe about this matter.

The Borough Council is currently in negotiation with the golf club regarding the path. The responsibility of the maintenance of the path also needs to be agreed.

Councillor Evans will update the Council following the meeting in January.

299/16-17 **UPDATE ON PLANNING MATTERS**

- (a) Application No. 2016/28731 New Hall Farm, School Lane, Birchwood.

At tonight's meeting it was confirmed that if there is a recommendation for refusal from Planning Officers then the Town Council is happy for this to be decided under delegated powers. If, however, the recommendation is for approval, then Councillors would ask for the proposal to be taken to a Development Management meeting.

- (b) Application No. 2016/28810 Land bounded by Admirals Road, Linnet Grove and Curlew Grove, Birchwood. (Major) Proposed residential development of 65 new dwellings with associated infrastructure, a play area and incidental open space including a new estate road and vehicular and pedestrian access off Admirals Road and new footpath connection to existing footpath at rear of site.

The Clerk stated that the Borough Council has seen several versions of amended plans for the site after objections were received about driveways directly accessing Admirals Road on the first set of plans. Once the Borough has accepted plans, then they will be circulated again for consultation.

300/16-17 **LOCATION OF DEFIBRILLATOR**

The Clerk informed Members that we are now waiting for the Oliver King Foundation to remove the faulty defibrillator cabinet and install a different style of cabinet. Once this is done we will need to inform the North West Ambulance Service regarding registering the defibrillator location.

Councillor Nelson stated that once the defibrillator cabinet is sorted, she will put us in touch with a local resident who is a first aider and provides first aid training courses, who has offered to undertake the checking of this defibrillator .

301/16-17 **GRID CLEANSING LOCKING STUMPS**

The Clerk reported that the grid that keeps silting up on the path near Locking Stumps School has been reported again as despite being recently cleansed it is once again full of debris.

302/16-17 **THE BIRCHES PLAY AREA**

This matter remains ongoing.

303/16-17 **MULTI-USE GAMES (MUGA) AREA ON BROCK ROAD**

The Clerk stated that we had been informed by Your Housing Group that the MUGA being developed on Brock Road will be completed by around 3rd December 2016. We have not yet had any update as to whether it is completed or when there may be a formal opening event.

Councillor Nelson stated that the now disbanded Friends of Oakwood Local Park has money in a bank account that had been agreed would be put towards funding the project. The bank is in the process of sorting the administration of the account to pay the money to Your Housing.

304/16-17 **GRIT BIN**

The Clerk reported that a new grit bin has now been installed on the footway near to the fire station underpass.

305/16-17 **BROKEN FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The Clerk reported that the damaged fitness equipment at The Birches has not yet been repaired. Your Housing Group were awaiting the manufacture and delivery of a new part.

Re: Late papers received for the November 2016 meeting

The majority of documents listed below have already either been circulated to Members via email and/or are available to view in the office/or have been displayed on our noticeboards/or been posted on our website and/or Facebook page.

Warrington Borough Council

- (a) Received – Poster re: The East Area local Fund.
- (b) Received – Neighbourhood bulletin – October/December 2016.
- (c) Received – Details of East Area Plan workshop – Wednesday 11th January 2017, 1pm – 4pm at Risley Moss. RSVP to eastneighbourhoods@warrington.gov.uk to confirm attendance. Councillor Ellis will be attending this meeting.

Birchwood Forum

Received – News from Inventya Solutions – a new Forum member.

Miscellaneous Correspondence

- (a) Received – Various issues of ‘Parklife’.
- (b) Received – Various LGC e-briefings.
- (c) Received – Various updates/information emails from Warrington Voluntary Action.
- (d) Cllr Bowden has corresponded with a resident regarding litter on the ‘gateway’ into Birchwood, off the M62 Jct. 11 and explained the various areas of responsibility. WBC and BTC have been chasing and continue to press Highways England to resolve the issue of litter at and around the junction.

Cheshire Police

- (a) Received - Various alerts via the Cheshire Police Alert system.
- (b) Received – Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable’s ‘Round Up’ – Christmas 2016.
- (c) Sent/Received – emails regarding alleged drug misuse in the Forest Park (also sent to WBC Officers and the Ranger).

ChALC/NALC

- (a) Received – Weekly e-bulletins from ChALC.
- (b) Received – Weekly bulletins on national developments and meetings.
- (c) Received – Additional correspondence from Jonathan Owen at NALC regarding there being no extension of Council Tax referendum principles to any Town or Parish Council in 2017/2018.
- (d) Received – Some information re: a nationwide Post Office Consultation.

SLCC

Received – Bulletins including details re: there being no extension of Council Tax referendum principles to any Town or Parish Council in 2017/2018.

NEW ITEMS RAISED UNDER THE CLERK’S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Members received a list of items that had been received and/or dealt with during recess. There were no comments of questions from Members regarding these matters.

308/16-17 **WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

- (a) Received – Agenda for Public Rights of Way Forum (1st December) and Minutes of the meeting of 18th August 2016. The date for the meeting has since been changed to 5th January 2017.
- (b) Received – Update from Councillor Bowden re: Birchwood Station – bridges and disabled access.
- (c) Received – Minutes of the East Area Board Meeting of 21/09/16 and agenda for meeting held on 28/11/16.
- (d) Received – Minutes of the Oakwood Community Association Meeting (22/11/16). The next meeting is the AGM which will take place on 6th February 2017.
- (e) Received – Poster for ‘Warrington’s Got Talent’ being presented by the Mayor of Warrington.
- (f) Sent/received – emails re: working in partnership to clear some roads of leaf litter.
- (g) Received – confirmation that WBC has corrected the Town Council’s information on its website.
- (h) Received – Details of some Health Walks taking place in December 2016 and January 2017.
- (i) Received – Details of an HS2 briefing taking place on 15th December at the Town Hall (consultation documents have been received).

Councillor Reeves attended the meeting and gave Members a brief update on the content of the meeting. The closest area of Birchwood that will be affected is Gorse Covert, but it is outside any of the compensation zones. Councillor Reeves stated that people are still fighting against the proposed project.

The Clerk stated that normally representatives for local organisations are nominated and elected at the Town Council’s Annual Meeting in May. She asked whether Members wished to nominate/elect a representative for HS2 matters before then as this is likely to be an ongoing matter which may have an impact on Birchwood.

Councillor Reeves stated that he would be happy to take on this role.

It was unanimously resolved that Councillor Reeves will be the Town Council’s representative regarding HS2 matters.

- (j) Received/sent – email correspondence re: ‘dog bone; traffic lights apparently not recognising a motorcyclist in the early hours of the morning who had to wait for a car to come along before the lights would change. The Borough Council has checked the sensors were all working and will check the sensitivity of the sensors and monitor the situation.
- (k) Received – reminder of the Winter Warm session in Oakwood (6th December 2016).
- (l) Received – notification that some of the loose block paving outside the shop in Gorse Covert will be reinstated with tarmac. Also, Estates has raised work to dispose of loose block paving on parts of Whittlewood Close and Charnwood Close opposite the Poacher pub.
- (m) Received – Poster re: East Area local fund – next application deadline is 11th January 2017. Displayed on notice boards and Facebook page.

309/16-17 **BIRCHWOOD FORUM**

Received – Invitation to University of Chester Public Lecture by Dr Louise Minchin, BBC TV Presenter and Celebrity Masterchef Finalist; Title ‘Dare To Tri’ (sic). Tuesday January 24th 2017, Lance Dobson Hall, University of Chester (Padgate Campus). This is a free event, but you must have a ticket; book tickets at: www.tinyurl.com/DareToTri

310/16-17 **MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Received – Various update/information emails from Warrington Voluntary Action.
- (b) Received – Various issues of Birchwood Park’s ‘Parklife’.
- (c) Received - Various LGC briefing emails.
- (d) Received – Various iCAN consumer alerts. Full details regarding iCAN alerts and details of free membership to the service can be found at <http://www.tsarrington.co.uk/ican>
- (e) Received/sent – correspondence with several residents re: tree maintenance, leaf litter and new lighting levels/trees surrounding new lighting columns.
- (f) Received/sent – email correspondence with a resident re: the difference in parking costs at the shopping centre between paying with coins or via the ‘Ringo’ phone service; which is apparently more expensive.
- (g) We have been copied into emails re: correspondence Cllr Atkin is having with several organisations re: flooding caused by a blocked drain in a parking area behind some properties on Goldfinch Lane.
- (h) Received - consultation documents in relation to High Speed Two: Phase 2b: Crewe to Manchester and West Midlands to Leeds (see attached covering letter). This includes sections that run past Birchwood and through parts of Culcheth. The documents are in the office if anyone wishes to see them. If any resident wishes to view them, please telephone beforehand to arrange a time, on 01925 819440. The consultations run to 9th March 2017.
- (i) Sent/received – email correspondence with Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald and Highways England regarding the build-up of litter at and around junction 11 of the M62. The motorway network is inspected monthly and litter picking is prioritised on the basis of these inspections. Their maintenance team has been made aware of the complaint for their next inspection.
The Clerk stated that hopefully there should be a marked improvement once a litter pick has been undertaken by Highways England.
- (j) Received – Details of a conference – ‘The Future of Higher Education’; January 24th, 2017.
- (k) Received – Poster re: The Encounter Centre. Placed on our notice boards.
- (l) Received – Invitation for the Chair re: Rixton with Glazebrook’s Civic Sunday; January 29th 2017.

311/16-17 **CHESHIRE POLICE**

- (a) Received – Various alerts from the Cheshire Police Alert System. For details re: Cheshire Police Alerts and how to sign up go to www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk/ Registering is completely free.
- (b) Received – Notes from the PCC meeting with Parish Councils from 27/10/16.

312/16-17 **SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS**

- (a) Received – Details of AGM and notes from the meeting of 9th September 2016.
- (b) Received – News Bulletin – December 2016.
- (c) Received – Details of a Regional Training Seminar in Telford.

313/16-17 **CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (CHALC) AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (NALC)**

- (a) Received – ChALC weekly e-bulletins.
- (b) Received – NALC bulletins on national developments and meetings.

- (c) Received – From ChALC – details of an H&S training course in January 2017 and a Self-Presentation & Media Skills training course in February 2017.
- (d) Received – Invitation to a Parish Council Event to meet Phil Cox (Chief Executive of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership) to hear what the vision is for Cheshire; 23rd January 2017.

314/16-17 **PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED**

LGC Magazine – 17/11/16, 08/12/16
 LCR – Winter 2016

315/16-17 **MEMBERS' REFERRALS MADE VIA THE CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION AT THIS COUNCIL MEETING**

There were two late Members' Referrals made at the meeting:

- (a) Councillor Nelson reiterated her ongoing concerns about flytipping and litter being dumped, particularly in Your Housing Group areas, where our teams are then expected to clear it up, such as around the burnt out play area at The Birches which seems to be attracting more flytipping at the present time. She believes that this needs to be tackled during talks in the New Year with Your Housing Group.

The Clerk stated that our teams have a pride in the area and are reluctant to leave items for potentially weeks before the Borough Council or other landowner will attend to clear flytipped items.

- (b) Councillor Allman raised two items:

- 1. Sightline issues of shrubbery in Your Housing areas, such as Whinchat Drive and Curlew Grove.

Councillor Ellis said that this is another issue that will be raised at a meeting with Your Housing Group.

- 2. The Friends of Birchwood Forest Park project, which Councillor Allman feels has 'stalled'.

Following discussions it was agreed that the Town Council would still like to support a Friends Group that engages positively and constructively with other stakeholders.

The Clerk's office was asked to find if the Borough Council has some form of formal contract or guidance that they can share as to what is expected of a Friends Group and how it is achievable.

Action Clerk's office to contact Warrington Borough Council regarding the Friends Groups query.

316/16-17 **CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT AND OBSERVATION AND OTHER RELATED PLANNING ISSUES**

- (a) **Warrington Borough Council**

- (i) Received – Notification re: the Development Management Committee meetings on 30th November 2016. Nothing of specific relevance to Birchwood was on the main agenda for discussion at this meeting.

- (ii) **Enforcement Cases** - Lists of enforcement cases recently opened/closed have been received.

317/16-17 **PLANNING DECISIONS**

- (a) Application No. 2016/28636 Birchwood Shopping Centre. Proposed application for approval of reserved matters following outline proposal 2015/25880 as amended by 2016/27580 for scale appearance and landscaping relating to units E1, E2, E3 and E4. **Approved with conditions**

Councillor Ellis noted that the Town Council had made a comment regarding parking spaces regarding the above application.

Councillor Nelson said that she had spoken to Gary Jones, the shopping centre Manager who had indicated that it was not the shopping centre that were obstructing the addition of new spaces, but Borough Council Officers who were following national guidelines.

Councillor Nelson said that she has asked Gary Jones to contact the Town Council if the matter arises in regard to future applications at the shopping centre.

The Clerk said that she remembered an application being submitted a couple of years ago for additional parking near the Bet Fred building, but it did not progress.

- (b) Application No. 2016/28334 15, 16, 19, 20 Adlington Court, Birchwood, WA3 6PL. Proposed removal of existing shrubbery and trees from the landscaped areas outside units 15, 16, 19 and 20 Adlington Court and lay block paving to the area. **Refused**
- (c) Application No. 2016/28892 751 Warrington Road, WA3 6AR. Proposed detached garage/workshop for the restoration, maintenance and storing of classic cars. **Approved with conditions**
- (d) Application No. 2016/28958 21 Woolmer Close, Birchwood, WA3 6TT. Proposed single storey side extension, two storey rear extension with hipped roofs, front porch extension with ridged roof and 2m high boundary fence. **Approved with conditions**
- (e) Application No. 2016/28996 12 Redvales Court, Birchwood, WA3 7NN Proposed single storey side and rear wrap round extension with mono-pitched roof and alterations to the front ground floor bay window. **Approved with conditions**

318/16-17 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

All plans can be viewed via:

http://www.warrington.gov.uk/home/transport_planning_and_environment/Planning/Search_planning_applications/

Certain applications are not Planning Applications; therefore there is no statutory opportunity to allow 21 days for comments, e.g: Non material amendment applications, Lawful development certificates (S192) and 28 day prior approval/determination applications. These types of applications are received on an information basis only.

- (a) Application No. 2016/28751 36 Hamsterley Close, Birchwood, WA3 6UF. Notification of amended plans – proposed side and rear single storey extension and garage conversion.
- (b) Application No. 2016/29229 Penta Hotel, Aston Avenue, WA3 6ZN. Proposed signage.

- (c) Application No. 2016/29374 40 Dove Close, Birchwood, WA3 6QH. Lawful Development Certificate – proposed single storey bedroom extension to rear elevation.
- (d) Application No. 2016/29381 Heathfield House, Delenty Drive, WA3 6TH. Proposed discharge of condition 6 (materials) on Application 2013/22163.
- (e) Application No. 2016/29216 74 Rockingham Close, Birchwood, WA3 6UY. Lawful development certificate – existing fence.
- (f) Application No. 2016/29456 Darwin House, Faraday Street, WA3 6FW. Proposed reconfiguration of external elevations with a total of 45 windows fitted along the northern and western elevations and re-cladding of the western elevation.

Members did not have any objections to the above applications.

319/16-17 **CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN**

To ask Members to note that, after discussion with the Chair, it was proposed that maintenance and office operations will shut down on Friday 23rd December 2016 and reopen on Tuesday 3rd January 2017. Staff will each use three days of their allocated holiday entitlement to cover this break.

Members were happy with this proposal and resolved that the office and maintenance operations would close between these dates.

This part of the meeting concluded at 7.35pm