

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Applegarth, Rickford Rise, Burrington, North Somerset BS40 7AN

Tel: 07908 566 825 E.mail: burringtonpc@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 15th January 2024 in The Parish Room, Burrington

Attendees:

Mrs. Helen Jackson (Chair) (HJ)
Mr. Roger Daniels (Vice Chair) (RD)
Mr. Paul Keel (PK)
Mr. Richard Dors (RDors)
Mrs. Teresa Martin (Clerk)

Present:

Mr. Craig Husher

1. Apologies for Absence – Cllr Patrick Keating & Cllr. Mark Northcott

2. Questions from the Public – there were none.

3. Minutes – of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6th November 2023 were proposed by PK and seconded by RDors as a true record. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman and have been displayed on notice boards and the website.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 **Burrington Inn Site** – no update at this stage

4.2 **Rickford Ford Update** – all agreed that we should go with the suggestions from NSC of (i) installing a sign ‘Unsuitable for Motor Vehicles’ under the current Ford sign (ii) making the current ‘No Through Road’ sign more visible and (iii) installing an additional ‘No Through Road’ sign on the south access of The Batch.

4.3 **Traffic Calming Measures A368** – see 4.5 below.

4.4 **Speed Limit Enforcement** – it was noted that Churchill, Blagdon and Sandford have all requested reduced speed limits. Churchill currently have a movable speed device that lights up and the option to share equipment could be considered.

4.5 **Highway Issues in the Parish** – HJ met with Cllr P Keating and members of the Highways team to discuss a number of issues within the Parish including traffic calming measures, speed limit enforcement the mobile library parking space and problems with the Ford in Rickford. Time did not allow for the issues at Burrington Combe junction to be covered but they will be raised in due course. We are waiting on a response from NSC following their visit to the sites mentioned. It was agreed that NSC should remove the bollards in Lower Langford. The Clerk undertook to request that NSC clear the gullies and jetwash the drains to help prevent flooding in Lower Langford, and other areas within the Parish, and that repairs to the stream edge be made to prevent houses in the Langford Lane being flooded.

4.6 **NSC Local Plan** - RD will submit a report on the proposed Local Plan, in particular on housing development, transport policies, Bristol Airport and Green belt, and car parking.

4.7 **Tidying Burrington Square** – suggestion has been made to replace the damaged curb and the tarmac, possibly with gravel. However, gravel was not considered to be a good option in view of weeds growing and the possibility of dog mess needing to be cleared up. A replacement bench has been suggested and a bike rack. RDors undertook to produce some sketches which can then be considered with residents. It was noted that electric cables run underground to the phone box and care will need to be taken when works are undertaken. A freestanding Notice Board could be placed behind the new bench. It was agreed that a Stonemason should be employed to refresh the Millenium Stone where the printing is beginning to fade.

4.8 **Mendip Hills Fund – Community & Environment Grants** – there is a possibility that we may qualify for a grant in the Spring.

5. Burrington Combe Toilets – a monthly direct debit has now been set up with water2business.

SSE energy – we are eligible for business support fund. Our annual contract ends in April and future options have been requested. NALC Community Ownership Fund may be an option to obtain funds to update and improve the public conveniences, RD will investigate. PK will pursue a grant from the AONB via Jim Hardcastle. RD attended a Zoom meeting with NSC regarding Explore North Somerset and emphasised the point that we have a very important visitor facility to maintain in our Parish and the difficulty of obtaining financial support. They were positive and appreciated the fact that we are a tourist area, but it is for us to advertise our tourist attraction of Burrington Combe and the Mendips.

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6. Police Report – can be viewed online. HJ & PK met with local officers from Nailsea Station and were advised that they are under resourced and therefore cannot provide cover or attend meetings. However, they will respond to any urgent calls. There is a possibility that they may get more PCSOs and 2 PCs who will be based in Nailsea but their area covers through Yatton to Blagdon. Information regarding increase in burglaries has been received but it was noted that there is not a problem in our Parish.

7. District Councillors Report – In his absence PKeating had forwarded a note on the Council Emergency Budget measures from which it was noted that NSC are short of funds and only statutory services will be supported.

As part of NSCs Corporate and Local Plans a request from Bleadon Parish Council for support regarding local food production and security was noted.

8. Correspondence:

8.1 **BHIB Council Insurance new name – ‘Clear Councils’** – Noted

8.2 **Road Closures** - Frys Lane, Burrington 22nd January & Langford Road 5th February – noted both Bristol Waterworks related.

8.3 **Footpath Closure** – The Batch, Rickford to Burrington, 15th January – University trials on pollution. A diversion will be signposted. PK declared an interest.

8.4 **Churchill & Langford Minibus Society AGM** – HJ advised that the Society is going very well with a number of drivers now recruited providing services to hospitals, shops deliveries, and checking on the vulnerable.

8.5 **NSC Rural Strategy Workshops 30th & 31st January** – noted.

8.6 **Replacement Grit Bin in Link Lane** – responsibility of the Parish Council to provide. The Clerk undertook to enquire if purchase should be made through NSC who should provide the salt/grit.

8.7 **UK Cycling Event – 13th July 2024** – noted.

8.8 **PCAA comments requested on terms of reference and Business Plan** – RD to respond at next PCAA meeting.

8.9 **NSC Town & Parish Forum 6th/7th Feb** - noted, no-one available to attend.

9. Planning

9.1 New

23/P/2312/TRCA – Harbrow, Langford Road, - tree works – no comments.

9.2 Update

23/P/1708/PIP – Buildings adjacent to the Hill, Ham Link – permission in principle for conversion & extension of existing stable and storage building to create 1 no. dwelling. No update at this stage.

Bristol Airport Expansion

23/P/2518/FUL - departure concourse - infill external void to create additional floor space for passenger check-in – no comment or objections.

PCAA re: NSC Local Plan – should Bristol Airport be removed from the Green Belt in NS? The purpose being to simplify development within the airport. RD to respond at next PCAA meeting; any GB change should be related to an Airport Development Plan adopted by NSC.

Blagdon Water Gardens – no update, the drainage issues have yet to be resolved.

10. **Burial Ground** – Mrs. Beverley Leech – burial 30th November; Mr. David Michael Parkes- double grave, 4th January 2024; Darian Alexandra Parkes, re-opening plot 120 for burial of ashes – date tba

11. **Accounts (Receipts & Payments)** – the payment of accounts shown below was proposed by RDors and seconded by RD.

12. **Precept for 2024-25** - all agreed that our Precept should be increased to £8,000 per annum. Proposed by PK and seconded by RD

13. **Budget 2023-24** – was officially signed off. Budget for 2024-25 still in draft format.

With effect from 1st April 2024, all agreed:

- the Clerk’s Salary should be increased from £2,500 to £3,000 per annum.

- the weekly rate for the BBC cleaning company should increase from £50 to £55.

Proposed by HJ, seconded by PK & RD.

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14. Any Other Business

- Holy Trinity Church – mystery figure in the rafters – spotted by a visitor to the church who was interested to know more about it. The suggestion is that it could be a trademark made by one of the carvers, as there are some visible at the end of several pews.
- NSC free flowers for the Parish – HJ will enquire
- STAR Bereavement Group Training – place on website
- Film Nights – this was raised a number of years ago but could not be progressed due to lack of internet. C. Husher will raise with the Parish Room committee to see if there are any funds to purchase a screen and speakers etc.
- NatWest online Banking – the Clerk undertook to enquire about online banking and will check with ALCA regarding the required number of signatories.

15. Date of Next Meeting – Monday, 26th February 2024

The meeting closed at 9.13 pm.