

BURFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Burford Parish Council held on Thursday 25th May 2023 at 7:00pm at Burford Village Hall, Burford, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8JX.

PRESENT: Cllrs. S. Kitchen, A. Morris and B. Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs L. Bruton (Acting Clerk), Cllr. R. Huffer (Shropshire Council) and 2 members of the public.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Members received and noted apologies for absence from, Cllr. E. Beaumont due to being delayed on route, Cllr. J. Yarnold due to attending another meeting and Cllr. A. Yarnold work commitments

2. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed attendees to the Annual Parish meeting.

3. MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr. B. Thomas seconded by Cllr. A. Morris and unanimously,

RESOLVED:

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 26th May 2022, were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true and correct record of proceedings.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Cllr. Kitchen presented the Parish Council's Annual report. Attached (**Appendix A**)

5. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr. R. Huffer provided a verbal report to the meeting.

Cllr. Huffer apologised for his lack of attention and support provided to Burford Parish Council in recent months. Unfortunately, Cleve Ward has been a priority over Burford along with family commitments. In addition, presently his workload from Shropshire Council has been arriving faster than it is possible for him to deal with.

There is currently consultation being undertaken for the Boundary Commission review of Shropshire. There will be a potential impact on the Cleve division with part of Bitterley proposed to

be included with Stottesdon. Nash and Boraston, which have a strong connection with Knowle and Burford, the Boundary Commission are recommending these parishes are included in the Cleobury Mortimer Ward. It is felt that other than education there is no connection with this ward. Nash and Boraston are not happy with the recommendations and have sent out a questionnaire to residents to seek their opinion.

Cllr. Huffer is unsure of the impact of the review for Burford and will be arranging a meeting with officers from Shropshire Council. The Boundary Commission's aim is to ensure that the electorate number in each ward is relatively equal. Cllr. Huffer stated that there had been little or no development in the rest of the division. Burford may have housing developments in the future that may equate to the change in the division numbers.

A member queried what was happening regarding the road surface repairs along the A456. Cllr. Huffer replied that he had been informed that the repairs would be carried out in this financial year, which included resurfacing.

The Chair stated that the potholes had been temporary filled however the roads are dangerous and potentially could cause an accident. Cllr. Huffer stated that contractors were undertaking the work on behalf of Shropshire Council, which unfortunately is not working. Cllr. Huffer stated he would forward the last email he sent to Shropshire Council. The Chair requested an officer from Highways visit Burford to understand the road and pavement issues.

6. VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL REPORT

Cllr. Morris presented the annual village report. Attached (**Appendix B**)

7. POLICE ANNUAL REPORT

No report was received from the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team.

It was noted that the team have been carrying out regular speeding spot checks on the A456.

8. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cllr. Huffer queried whether speed data had been collected. The Chair stated that, unfortunately, the Council never met the police team and any communication with the team has been unsuccessful. Cllr. Huffer recommended contacting the police road safety team to request speed monitoring data is collected.

A member of the public stated the pavements are in an awful condition, especially near the old Swan Hotel where the pavement dips. On the opposite side of the road tree roots are protruding through the pavement, which is an accident waiting to happen.

A member of the public stated that the main road to Tenbury is in an extremely poor condition and if it rains the road is full of puddles. More consideration should be given to pedestrians.

A member of the public volunteered to water the Coronation tree, which was planted recently on Boraston Drive. The Chair accepted the kind offer of support.

9. CLOSING COMMENT

The Chair, Cllr. Kitchen thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish meeting.

Meeting closed at 7:41pm.

Signed:

Date:

APPENDIX A – Chair's Report

The parish council has had a very busy year with getting funding for the playground and then going out for estimates for replacing the Swings and repairing the current equipment. This was a major piece of work that took many man hours thanks to Councillor Griffin and Councillor Beaumont for taking the lead on this project.

I would like to thank Lesley Jenkins for her work as our clerk until her resignation in July of 2022, we had great trouble in getting a new clerk and I kept it all going until our new clerk Carole Hirst took over in November who is doing a great job with a lot of knowledge on parish clerking. Thank you, Carole.

We have done another big piece of work on our lighting and carried out an audit on our streetlights for our new supplier to bill us correctly. Thanks to Pyrismian for assisting with this task.

Lights have been fixed as we have become aware that they need fixing. Please report lights that need fixing to the clerk on the email address.

We are in the process at purchasing a bench to commemorate the late Queens jubilee and a tree for the coronation. We are aware that the bench is late, but we were unable to access our money last year from the bank.

We have gone out to tender for the grass mowing and the company has now started to cut the grass week commencing 17th April 2023

I would like to thank all my fellow councillors and clerk for the past year for supporting the community and myself in providing amenities for Burford Parish.

APPENDIX B – Village Hall Report

The hall has had a good financial year generating much needed funds, approximately £6000 profit from Jan - Dec 2022. The main focus for that year was to get the hall financially into a better place, H&S all updated and for the hall to be open and accessible to the local community. We have seen many groups come and go for various reasons but still have a core group of regular bookings.

The AGM was held in April with the committee being elected, this has stayed as previous. The elected committee are now focused on future proofing the hall by modernising and completing much needed maintenance where possible.

The challenge the committee faces for the new year is to continue bringing in regular revenue into the hall to help cover ever increasing running costs as well as building funds for any required maintenance or improvements. In order to support this the committee (volunteers) are looking to hold more regular fund-raising events.

The committee would like to thank everyone who has supported the hall in any way over the last year.

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