

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on **MONDAY 7th APRIL 2014** in the Parish Room, Burrington

PRESENT:	Councillors	Mr. Paul Keel Mrs. Frances Wilson Mr. Roger Daniels Mr. John Rhodes Mr. Richard Dors	(PK) (FW) (RF) (JR) (RDors)	Chairman Vice Chair
-----------------	-------------	--	---	------------------------

Also present:

Mrs. Teresa Martin (TM) Clerk
Mr. Mark Hughes (MH) Head of Housing (Liaison Officer) NSC
Mr. Jeff Shipway (JS) North Somerset Council
Mrs. Elizabeth Wells (EW) District Councillor
PC Ray Bradley (RB)
Mr. Stephen Hales, Parish Councils Airports Association (PCAA)
Mr. Stephen Edwards, Traffic Management Through Villages (TMTV)
Mr. Andy Mallender, AONB
Sir David Wills
Chris Fitton & Ian Hillman, Local Fire Brigade
14 Parishioners

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr & Mrs R Shapland
Mr. Martin Kerly

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were none.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING held on 8th April 2013 were approved by the Councillors and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

These were historic and have been dealt with.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In addition to the published report already circulated, the Chairman added the following updates:

The Parish Council has now taken over the liability and day to day running of Burrington Combe toilets, in partnership with many activity groups who use the facilities, and they are actively looking at applying for grants to improve the toilets. The Chairman thanked Andy Mallender of the AONB for his efforts in securing donations to help keep the toilets open, and Sir David Wills the landowner, and all groups who have given support to the Parish Council on this matter. He also thanked the Husher family for their hard work in cleaning and maintaining the toilets to the high standard we all expect. It is hoped that the rate payers will not be burdened with future running costs as the funds are available to demolish the facilities if needs be.

Maintenance of the Churchyard continues to be undertaken by contractors - Dignity - and this is working well. The Parish Council will continue to monitor.

The Chairman gave thanks to:

Stan Croker for his work as Village Orderly and to Alan Green who has now taken over this role following Stan's retirement; Jeff Martin for keeping the burial ground up to a high standard; the Gray family for looking after the trough in the Square; PC Ray Bradley for regularly attending Council meetings, and for his support generally which will be sadly missed when he retires in October this year; Mark Hughes (NSC) also a regular attendee, who acts as our liaison officer with NSC putting us in touch with the right department and chasing answers for us; Jeff Shipway our Area Contact with NSC, who is available 24/7 to assist with major problems; Bob Shapland, for auditing the books; Stephen Edwards & Stephen Hale for keeping us informed on matters concerning the TMTV and PCAA; Martin Kerly for his work on the Rickford Residents Association; Teresa Martin for looking after the Councillors; fellow Councillors for their time and commitment to the role.

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

PRESENTATION/DEMONSTRATION ON DEFIBRILLATORS

Two members of the local fire brigade gave a short presentation/demonstration on the life saving impact of quickly accessing and using a defibrillator. There are two available in Blagdon and also at Churchill School and surgery. The purpose of the demonstration was to make residents aware of the opportunity to purchase one for the Parish. The cost is around £2,000 and it was suggested that local groups might like to organise fund raising activities to raise monies to purchase a defibrillator for Burrington Parish. The Clerk undertook to write to Ian Hillman and Chris Fitton to thank them for their time.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was nothing to report, and no questions were raised from the public. The Chairman thanked Liz Wells for her regular attendance and support.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT THROUGH VILLAGES (TMTV)

Stephen Edwards gave an update on the activities of TMTV which was set up 12 years ago initially to address the NSC proposals for a Banwell bypass. An HGV weight restriction has been imposed on part of the A368 between Churchill and Burrington Combe and efforts are still being made to do the same for the B3134, especially through the Combe. The Bristol South Ring Road is due to be completed in approximately 5 years time when the A370 WSM to Bristol road will become part of the Primary Route Network of the UK at which time the main road through Banwell will be declassified, preventing HGV from using this route. TMTV are looking for new volunteers and anyone interested should contact Stephen Edwards. The Chairman thanked Stephen for his update and the work that the TMTV undertake.

- PARISH COUNCILS AIRPORT ASSOCIATION (PCAA)

Stephen Hale gave an update. Aircraft noise levels in local areas has been an issue and a number of local residents are to be compensated with funds to cover the cost of installing double glazing. It is hoped that new navigation aids on aircrafts will allow them to fly at 4,000 ft before dropping into land, rather than the current level of 2,000 ft, thereby reducing the noise level. Problems at Cardiff Airport has resulted in more passengers traveling from Bristol which, in turn has caused an increase in traffic. The problems are likely to be resolved shortly and passengers will return to using Cardiff easing the strain at Bristol airport. The Chairman thanked Stephen for keeping the Parish Council updated on airport matters.

- AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB)

The Chairman welcomed Andy Mallender to the meeting. Andy advised that a lottery grant was obtained last year to help raise awareness and improve the care of the Mendip Hills, and contributions received recently have helped to secure the 'Discovering Blackdown' Project. A volunteer team work well in the area clearing litter, clearing scrub etc.

- WEDMORE CHARITIES

Frances Wilson advised that there is £13,710.82 in the accounts of Wedmore Charities which unfortunately is earning little interest at this time. However, the Charity still manages to give a donation to people when they are widowed.

- CONSERVATORS

Sir David Wills advised that the Conservators have a 10 year Stewardship Plan. Problems they are currently experiencing are gates being left open, too many dogs on Burrington Ham and exposed cliff edges that are preventing the grazing of either cattle or horses. The clearance of bracken and scrub has been undertaken along with tree felling behind Burrington Cafe.

POLICE REPORT

PC Ray Bradley thanked the Chairman for his kind words and said that although this would be his last AGM he would hope to attend as many Parish Council meetings as possible before October. The crime figures for the past 12 months showed Blagdon decreasing from 26 - 18, Burrington increasing from 7 - 18; Butcombe decreasing from 10 - 7; Churchill increasing from 83 - 96 and Winford increasing from 93 - 104. The Police Cadet Scheme within our Parish goes from strength to strength with 34 cadets made up of local teenagers. Force wide there are 8 units with 240 cadets altogether. A Force wide co-ordinator post may be created and RB would hope to be in the running for this position. Currently the scheme is self funding but there may be a need at some future date to raise funds and the Chairman advised that the Parish Council would be happy to make a donation at such a time. John Rhodes asked how the Neighbourhood Watch schemes were fairing. RB advised that our area is part of the Somerset Force who have their own Co-ordinator. He offered to assist in the setting up of new local schemes, and also to revive old schemes. At the end of April a new

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

scheme will be launched called Rural Watch incorporating schemes such as Farm Watch, Horse Watch and others. An advertisement will be issued shortly confirm the date and details.

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL

Mark Hughes, who acts as our Liaison Officer within NSC, gave an update on local issues over the last year. The biggest challenge for NSC has been the cut in funding. They have saved 30% but have to save a further £22m between now and 2018. They are looking at ways to be efficient and save funds without reducing standards. Job opportunities in North Somerset have increased with the Employment Action Zone at junction 21. Knightstone Housing moved to the area creating more jobs, and the Hive new build for small enterprises will create even more. Work has started on the redevelopment of Weston Airport and Locking Park, and road improvements have been made at junction 21. The number of floods in North Somerset were relatively small this year in comparison to other areas. MH acknowledged that there is still more to do on flood prevention. 150 'affordable' homes were built in the region last year, and a new scheme for homeless people has been launched. MK regarded the action taken by the Parish Council in respect of the public toilets in Burrington Combe as very positive, in particular the cleaning and general upkeep of the premises. The Chairman thanked MH for his input and support through the year.

The Chairman welcomed Jeff Shipway (NSC) to the meeting and thanked him for his help in following up issues, in particular in relation to repairs at the Ford in Rickford.

ACCOUNTS 2013/14

The draft accounts had been printed in the Annual Newsletter and were displayed on the screen. There were no questions from the public. The accounts were proposed by Roger Daniels and seconded by John Rhodes. The 'final' year end accounts will be prepared for, and approved at, the next Parish Council Meeting.

FUTURE PARISH PLANS

- PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES

Roger Daniels gave a presentation on the proposed changes and advised that the Parish Council have written to the Local Government Boundary Commission highlighting our concerns over the proposals and giving reasons why the electoral divisions suggested would not work.

- COMMUNITY RESILIENCE NORTH SOMERSET

Another title for 'Emergency Planning'! This is a national program asking local volunteers to help deal with local emergencies. A lot of thought has been given to how this could work within our Parish and further consideration will be given over coming months. An open meeting will be arranged for the autumn and, in the meantime, if anyone would like to get involved they should email the Clerk (burringtonpc@yahoo.co.uk).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jackie Kerly advised that there is a small group of people within Rickford who are working on a project to commemorate the start of WW1 and they would welcome others who may like to get involved.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.35 pm to be followed by a Parish Council Meeting.