

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on **MONDAY 3rd April 2017** in the Parish Room, Burrington

PRESENT: Councillors Mr. Paul Keel (PK) Chairman
Mr. John Rhodes (JR)
Mr. Richard Dors (RDors)

Also Present:

Mrs. Teresa Martin (TM) Clerk
Mr. Mark Hughes (MH) Liaison Officer NSC Mr. Jeff Shipway, NSC (JS)
Cllr Elizabeth Wells (EW) PCSO Pen Gatenby
Mr. Anthony Brown, Churchill & Langford Mini Bus Society

Parishioners:

Mr. & Mrs. Law Mr. & Mrs P Husher Mr C Husher Mr. & Mrs. R Shapland
Ms K Gale Mrs Jackson Mrs R Whimshurst Mrs. M Keel Mr. & Mrs. R Taylor

1. **WELCOME** - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and followed this with a tribute to Frances Willson, Vice Chair, who sadly passed away last week. This was followed by a minute's silence.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

PCSO Marie Broomfield, Mr & Mrs M McLennon, Mr. Alan Green

3. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** - There were none.

4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** held on 11th April 2016 were approved by the Councillors and signed by the Chairman.

5. **MATTERS ARISING** - These were historic and have been dealt with.

6. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

In addition to the published report already circulated, the Chairman expressed thanks to the following for their contribution over the past year:

All groups financially contributing towards keeping Burrington Combe toilets up and running; the Husher family for their hard work in cleaning and maintaining the toilets to a very high standard and it was noted that a further letter of thanks had been left in the safe post donation box from a member of the public.

The Chairman advised that plans have been drawn up to build disabled facilities and a washdown area for bikers and cavers. It is hoped that a grant may be obtained to allow these improvements to take place.

The Chairman also gave thanks to:

Alan Green for his grand work as Village Orderly; Jeff Martin for keeping the burial ground up to a high standard; Roger Taylor for again volunteering to deliver the Annual Newsletter to every house within the Parish; PCSOs Pen Gatenby and Marie Broomfield for keeping us up to date with crime figures and alerting us to problems; Mark Hughes (NSC) who acts as our liaison officer with NSC putting us in touch with the right department and chasing answers for us; Cllr Liz Wells for keeping us informed of issues affecting our area; Jeff Shipway our Area Contact with NSC, who is available 24/7 to assist with any problems; fellow Councillors for their time and commitment to the role; Bob Shapland, for auditing the books; the many people who serve on our behalf on local groups; Teresa Martin, the Clerk, for looking after the Councillors.

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

7. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** - There was no formal report but LW asked for any questions. Comment was made regarding the very poor broadband reception in the Parish and the lack of support we were receiving from NSC in our quest to improve the situation. Cllr Roger Daniels recently met with representatives from Voneus who are currently installing high speed fibre in Priddy and details on how to sign up with them can be found on our website.

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8. NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL

Mark Hughes gave an update on their achievements and challenges over the year. He mentioned the improvements at Junction 21; Hinkley Point development where 360 businesses have joined the supply train; Weston College having bought the Winter Gardens and now taking on University Status; WSM town square is to be redeveloped and Dolphin Square will be completed shortly; a new Care Scheme providing independent living with on-site care has recently opened in Worle; the new South Bristol ring road is now complete. NSC's support of Parish Councils includes running workshops on planning issues. They continue to work under considerable financial pressure.

JR asked whether NSC were working closely with the National Health Scheme and MH advised they were especially with social care/hospital discharge and housing. They also have a joint health scrutiny team. Martin Law mentioned the restricted parking zone around Bristol Airport and the withdrawal of Article 4. MH was unable to comment on this issue. It was noted that NSC will be taking over responsibility from the police for certain parking offenses and it was suggested that profit from this should go back into repair of highways and public transport. It was noted that £8m has been invested into replacing recycle equipment and providing a better service from a new contractor - Biffa - later in the year it is hoped that the recycling of small electrical items such as toasters will be collected from homes.

Jeff Shipway, Area Officer of NSC, was introduced. He is our first point of contact for issues such as fly tipping/drains/potholes. If he is unable to help he will always point us in the right direction.

PK advised of road repair works to be undertaken in three sections on the A368 in July. This will result in road closures from 9.30 - 3.00 and lorries being able to use Ashey Lane in a controlled way. It was suggested that whilst major patching works are being undertaken, improvements to the drainage should be done at the same time.

9. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- **CHURCHILL & LANGFORD MINI BUS SOCIETY** - Anthony Brown, Chair, gave an update on the Society that has been running for 42 years. Over the last two years, it has been run alongside the Good Companions Group who look to combat the growing problem of social isolation within the local community. They now have sufficient funds to keep two buses running. New members are welcome. It is free to join the Society, just complete the form - link provided on our website www.burrington-pc.org.uk A small charge is made for each trip. They are always looking for volunteer drivers who will receive full training.

- **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT THROUGH VILLAGES (TMTV)**

TMTV are currently taking a sabbatical and will be reinstated once new road developments are in place.

- **PARISH COUNCILS AIRPORT ASSOCIATION (PCAA)**

Stephen Hale has now stood down as representative. The PCAA represents 13 Parish Councils and their views on airport issues e.g. parking, night flights etc. Councillors will take it in turns to attend future meetings.

- **WEDMORE CHARITIES** - The charity continues to provide a Christmas Gift to widows/widowers.

- **CONSERVATORS**

The Conservators have not met this past year, but the introduction of a new public protection order will require a meeting shortly. Conservators manage the livestock, all of which has to be female - only horses being ridden on the land can be male; strimming hedges and undergrowth; behaviour on the common land including off-road vehicles. The problem of dog poo being left in bags and the suggestion that we adopt the 'stick & flick' policy was raised.

10. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Pen Gatenby advised that crime figures in our Parish have not increased and mainly consist of calls regarding cattle in the Combe. PG repeated the need for signs painted on the road warning of cattle as this is more visible at night. Jeff Shipway undertook to raise the issue with NSC. The police budget is decreasing and the station in Nailsea has now been sold. The PCSOs now work out of the fire station in Nailsea. A new system recently rolled out will mean that the closest officer to any call will respond. They are trying to get more officers on the beat. Any queries for the PCSOs should be passed through PK or the Clerk.

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11. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2016/17

Copies of the final accounts @31st March 2017 were handed to those present and the Chair explained the content. It was noted that there is a high amount in the reserves and the Chair pointed out that £8,000 is kept in a separate account to be used for the sole purpose of demolishing the Burrington Combe toilets should the need arise. The precept has been kept to £3,000 having remained at this level for the past 15 years.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm.