

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on **MONDAY 20TH MAY 2013**, in The Parish Room, Burrington.

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

ALSO PRESENT: PC Ray Bradley (RB)
Mrs. Teresa Martin (Clerk)
Mr. Simon Clarke
Mrs. Trudi Davies

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Mrs. Liz Wells (LW)
Mr. Mark Hughes (NSC Liaison Officer)

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Simon Clarke gave a presentation looking at a possible long term solution to the amount of traffic through Burrington village. He expressed concern regarding: safety aspects, in particular during school drop-off and pick-ups where up to 30 cars can be parked in the Square causing hazards and inconvenience to local residents trying to exit their driveways; access for emergency vehicles; pollution from the vehicles causing a 'green' issue. Simon suggested a solution could be purchasing the field behind the burial ground (which is currently owned by the Diocese) and making a car park with access from the Burrington Combe road. The footpath behind the burial ground would provide access from the car park to the school. The car park should be 'organic' to blend in with the rural area. He also suggested that signs on the entrance to the village should say 'Slow Children/School' and the speed limit reduced to 20 mph. The provision of a car park would clear the Square giving the opportunity to create a raised grass area to prevent parking, giving clear access to emergency vehicles and designated loading bay/disabled/school bus spaces. Simon suggested that the Parish Council has a responsibility to ensure that the village is safe for all.

Trudi Davies made three points; her concern for child safety; driveway regularly blocked; the village is defined by the school which has an impact on residents living on the Square.

It was noted that there was general concern for the safety of children playing in the Square unsupervised - not just from an accident point of view, but possible abduction.

The suggestion was made that clearer signs at the entrance to the village should be installed to prevent people taking the wrong turning looking for Burrington Combe.

The Chairman thanked Simon for his presentation and undertook to discuss the issue with Councillors and consider the way forward.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman	Paul Keel	Proposed by Frances Wilson, seconded by Roger Daniels
Vice Chair	Frances Wilson	Proposed by Richard Dors, seconded by John Rhodes

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES

Bristol Airport (PCAA)	Steve Hale	Proposed by Paul Keel, seconded by Frances Wilson
Parish Room	Richard Dors	Proposed by Paul Keel, seconded by John Rhodes
Wedmore Charity	Steven Plumley	Proposed by Paul Keel, seconded by Frances Wilson
Conservators	Paul Keel	Proposed by John Rhodes, seconded by Roger Daniels

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

MATTERS ARISING

Access to Rickford - it had been noted that engineers from North Somerset Council (NSC) have been on site recently, therefore discussions are still on-going.

Ford Repair at Rickford - the access road to the Ford is still closed. JR will contact Mark Hughes for an update.

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Erection of Chevron in Burrington Combe - has now been installed and no accidents reported to date.

Public Conveniences in Burrington Combe - a further meeting to discuss the way forward is being held on 21st May which the Chairman will attend.

Pedestrian Access, The Batch - it was noted that the 'Slow Children' sign had been knocked down. JR confirmed that this has been noted by NSC. Still awaiting the 'temporary' flashing light.

Speedwatch - Clearing of Road Signs - JR advised that he had visited the Bath Road with a representative from NSC pointing out the signs that were missing or obscured. NSC undertook to put this road on top of the list for repair/replacement and cutting back of hedges. JR also confirmed that having visited Burrington Combe the white lines would be refreshed and missing ones renewed. The range on the vehicle activated flashing sign has been increase, but JR is still trying to reduce the speed limit required to activate the sign. He is still awaiting confirmation of the number of times the sign has been activated over the past year.

PK advised that he has spoken to Jeff Shipway of NSC asking for hedges in Burrington Combe to be cut to allow clear vision for residents exiting from their properties onto the road.

Flooding in Lower Langford - JR advised that nothing has happened since the recent local meetings held to discuss the problem and he will keep in contact with NSC. 17 houses were affected by the flooding in Langford. Langford Road will be closed from 3rd June for Wessex Water to repair/replace manhole covers.

Burial Ground - further thought will be given to repairing sunken graves.

POLICE REPORT

PC Ray Bradley advised that the crime figures for April were Blagdon 1, Burrington 2, Butcombe 0, Churchill 9 and Winford 6. Most of the crimes were non dwelling burglaries - sheds being targeted with lawn mowers and strimmers being stolen. Generally across North Somerset there has been a spate of mountain bikes being stolen with thieves also targeting cars parked whilst out biking, and then following the cars home to see where the bikes are stored.

PK took the opportunity to advise RB that he has been in correspondence with Julian Moss and the Police Commissioner regarding future policing in the Parish. The response from Julian Moss had advised that they would be looking for someone of similar calibre and commitment as Ray to replace him and also looking for a PCSO to assist. RB advised that they are hoping to get his replacement to shadow him for a couple of months before Ray takes retirement.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Wells had offered her apologies due to holiday. PK read out an update where LW advised that the issue of lorries in Burrington Combe was still under consideration but the delay in progress would appear to be between BANES and Somerset. On the issue of parking on the Burrington Combe garden site, she has spoken to Mike Campbell, the Enforcement Officer with NSC, who is in contact with the owner and is monitoring the situation.

NSC LIAISON OFFER'S REPORT

In his absence, PK read out Mark Hughes report. MH advised he has requested action on the traffic sign at Rickford and works to the Ford and will advise in due course. He has also raised the flooding issues and lack of response with Colin Medus, the Head of Highways. MH will keep in touch with JR on this matter.

MH is looking at ways to keep the Parish Council better informed of progress on works generally and also ways to provide a streamlined system for enabling the Parish Council to report issues. The Highways team have been trying out a system with Yatton PC that they hope to roll out to Burrington. Currently this is in the form of a spreadsheet regularly circulated setting out issues and the current position.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE NORTH SOMERSET

Discussion took place on the way forward. It was noted that Burrington has a small population spread over a wide area and it may be better to join forces with another PC. It was felt that in a crises villagers would all pull together to help one another. Further thought will be given to producing a plan that would suit our Parish.

CORRESPONDENCE

BURRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

AON Insurance Renewal - the new schedule was noted and all agreed to renew the insurance with AON at the reduced rate of £604.09. The Clerk undertook to send off the renewal form and cheque.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13/P/0406/F - Aardvark Endeavours -the Clerk read out further comments obtained from NSC planning website.

13/P/0305/F - Church Farm, Fry's Lane, Burrington - it was noted that permission had been granted.

BURIAL GROUND/CHURCHYARD

The wording and sizing of the memorial for John Abdy was approved by all. The Clerk undertook to confirm with Adams Memorials.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

NALC (postage and packaging for booklets)	£4.50
J G & T Martin - 2 cuts & strimming of burial ground	£100.00
AON Annual Insurance Renewal	<u>£604.09</u>
	£708.59
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Payment of the above accounts were proposed by John Rhodes and seconded by Richard Dors.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Sign-off of the Annual Accounts was proposed by Roger Daniels and seconded by Frances Wilson. The Clerk undertook to forward a copy to RD for inclusion on the Parish website.

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

Councillors went through the return and its sign-off was proposed by John Rhodes and seconded by Richard Dors. The Clerk undertook to return the papers to Grant Thornton.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

West of England Rural Network (WERN)

RD had looked into the background of this network which is Government funded and could be useful to the Parish Council. Membership is free and RD has completed a membership form, but is still awaiting a response from them. RD will keep the PC advised.

It was felt that an informal meeting should be held to allow discussion on larger issues like risk assessment and community resilience project, and this would be considered.

Discussion took place on traffic in Burrington village and the suggestions made by Simon Clarke. Concern was voiced over the cost of providing a car park, and who would pay these costs - which would be considerable. It was noted that the congestion caused by the school runs only lasts for 15 minutes twice a day. The suggestion of 'rumble' strips to reduce speed at either end of the village was considered, but it was felt that the noise generated from these would rule them out. All agreed that we will look at improved signage, in keeping with the village, and reducing the speed limit. Councillors agreed to take a closer look at the Home Zone Project and further discussion will take place at the next meeting. In the meantime, PK undertook to speak with the Head Teacher at Burrington School to get her thoughts/ideas on the situation and to obtain data regarding how many cars are used by staff/parents, how many can/do car share.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 15th July 2013, and the earlier time of 7 pm, to be held in the Parish Room, Burrington.