

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF BUNBURY PARISH COUNCIL
9 SEPTEMBER 2020**

This was a remote meeting. *Councillors and the Parish Clerk participated from their homes by dialing into an audio only conference call. Members of the public were able to listen in to the meeting and participate in the Local Forum by phoning a central number and entering a passcode supplied on request from the Parish Clerk.*

PRESENT: Councillor M Ireland-Jones Acting Chairman
Councillors, N Parker, M Thomas, P Brookfield, L Potter and CE Cllr S Pochin.

IN ATTENDANCE: Marilyn Houston, Clerk to the Parish Council, 2 members of the public and one member of the press.

Announcement of Chairman's cup award – This year the trophy is being awarded to Fiona Parker in recognition of her work on the Community Project and delivering over 3000 newspapers. The presentation of the trophy will be arranged later in the year

OPEN FORUM

Sue Harris asked about the minutes of the last meeting, why there was a part two that was not open to the public. The Clerk explained that this was to protect confidentiality of individuals or commercial matters and is in line with Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972.

A resident asked about an unsafe damson tree between his property and the playing field and wanted to find out if it is going to be removed. Cllr Parker explained that a quote has been received and will be discussed at agenda item 7.2 under tree maintenance. Cllr Parker has met with the maintenance team and looked at the tree which can be removed without access to the property

09.09.01 APOLOGIES

Cllrs R Pulford, T Greco, G Griffith and J Gillon. Cllr G Melia had indicated he would try to join but may have connectivity issue. He was unable to join the meeting.

09.09.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

Members were invited to declare any personal interest (non-pecuniary) or disclosable pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.
None

**09.09.03 MINUTES
(PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING ON 8 JULY)**

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 8 July. A hard copy will be signed by the Chairman at a future date when safe to do so. Chair asked all individually if accepted

09.9.04 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr Pochin reported:-

The council's financial concerns – due to coronavirus there's been an overspend and a loss of income e.g from car parks and marriage ceremonies plus loss of council tax and business rates This has resulted in a funding gap so cuts are being looked at.

Soft reminder notices have gone out to those who owe council tax but nevertheless the council has to start collecting it.

Everybody leisure - 9 indoor pools open in September and prebooked classes. They are desperate to get facilities open

Payment by cash is being reintroduced in car parks parking.

Flexi link bus service is back up and running for elderly and disabled with reduced numbers and journeys

09.09.05 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The Chairman invited Members to give a brief report on any matters they were aware of, not covered by the agenda.

Cllr Potter reported the co-op refurbishment is continuing, the chippy is open, the church clock is working. The church has won a prize in a national photo competition. On 11 September Tilley's are having a BBQ. The schools are open. The Flower Show was a success.

Cllr Brookfield reported a Police alert on theft of bikes and tips on keeping safe are on their website. She wanted to reassure residents that she has been in close contact with Sharon Jones who is making a point of coming to the village on late shifts and has actually visited in her own time

Cllr Thomas reported a 'complaint' from a local resident regarding the overgrown hedges and verges, along Birds Lane, especially in the 'bottleneck' from the end of Wyche Lane. It's a potential danger for anyone on foot as there is precious little space even when everything is cut back. It was confirmed that it was the landowner's responsibility to cut these.

09.09.06 PLANNING MATTERS

09.09.06.1 Planning applications, reserved matters and discharge of conditions applications received from Cheshire East since last meeting.

20/2497N The Cedars, Whitchurch Road, Bunbury, CW6 9SX

Erection of a detached family dwelling and Garage, new access and associated landscaping. (Approval of all reserved matters on application 14/2348N, 17/4186N)

RESOLVED: No comment

20/3290N Little Orchard, College Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9PG for comment by 2 Sep (CE

Planning have extended deadline to 10 Sep for PC comments)

Listed Building Consent for two storey rear extension with minor alterations

RESOLVED: No comment

20/3289N Little Orchard, College Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9PG Proposed two storey rear extension with minor alterations for comment by 2 September (CE Planning have extended deadline to 10 September for PC comments)

RESOLVED: No comment

20/3555N Greenacres, Wyche Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9PS by 7 September (CE Planning have extended deadline to 10 Sep for PC comments) Alterations to front elevation roofs, and new render finish throughout.

RESOLVED: No comment

20/3647N Heather House, Bunbury Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9QU Infill existing covered car port with new dining room and build single storey utility room extension (comment by 16 September)

RESOLVED: No comment

20/3641N Rowton Cottage, Bunbury Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9QZ

Construction of windowless timber shed and garden studio and associated landscaping to include screening of existing oil tank and waste bins comment by 30 September

RESOLVED: No comment

09.09.06.2 Decisions made by Cheshire East Council – For information only

The following information had been received and was noted.

20/2307N 08/06/2020 South (CE) Delegated Agenda Bunbury (2011)

Decision : approved with conditions Decision Date : 18/08/2020

Location : Brantwood, School Lane, CW6 9PA Proposal Listed building consent for partial removal of lower section gable wall to site of property forming part of internal partition following previous approval 20/0250N & 20/0251N.

20/2304N 08/06/2020 South (CE) Delegated Agenda Bunbury (2011)

UNCLASSIFIED

Decision : approved with conditions Decision Date : 18/08/2020

Location : Brantwood, School Lane, CW6 9PA Proposal Non Material Amendment to 20/0250N

20/1698N 24/04/2020 South (CE) Delegated Agenda Bunbury (2011)

Decision : approved with conditions Decision Date : 26/08/2020

Location : The Old Coach House, Bowes Gate Road, CW6 9PJ Proposal Conversion of redundant outbuilding to residential use and extension to existing dwelling linking the outbuilding and dwelling

09.09.06.3 New Housing Development

Cllr Ireland-Jones informed the meeting that he had nothing new to report.

09.09.07. Playing Fields

09.09.07.01 General update from Cllr Parker

Cllr Parker reported that a wasp's nest was dealt with urgently and he had paid the invoice. This will be dealt with under finance. The ROSPA playground safety report has been received. It is being gone through looking at action needed. These could be done with the help of volunteers. There will be a further report next month.

The funds are in place for purchase of the defibrillators. These are being purchased together so the PC donation will be used to fund the installation in liaison with the Clerk. For the one on the pavilion the electrician needs to work out how to wire it up, so a site visit is being arranged. The Clerk explained about the arrangement for paying the donation.

There has been a meeting at the playing fields with Mid Cheshire Grounds maintenance to look at repairs and safety work, e.g. tree branches. The dip in the pitch is going to be sorted out. Other matters are covered later on the agenda.

09.09.07.02 Other playing fields matters

A quote has been received for £340 to cut down the damson tree and a 2nd quote is being sought. The design for new bins is being looked at. Cylindrical bins in black are the same price as the euro hooded bins and are preferred.

RESOLVED: To approve the removal of the Damson tree with the cheapest quote obtained.

09.09.08. Consultations

09.08.08.1 Cheshire East -To consider responding to any consultations on the CE website. None requiring response.

09.09.08.2 Government Planning White Paper To consider a response from the PC.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907647/MHCLG-Planning-Consultation.pdf

The deadline is 29 October so a final response can be agreed at the next PC meeting. Cllr Ireland-Jones had drafted a document which he had circulated before the meeting for Members to consider as a starting point and there is a need to consider the mechanism for doing this:

1. Do we want to publish the attached document and invite comments from residents as well as the PC members? Or just ask people to read the White Paper and send comments without reading our thoughts?

Note: Individuals are free to submit a response to the Government if they wish so everyone can make their views heard, we are not preventing anyone from sending in comments.

2. If there is sufficient interest amongst the PC members we could agree to hold a separate remote meeting or assign a sub group to review the Paper, It is not practical to review it all in a PC meeting. This is a huge document and there are around thirty questions to respond to.

RESOLVED: to form a sub team to work through it and invite Andrew Thompson and Peter Gormon to participate. To publicise to residents.

Cllrs Thomas, Brookfield and Cllr Pochin are willing to participate

UNCLASSIFIED

09.09.9 Local Policing Issues – To receive an update from local police if available.

None present

09.09.10. Requests from Retailers

09.09.10.1 Co-Op - an update. Bollards and filling in a hole in car park will be arranged. The shop fit project is on schedule to be back in November. Cllr Brookfield enquired about operating the bollards. This needs to be discussed.

09.09.10.2 Trading from the car park. The PC has received a number of enquiries about trading from the car park including a Nantwich plant trader and a mobile pizza van
 - To consider whether traders should, in principle, be allowed to trade from vans in the car park, this is a preliminary discussion and more consultation may be required.
 - To decide what restrictions e.g. number, times etc. would need to be in place and what charges, if any, should be made if this trade was approved.
RESOLVED to agree in principle but defer to next meeting.

09.09.11. Village Maintenance team - An update

Cllr Ireland -Jones is hoping to get a team together to address the issues raised in the ROSPA playground inspection and will report back to next meeting

09.09.12. Seasonal Events – to receive information on any planned events and possible funding requirements

Bonfire Night - to agree the format and budget for the annual Fireworks display on 5 November. Previously the PC agreed to go ahead with some sort of event on 5 November Cllr Ireland Jones had circulated proposed options after he and Cllr Parker had met with Light Tech, the company that manages the display. They suggest that they launch the fireworks from the far end of the field by Wyche Lane, debris will mainly fall on the field opposite.
 Need to decide how will run the event and agree a budget for the fireworks. Last year the PC spent around £2,000 excluding VAT.

Assuming that mass gatherings will not be permitted by November 5,(if they are we can switch to our normal event provided we know 2 weeks before) will have a display that focuses on "mortar" fireworks which are typically 600 ft up and should be visible across the village. There are 2 options to run the event:
 a) Nobody on the field, we will put gatekeepers on the gate to stop people coming and ask the village to stay at home and watch from their gardens. Ask residents to contribute to the cost of the fireworks, if 300 people donated £5-£10 we would cover the costs.
 b) Sell a number of family packages, I estimate we could have 20-25 family groups on the field (upto 10 people per group). We could ask if Burrows would be happy to provide burgers for this number and Tillys for coffee. The remainder of the village can watch from their gardens but still contribute some money .We could sell these on a first come first serve basis or ask people to buy a ticket for a draw and we pick them out of a hat. Either way I believe we would cover the costs.

We propose that we do not have a bonfire this year as it will attract people to the fields.

RESOLVED: After further discussion a detailed proposal will be brought to the October meeting

Remembrance Sunday - to confirm arrangements and the annual wreath order. Cllr Parker is unsure of arrangements, social distancing and the fact that youth/scouts etc. have not been meeting need to be considered will liaise with the vicar

Christmas - to approve the budget for the annual purchase of a tree, installation and disposal. Cllr Parker will arrange for tree installation. May not be able to have carols.

RESOLVED Approve Christmas tree purchase for around £240 and installation, removal and expenses as last year.

09.09.13. Correspondence – To respond to correspondence received

09.09.13.1 Emails from residents re:-

Trimming trees on play area. - The comments from residents were about the need for some trees to be removed or have branches cut. Danger of falling branches was seen as a problem. This coincides with the PC routinely reviewing maintenance of Playing Fields including trees. A tree survey was done. A damson tree is to be removed. Some branches at low levels were identified as a hazard i.e. could poke someone in the eye and these are being trimmed. Some

branches have grown over into neighboring gardens. These can be trimmed by the owners of those gardens up to their boundary as long as they don't damage the tree. The PC would not object. It is not the PC's responsibility to do this. The PC will arrange any trimming required on Playing fields but must be done so that it doesn't cause damage to the structure of the tree.

Parking Hurst Close – there is a problem of parking opposite a resident's drive. This is temporary because of the co-op and the resident could put up some temporary notices. The PC doesn't have the remit to introduce residents parking

Dogs on playing fields - The PC are aware and suspects that dogwalkers are using it as a shortcut and/ or think the sign only applies to the field and not the path. It is suggested signs saying NO DOGS PAST THIS POINT and warnings re fines.

RESOLVED to get costing for signs and bring to a future meeting.

Local flash flooding in Bunbury- The PC is aware of this in several places in the village e.g top area of School Lane and Bunbury Lane. The PC has asked Highways to ensure that gully emptying service is improved and done outside of school terms. The Borough Councillor is in contact with Highways but there is a massive backlog. Blockages should continue to be reported online.

Thank you received from the walking group for the bench was noted

Plans for Wild Boar site – PC is aware that the theme park rumour is a spoof. It is not in Bunbury Parish so enquiries should be referred to Beeston PC.

An enquiry about changes to the flightpath from Liverpool airport – the PC has no information about this.

09.09.13.2 Any other correspondence - none

09.09.14. Finance Matters:

09.09.14.1 Renewal of Insurance- to consider three quotes for Parish Council and Playing Fields Insurance and arrange renewal of the insurance from October 2020

RESOLVED: to approve the quote from ecclesiastical and arrange to receive the 3 year sign up discount

09.09.14.2 Approval of payments:-

09.09.14.2.1 To approve payment of invoices received since the last meeting.

Reimburse N Parker – urgent removal of wasp nest by CRC Trade Services Ltd. £90.00

Membership – Cheshire Community Action (includes affiliation to ACRE) £50

RESOLVED approved

09.09.14.2.2 To approve purchase of spring bulbs and other materials that may be required under item 10.

RESOLVED Approach Mike Dodds to supply if a discount was offered and within suggested budget of £100. Cllr Parker offered to contribute £50.

PC thanked Cllr Parker

09.09.14.3 Donation Request – Hope House

The children's charity have written to all Parish Councils:-

“ to ask if you are able to help provide any funding to go towards purchasing some of the PPE for when our nurses are looking after children in Cheshire East.” The full request was circulated to Members.

Resolved Not possible at this time

Part Two

Confidential matters - members of the press and public will be excluded from the meeting under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1

15. Parish Clerk's annual salary review

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has published a briefing on the national salary pay scales for clerks and other employees employed under the terms of the model contract. This applies to the Parish Clerk. On 24 August, the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) announced that an agreement was reached between the National Employers and the NJC Trade Union Side on the new pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented from 1 April 2020.

1 To note that Bunbury Parish Council is contracted to implementing this increase for the Parish Clerk – The Clerk will circulate information on the new pay scales and the Clerk's current salary point

RESOLVED: to note the contracted increase

2. In addition the Parish Council may wish to review the Clerk's salary by considering awarding the Clerk an increase in the pay point position on the pay scale.

The Clerk left the meeting whilst this was discussed.

RESOLVED: to raise the Clerk's salary by 1 increment.

..... Chairman