

Bunbury Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting held at The Jubilee Pavilion, Bunbury, on

Wednesday 22nd March 2023 at 7.20pm

Present: Councillors: Linda Barton, Leslie Bottomley, Pamela Brookfield (Chair), Peter Gorman, Nick Parker and Mike Thomas.

In attendance: Maximilian Clay - Clerk to the Council
Three members of the public

Mar23-1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anderson and Thomson and the Council resolved to accept the reasons. Cllr Melia was absent.

Mar23-2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation considerations

There were no declarations of interest.

Mar23-3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th February 2023 were a true record and that the Chair be authorised to sign them as such.

Mar23-4. Public Forum

A resident presented a request, signed by 20 people, to provide allotments in the village; the request cited the many benefits of allotments and the matter will be placed on a future agenda.

Two residents spoke to congratulate the Council's Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Group on their work and to point out the potential for one or two small tweaks to labelling (these were noted by a member of the Working Group who was present).

Mar23-5. Members' Reports & Items for Future Agendas

- ◆ Cllr Barton reported that the tree for the Queen's Green Canopy would be planted shortly and that she had done an introductory training session at the Nag's Head on using the defibrillator. This had had an encouraging response and had gone well. Further training will be carried out so that residents feel comfortable using all the defibrillators, across the village. Cllr Brookfield reported that she had heard that there is a further defibrillator at the cricket club.
- ◆ Cllr Gorman reported that the problem on Footpath 16, with muddiness and an difficult camber, continues. The Public Rights of Way Officer at Cheshire East Council will be asked to approach the land owner to establish whether they would be willing to address the problem. Cllr Gorman also raised the issue of the significant trees that had been felled at Oakfield Gardens and said that he would bring a more detailed report to the next meeting.
- ◆ Cllr Thomas reported that some dog bins had not been emptied for some time and that the new dog bins were still awaited.
- ◆ Cllr Brookfield reported that Speed Gun training had been carried out at the beginning of the month and a SpeedWatch day was planned for April.

Mar23-6. Planning

a. Responses to Application Consultations:

There were no consultations to consider.

b. Updates on Application Consultations considered previously:

There were no new updates but it was noted that the applications for building at **Parkside** and for the **Methodist Chapel** site have now been scheduled for consideration by the Cheshire East Development Control Committee on the 5th April 2023.

Mar23-7. Correspondence and Clerk's Report

Mrs Elaine Crotty had written to say that she had been honoured to receive the Chair's Cup last year and was grateful to have been placed in the esteemed company of previous winners.

The Clerk reported that the previous Clerk had requested that, instead of being paid for the hours in which she had been engaged in finance and handover work, following the appointment of the new clerk in September, she would be grateful to receive the old laptop instead. The Clerk stated that as the laptop was not in use and had next to no value, this seemed acceptable, once the year-end audits had been carried out (as reference may be needed to records from earlier in the administrative year). The Council resolved to accept the proposal.

On behalf of Cllr Thomson, the Clerk reported that the Design Guide, approved by Council at a previous meeting, had been submitted to Cheshire East Council's Neighbourhood Planning Officer and it had been noted. Whilst the Guide cannot be adopted as a freestanding document, once the Neighbourhood Plan itself is adopted the Guide will be formally adopted too.

Mar23-8. Coronation of the King

Following previous discussion, the Council resolved to hold a picnic on Sunday 7th May to mark the Coronation - residents would be invited to bring their own picnic and Tilly's van would provide teas and coffees. If possible, a band would be engaged and otherwise there will be piped music. It was also resolved to provide the housebound with a picnic box (Tilly's had agreed to obtain the boxes, which would help keep costs down) and the boxes would be filled with a sandwich, a scone with jam and cream, and a piece of cake and a napkin. Costs would be covered by viring the funds from the Grants and the General Projects budgets.

Mar23-9. Finance

The schedule of receipts and payments was received and it was resolved to approve the payments.

Mar23-10. Lengthsman's Hours and Pay - *This matter was dealt with in camera for reasons of confidentiality.*

After discussion, it was resolved to add two hours per week to the Lengthsman's contract for the months of April to September, inclusive, to cope with the extra work arising in the spring/summer seasons. It was noted that an inflationary increase had already been planned for April, as part of the budget-setting process.

Mar23-11. Co-Option

The Council decided that, notwithstanding the forthcoming elections, it should consider nominations, one of which had been received. After brief discussion it was resolved to co-opt Mr Richard Slater to the Council and he will join at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.28pm

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chair

Date