

BURTON OVERY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD – Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Carolyn Carson (Chairperson)
Cllr Kate Goddard
Cllr Dave Fletcher
Cllr Sarah Rankine
Cllr Bob Warwick

The Clerk, Kate Barker (outgoing clerk) and two members of the public

20/328 **Apologies** – none

20/329 **Questions from members of the public** – A question was raised about the parish council's ongoing and future commitment to climate change, environmental issues and biodiversity in the village. This was picked up in item 20/340. A further question was raised regarding a high boundary hedge. It was reluctantly accepted that this was a matter which could only be pursued by the relevant owner/occupier.

20/330 **Declarations of interest** – none

20/331 **Approval of Minutes 15.12.20** – Approved and signed by the chairperson

20/332 **Matters arising not on the agenda** – the chairperson undertook to remain in the post until at least the end of March. Recruitment for a new councillor would take place in due course. Carolyn also reported that she had been trying to make contact (unsuccessfully) with the owner of Scotland House regarding the adjacent triangle of land. Cllr Fletcher agreed to attempt this also. *(Amended by Minute 20/349 – Feb 2021)*

20/333 **Emergency Covid 19 information and measures arising between meetings** – no changes in the situation to note although the chairperson undertook to refresh the Council's What's App Public Group purpose.

20/334 **Council asset safety checks** – no adverse issues to report. The outgoing clerk advised that Nick Jones had undertaken to provide a quote to repaint the notice board when weather permits.

The availability of a spare key (available to BOPC within the village) for the village hall BOPC cupboard would be raised by Cllr Goddard at the meeting with the Village Hall Committee later in the week.

Cllr Warwick undertook to clear away the weed growth around the Jubilee Oak during the spring. It was also agreed that the area around the tree would be suitable for the planting of wild flowers at the appropriate point of the wildflower roll-out.

20/335 Planning applications to consider –

- a. **Ref.No: 20/01969/FUL, Wheatridge, Main Street** – Noted, no comments
- b. **Ref.No: 21/00043/AGR, Burton Overy Grange Mayns Lane** – Noted, no comments as this was a Prior Notification for the erection of agricultural buildings. It will not be visible to the street and any comment will be dependent on individual comment should that be forthcoming
- c. **Ref.No: 21/00061/TCA - felling of tree, Copperfield, Beadswell Lane** – the clerk was asked to seek an extension to the consultation period to allow parish councillors sufficient time to view and consider.

20/336 Planning decisions taken by HDC – noted

The installation of a satellite dish on the front elevation of Scotland House was noted by the meeting. It was proposed to post an advisory leaflet through the letterbox.

20/337 Finances –

- a. Payments to be made during January (payroll, PAYE, homeworking allowance together with Zoom, Plusnet and LRALC for internal audit services) were noted and approved.
- b. The annual membership payment for CPRE (£36) was agreed.
- c. Payments made during December (listed in Appendix B of the agenda papers) were agreed.
- d. The removal of Kate Barker from the bank mandate and the cancellation of the debit card was noted.
- e. The bank reconciliation to the end of December (attached at Appendix C of the agenda papers) was noted and approved for signature by Cllr Rankine.
- f. The third quarter financial position of the parish council compared against the budget (attached at Appendix D of the agenda papers) was noted and approved.
- g. Proposals were considered (attached at Appendix E of the agenda papers) for the precept requirement for 2021/22 and it was resolved to set a precept of £12,427. It was noted during the consideration of this item that LRALC advice was that small local councils (such as BOPC) should aim to keep the equivalent of 12 months running costs in general reserves at each year end. Presently it is £10,265. The precept will ensure that the parish council is able to provide sufficient financial reserves relative to its annual budget and to develop its interests and involvement in those matters which are a priority for the village.

20/338 Community Matters –

- a. The transference of the management of the food bank collections to the village hall committee was noted.
- b. The Chairperson undertook to gauge local interest in developing a village history project and advise the council further on this matter.

20/339 Training & Seminars –

Cllr Warwick reported back on the Chair's training, hosted by LRALC, which he and Cllr Rankine had both attended. The session had covered the role of the Chair, community

governance, local council finances the powers of local councils and the history of their development. Both had found it informative and rewarding.

20/340 - Correspondence for information

The clerk briefed councillors on correspondence recently received including: -

- a. Acknowledgement from LCC highways section of the complaint referred to them regarding the blocked road gully at the junction of Elms Lane and Main Street;
- b. Advance notice of street closures in March on Scotland Lane and Beadswell Lane;
- c. Information from LCC on the Shire Environment Grant bidding round which closes on 26th February;
- d. Receipt of the HDC December newsletter; and
- e. Receipt of e-mail correspondence from Leicestershire Partnership Health Trust calling for staff and volunteers to assist with the rollout of the Covid 19 vaccine in the County. It was agreed that this would be circulated by e-mail and a notice on the council Whats App groups.

20/341 - Correspondence for discussion

The clerk reported having received a telephone enquiry from the owner of Wheatridge, Main Street asking if the parish council had any ownership interest in a strip of land between the front of the property and the highway edge.

Current Councillors were not aware of any parish council ownership interests in this part of the village, neither did the land feature on the asset register of the parish council.

However, the current chairperson agreed to consult with the previous chairperson to determine whether any other information may exist on this matter.

20/342 - Items for the next agenda - Village History Project / Newsletter items / Climate change initiatives.

20/ 343 - Date of next meeting - 16th February 2021 at 7.30pm

20/344 - Exclusion of the Public

In view of the confidential nature of the issue to be considered it was resolved that the press and public be temporarily excluded by virtue of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

20/345 - The council considered information brought to the attention of councillors relating to a sensitive personal matter within the village.

The meeting finished at 09.05pm

Signed

Date
