

# BURTON OVERY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Bob Warwick  
Cllr Sarah Rankine  
Cllr Kate Goddard  
Cllr Dave Fletcher  
The Clerk  
One member of the public

At the start of the meeting one minute's silence was observed in memory of The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

**21/001 Election of Chair** – Cllr Bob Warwick was elected chair of the parish council.

**21/002 Apologies** – None

**21/003 Questions from members of the public** – no questions were raised by members of the public present at the meeting.

**21/004 Declarations of interest** – Cllr Kate Goddard declared an interest in item 21/009b on the agenda (Harborough District Council Strategic Planning, Call for Sites) as a result of her partner's involvement in the land development industry.

**21/005 Approval of Minutes of the parish council meeting on 16.03.21** – Approved and signed remotely by Cllr Warwick.

**21/006 Matters arising not on the agenda** –  
Cllr Warwick reminded the meeting of the process undertaken to recruit a new parish councillor. The statutory process had expired without any call for an election and the option was now open for the council to co-opt a new councillor. One expression of interest had been received and this would be dealt with later on the agenda.  
The clerk was asked to make arrangements direct with Cllr Fletcher to establish routine access to the parish council webmail account.  
Cllr Rankine advised that she had been contacted by a resident (Mrs L Bent) who wished to establish a tree-lined memorial walk on her land for public benefit and had asked if the parish council might be aware of any grant support to help provide this. Cllr Rankine was asked to request further information on proposed tree numbers, types and locations from Mrs Bent.

**21/007 Item 20/012 on the agenda was moved forward for consideration at this point on the agenda.**

The Chair proposed that Mr Bob Pain be co-opted as a member of the parish council. This was seconded by Cllr Fletcher and unanimously agreed by the council.

Cllr Pain duly signed his declaration of acceptance of office as parish councillor.

**21/008 Emergency Covid 19 information and measures arising between meetings** – The clerk advised that preparations were being made to resume face-to-face parish council meetings in the village hall from the date of the next scheduled meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May on the assumption that Covid 19 restrictions would continue to be lifted in accordance with the Government Roadmap.

**21/009 Council asset safety checks** – no adverse issues were reported. The clerk was asked to send a copy of the list of assets to Cllr Fletcher.

**21/010 Planning applications to consider –**

- a. Alleged unauthorised development on Burton Overy Lane – The clerk was asked to write to Harborough DC expressing concerns firstly over the appearance of building materials on the site as a possible precursor to future development in the open countryside and, secondly, whether this constituted fly-tipping.
- b. Harborough District Council, Local Plan, Call for Sites – the receipt of communication from Harborough DC on this matter was noted. (Cllr Goddard took no part in discussions on this matter)
- c. **Ref.No: 21/00450/FUL, Burton Brook Farm, London Road** – demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. The council resolved that it was pleased to support this proposal and its recognition of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- d. **Ref.No: 21/00546/TCA, Rose Cottage, Elms Lane** – works to tree. The Council had no comments on this application.

**21/011 Planning decisions taken by HDC** – noted as follows: -

- a. **Ref.No: 21/00309/TCA** – The Paddocks, Main Street - Works to trees – Approved.
- b. **Ref.No: 21/00332/TCA** – De Noveray House, Rectory End - Works to tree – Approved.
- c. **Ref.No: 21/00341/TCA** – Yew Tree House, Elms Lane - Works to tree – Approved.
- d. **Ref.No: 21/00372/TCA** – Brindles, Scotland Lane - Works to tree – Approved.
- e. **Ref.No: 21/0039/TCA** – Curlieu Cottage, Elms Lane - Erection of a garden room to side with canopy, change to windows and extension of canopy to door. – Approved.

**21/012 Finances –**

- a. Payments to be made during April (listed in Appendix D of the agenda papers) were considered and agreed including the renewal of the annual subscription to LRALC.
- b. The information provided by the clerk in Appendices F, G, Ha and Hb relating to the financial out-turn for 2020-21 was considered and approved. This included the bank statement and reconciliation as at 31st March 2021, the end of year budget report compared against actual expenditure and the cashbook information. Cllr Fletcher was delegated to counter-sign the end of year bank reconciliation and statements.

**21/013 Community Matters –**

- a. Cllrs Rankine and Goddard reported to the meeting on progress in relation to climate change and biodiversity matters including that 17 climate change questionnaires had now been received which would be used to prioritise and develop initiatives in the parish. A meeting of the local project group would be arranged with a view to developing a biodiversity map and local policies for the parish.
- b. Cllr Warwick introduced a discussion on the current situation regarding village WhatsApp groups. It was agreed that the clerk would continue to administer the parish council group and that Cllr Rankine would administer the Information and Social group and the Support and Help group, to which she would add Cllr Fletcher as a member. It was also agreed to keep the future of the latter two groups under review to ensure their continuing effectiveness.
- c. The clerk reported back on the responses received from Leicestershire CC and Harborough DC regarding the erection of for-lease signage at The Bell Inn. Their responses, which indicated they had no available powers to control such actions (even within Conservation Areas) were noted with regret. Cllr Warwick undertook to advise the landlord of The Bell accordingly.

**21/014 - Correspondence for discussion**

The clerk reported having received correspondence from: -

- a. Mrs S Bird regarding littering of her land off Washbrook Lane. Cllr Rankine undertook to add this length of footpath to the areas cleaned by the South Leicestershire Wombles. It was also resolved, in light of the support provided by the police to this matter, that the clerk contact Harborough DC to obtain costings for the provision and servicing of a new dog waste bin near the entrance to the footpath off Washbrook Lane.
- b. A local resident in relation to pavement parking and pavement obstruction in Bell Lane. The parish council was sympathetic to the representations. Pavement parking has recently been discussed in the national press. It seems that the law in this area is confusing and seldom enforced but under review. In this context, the parish council doubted that anything could be achieved, at the present time, by contacting either LCC Highways or Harborough DC. In relation to the obstruction

on the pavement in Bell Lane, Cllr Fletcher undertook to approach the party concerned with a view to its removal.

**21/015 - Correspondence for information**

The clerk reported having received correspondence from: -

- a. NatureSpot in relation to the availability of grant funding towards the hosting of a webpage for Burton Overy on the NatureSpot website, paid initially by Leicestershire CC but carrying an annual fee of £50 for the parish council from April 2022. It was resolved not to take up this offer.
- b. A local resident advising the parish council of the intention to organise a sponsored Round Rutland walk on September 25<sup>th</sup>. It was resolved to note the proposals at this time.

**21/016 - Items for the next agenda** – Annual Statement of Accounts / General Power of Competence / Financial Regulations / Standing Orders / Scheme of Delegation.

**21/017 - Date of next meeting - 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.30pm** (to be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting)

**21/018 - Exclusion of the Public**

No confidential matters were considered at the meeting.

**The meeting finished at 9.20 pm**

**Signed**

**Date**

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