

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held in the Council
Chamber Wednesday 9 October 2019 at 7.00 p m**

Present: Cllr J White – Mayor. Cllr J Tunnell-Westmacott – Deputy Mayor. Cllr P Bush, Cllr P Higgs, Cllr D Cotterill. Cllr M Taubenheim. Cllr S Lofthouse, Cllr D Cohen, Cllr S Palmer, Cllr F Triggs, Cllr N Field-Johnson, John Yeatman – RFO. Dr. Ken Gray.

1. MINUTES. Resolved: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 September be approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING. None

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr I Brown, Maggie Andrews Town Clerk.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The following Councillors declared a personal interest because they represent the Council as Chairperson of the following committees:-

Cllr White – Chairman of Traffic and received a cheque for £140 for stamps for the HGV appeal.

Cllr Tunnell-Westmacott – Cemetery & Environment.

Cllr I Brown – Chairman BEAT

Cllr M Taubenheim - Chairman of Planning.

Cllr F Triggs – Chairman Recreation Ground and received payment of £64.99 for a lock and chain for the A40 gate.

John Yeatman received a cheque for £206.26 for a leaf blower.

5. HGV FUNDING. Funding received as at 9 October is £46,073.46 and pledges received of £55,250. The Cotswold Wildlife Park are keen to contribute too. There are further meetings with potential donors planned in October. Dr. Gray to and Cllr White to identify potential donors who have not yet responded.

6. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Crossing at top of The Hill with refuge.

Peter Gould has expressed concern that people crossing with push chair and or dogs are at risk on the refuge as it is so narrow. It was agreed to request OCC to provide a safer crossing.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer circulated BTC's expenditure figures 2019/20 up to the end of the second quarter and noted that the expenditure on November 5 Community event was over budget, but that was offset by a donation from the Chamber of Trade. The VAT claim for the first half of 2019/20 has been submitted for £3,470.31

Payments as listed:-

Council account.

Mrs Andrews	957.00
HMRC	490.08
J Yeatman	259.20
Nest Pension	66.08
Mr & Mrs Dadge	106.73
David Buckland	1247.20
McCracken & Son	930.00

Petty Cash	50.00
WODC Commercial Waste Office 167.18, Cemetery 257.92	
Rec 336.18 (October 2019 to March 2020)	761.28
Ubico Dog Bin Emptying Frethern Close Oct 19 – March 20	48.83
British Telecom business	36.00
SSE Tolsey	19.85
SSE Rec	15.71
Castle Water	8.25
Oxford Chain and lock for A40 gate	64.99
Margaret Johnson Office Supplies	53.69
5A's Leaf Blower	206.26
OALC underpayment (Seminar)	9.00
John White reimbursement stamps (HGV appeal)	140.00

The above were passed for payment.

The annual returns for the Tolsey Charity and the Thomas Collier Charity have been submitted.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT. The Mayor reported that he had met with Andrew Lederer, the new tree man at OCC to discuss the epicormic growth and pollarding of the Lime trees. It had been agreed previously with OCC that the epicormic growth would be cut back twice a year. OCC have now agreed to pollard all the trees, and cut back the epicormic growth starting early November, and to continue to cut the epicormic growth once a year in the autumn, and to pollard every 5 years due to financial constraints.

The Mayor also met with Tom Burton, the most senior warrant officer at RAF Brize Norton. He should be contacted if we have any problems with the base.

Mayor White also met with Don Griffin and Laith Reynolds to discuss the speed limit signage. James Wright at OCC still has not confirmed a price, but based on the Chipping Norton scheme, it is estimated at about £10,000. Don and Laith would like to propose to OCC that they buy the signs and install them. They estimate this should cost about £2,500. They will draft a letter to OCC requesting this, and we will send it in BTCs name. If this were to go ahead, BTC would buy the signs, and Barguss would install them.

9. WODC REPORT . CLLR COTTERILL

The Glover report proposing that the Cotswold AONB should become a National Park would mean some benefits to Burford in terms of Tourism, but could restrict planning, as this would move from WODC to the new authority.

Some progress has been made on the main extension to the car park application with a traffic survey underway.

10. O.C.C. REPORT CLLR N FIELD JOHNSON.

Councils commit to cutting traffic congestion. OCC and Oxford City announced plans to tackle congestion on all routes into Oxford and improve public transport connections into and across some parts of the city, making a real improvement to journey times. Key points:

Restricting car traffic by introducing “bus gates” so road space can be reallocated to improve walking and cycling routes.

Fast bus routes connecting neighbouring towns and the Park & Rides to Oxford's eastern arc.

New and improved walking and cycling routes, utilizing space created by removing vehicles on the road.

A change for workplace parking provided by larger employers on the eastern arc. Discounts for the new bus service for staff and employers paying the workplace parking levy. OCC action plan to go carbon neutral. OCC has confirmed its commitment to reduce its own 'carbon footprint' to zero by 2030. Cllr Yvonne Constance accepts that young people have challenged organizations such as County Councils to move faster. OCC is delivering a series of 'green' initiatives, including helping to install more solar panels in schools.

Project LEO. Local energy Oxford is another example of partnership working with the County Council joining a consortium led by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, together with the Universities and Oxford City Council. Street lights and low energy lighting will be replaced over the next four years. This will reduce Oxfordshire's greenhouse emissions from street lighting by 70%.

Groups are working to establish community fridges to reduce food waste and share surplus, running workshops, teaching residents how to repair items, keeping products in use for longer. The County Council will report its action plan to full council in December.

11. CORRESPONDENCE.

Mrs. Elizabeth Mortimer requested that the Lime trees should not be pollarded, but thinned instead. Her comments were noted.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

Burford Town council submitted the following planning applications to WODC for their consideration.:

19/02572/FUL Installation of 1 no. external condenser unit in rear courtyard. 45 High Street. After discussion Council felt that the air conditioning unit could be noisy and the owner should work out the noise level and report to WODC. The unit needs to be placed on the owners wall and could be positioned higher up (first floor level) to keep the small courtyard footprint. In addition the area should be kept clean and tidy for access, bins etc.

Pavilion.

There was an attempted break-in which was unsuccessful, and the damage caused has been repaired by John McLaughlin.

Recreation Ground. The blacktop apron to the car park has been completed under budget. John McLaughlin has requested to use the recreation ground for a "Football Academy" from the Tuesday to the Friday of the coming Half Term which was welcomed and agreed by Council. The grass cutting in the Rec has again caused problems with leaving a mulch on the football pitches for a third time this year. Cllr Triggs to meet with John McLaughlin and then McCracken's to try to resolve the matter.

Environment. Chamber of trade are looking at buying a sweeper.

Cemetery. No report.

Traffic. The 20mph limit on Burford's street ongoing awaiting proposal from Don Griffin and Laith Reynolds. Improvement to the crossing on The Hill to be requested.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Cllr Cohen reported an anonymous complaint about The Mayor's use of the words "infestation of West Field by a group of travelers" in the Bridge magazine. The complaint was duly noted. The litter bin from outside the Methodist Church is missing. This will be reported to WODC

14. CHARITY MATTERS.

Burford's School's Young Enterprise group have asked for a Saturday to trade under the Tolley. They are creating fully sustainable and reusable water bottles and wish to raise money for this project. The date arranged is 19 October.