

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held in the Council
Chamber Wednesday 8 January 2020 at 7.00 p m**

Present: Cllr J White – Mayor, Cllr J Tunnell-Westmacott – Deputy Mayor.
Cllr P Higgs, Cllr D Cohen, Cllr S Palmer, Cllr F Triggs, Cllr S Lofthouse,
Cllr N Field-Johnson. Maggie Andrews Town Clerk. John Yeatman – RFO.

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

2. MATTERS ARISING. Co-option. It was agreed that Council keep their options open and address the matter in a few months time.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllrs Cotterill, Brown, Taubenheim & Bush.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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

Cllr Tunnell-Westmacott – Cemetery & Environment. Also receiving a cheque (£480 for Civic receptions catering).

Cllr F Triggs – Recreation Ground

Cllr J White – Traffic. Also receiving a cheque £312.74 (wine for two receptions)

5. HGV FUNDING. Donations stand at £134251.87. Pledges £89500.00. Total to date £223751.87.

6. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION. Elm planters. Planters are now in place at this site to deter ‘ram raiders’ from damaging the property. OCC had agreed the work. However it was established that this was a special case and would not set a precedent.

Bridge crossing/A40. There have been no further developments and the traffic lights appear to be working. We are waiting to hear if OCC are contemplating rebuilding the bridge.

7. TREASURER’S REPORT

The precept for 2020/21 has been submitted.

The Councillor Priority Fund - £2500 towards the 20mph scheme is in hand. However OCC are now covering the cost of the TROs (Traffic Orders) – we await progress.

Two extra signatories have been agreed on the TSB Council account so that online approvals for account transfers and payments can be made. They are Cllr Cohen & Higgs.

Payments as listed for approval :-

Council account.

Mrs Andrews	949. 80
J Yeatman	316. 80
Nest Pension	66. 08
David Buckland	1247. 20
Petty Cash	80. 00
HMRC	501. 44
John White wine for Civic reception & Council party	312. 74

Broxap litter bin replacement	232.74
British Telecom business	36.00
Castle Water	6.83
A K Timms	144.06
Margaret Johnson	66.84
Anna Grotex	100.00
Jane Tunnell Civic service & party catering	480.00

The above were passed for payment.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT.

The Mayor reported another successful Civic Carol Service and Mayor's Christmas party and thanked all who helped.

He attended a WASP meeting and chased pledges for the HGV fund. He also met with several departments at OCC regarding agreements & legal matters in connection with the HGV project and we await news. However, he will chase them up.

The Mayor met Reggie Hayworth and his team at Cotswold Wildlife Park who are contributing to the HGV fund. Although we have met our target there will be ongoing costs.

9. WODC REPORT . CLLR COTTERILL

Cllr Cotterill reported that he was on an important twinning mission, the book launch of "Burford and Its Soul" in Potenza Picena. The exciting culmination of 6 months work by three Italians, mainly by Enzo Romagnoli, to record the life and times of Burford. He has only seen electronic proofs but the book looks impressive containing many of the great and the good, the notable and the notorious of Burford in their environs. The entire project is currently costing him an arm and a leg as nothing associated with it is subsidised by the tax payer contrary to any common belief which might exist.

Publica has a new Managing Director. David Neudegg, former WODC Chief Executive who set up Publica, retired at the end of the year. Jan Britton has succeeded him as the Managing Director and I have yet to meet him. There will probably be a press release or information in the next Witney Gazette.

Burford Town Council has achieved its target for HGV fund raising and the Mayor is ready to continue to the next stage of the project. Paperwork is being compiled for the re-submission of a Guildenford Car Park expansion application at the end of January or in early February. Traffic measurements in the vicinity will be taken in the next few days. Wayleave was refused for Gigaclear to traverse Upton Farm land and the River Windrush in order to complete an optical loop from Westwell to Taynton. Gigaclear are re-engineering the loops both sides of the river in order to provide service to Taynton, and also Westwell. This has introduced delay.

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

Cllr Field-Johnson reported that he was increasing his efforts regarding pollution of the river Windrush, otherwise there had been little to report over the Christmas period.

10. CORRESPONDENCE. None

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

Burford Town Council submitted their comments to WODC on the following planning applications:

19/03465/HHD Maple Barn, Barns Lane.

Single storey side extension. No objection.

20/00025/HHD 11 Tanners Lane.

Garden summerhouse. No objection.

20/00041/S73 St Andrews Barn, Widford Lane.

Non compliance condition 2 (16/03322/FUL) to allow retention of two windows to north elevation.

No objection.

Recreation Ground. Tree work is ongoing. Meetings have been arranged to discuss the grass cutting schedule with the Contractor.

Pavilion. John Yeatman agreed to liaise with Cllr Taubenheim regarding the stop cock and whether water should be turned off should we have freezing weather.

Environment. Apart from verges being churned up and the muddy conditions the Town is generally in good order.

Cars are parking on some verges in Frethern Close often causing an obstruction. It was suggested that number plates be registered with the Clerk who will report them to our PCSO.

Cemetery. All tidy. Christmas wreaths and flowers will be removed once they have faded or become untidy.

Traffic. None.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Chamber of Trade Christmas trees. There have been two schools of thought on this addition to the Town over the Christmas period. Although it was felt a good idea there was room for improvement by perhaps placing nearer buildings and being made more stable.

12. CHARITY MATTERS.

None.

