

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held in the Council
Chamber Wednesday 5 February 2020 at 7.00 p m**

Present: Cllr J White – Mayor, Cllr J Tunnell-Westmacott – Deputy Mayor.
Cllr P Higgs, Cllr S Palmer, Cllr F Triggs, Cllr P Bush, Cllr I Brown,
Cllr M Taubenheim, Maggie Andrews Town Clerk. John Yeatman – RFO.

1. MINUTES. Resolved: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 January 2020 be approved as a correct record, and signed by the Mayor.

2. MATTERS ARISING. Water Tap, Pavilion. It was confirmed that all pipes are lagged.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllrs Cotterill, Lofthouse, Cohen & Field-Johnson.

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.

Cllr F Triggs – Recreation Ground

Cllr J White – Traffic.

Cllr M Taubenheim – Pavilion.

Cllr P Higgs receiving a cheque in the sum of £40.41 for website charges. (reimbursement).

5. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Puffin crossing, A40. Councillors showed concern over pupil safety. It was felt we should make representation to OCC and ask them to consider repairing the existing bridge and to erect a safety fence. Cllr White will liaise with the head of the school for comment.

Speed limit order – Burford & other parishes. As a result of road safety concerns OCC will introduce a 20 mph speed limit throughout the town with corresponding adjustments to the 30 mph. There will also be amendments to the lengths of the existing 40 mph limits on the approaches to the town.

As a result of road safety concerns it is proposed by OCC to reduce the National 60 mph speed limit to 50 mph on the A424 between Burford and the Gloucestershire County Boundary, north of Fifield.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The HGV fund donations are £135961.23, pledges £87000.00 – the total to date is £222961.23.

The RFO has requested that the Councillor Priority Fund of £2500 towards the 20 mph scheme be paid to OCC by internal transfer. A request has also been made to OCC to release the Councillor Priority Fund £16000 towards the HGV weight limit trial.

Payments as listed for approval :-

Council account.

Mrs M Andrews	931. 70
J Yeatman	273. 60
Nest Pension	66. 08
David Buckland	1247. 20
Petty Cash	75. 00
HMRC	501. 44
Furniture replacement seat	692. 10
Matrix Traffic Data (Guildenford survey)	720. 00
Flagmakers replacement Union flags	170. 52
CPRE annual subscription	36. 00
Ken Gray reimbursement legal fees HGVs)	900. 00
Peter Higgs reimbursement website fees	40. 41
Oscar Triggs website fees	630. 00
Anna Grotex cleaning service	100. 00
British Telecom business	36. 00
BT main account	163. 02
Castle Water	3. 47

The above were passed for payment.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT.

The Mayor had a meeting with Lucy Staveley regarding the Wychwood tree planting project. Quotations will be sought for the purchase of various trees, such as Mountain Ash, Wild Cherry, Lime, Beech, Crab Apple, guards and stakes.

Council have agreed the expenditure at £625.

Suggestions have been put forward from a resident for the consideration of a new play park on the Recreation Ground. Further discussions required.

8. WODC REPORT . CLLR COTTERILL

The planning application for expanding the Guildenford car park has been submitted to WODC for validation. This takes about a month so an application number will be forthcoming in March.

Branded an Environmental Vandal I still cannot see any way in which an alternative site can meet the needs of both the High Street and Warwick Hall. When the Guildenford car park is full at 11:30 am on a Saturday any guests arriving for a function in the church or Warwick Hall at 1:00 or 2:00pm are displaced to Witney Street. They have no time in which to drive to the top of the Hill and walk back so they park along Witney Street around the corner to Roebuck Cottage on the pathway which is very dangerous for pedestrians on their walk to/from Swinbrook.

The book Burford and its Soul, has arrived from Italy. A superb publication running to 313 pages and weighing 1.6kgs. It is a photographic essay about the life and places of Burford. Well worth keeping for future generations. Ideas for a launch and its sale in aid of the Tolsey Archive are being formulated.

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

OCC new investment on social services, schools and roads.

Proposals include community support for vulnerable people, funding for children and social services, infrastructure investment, repairs to roads, bridges, drainage, footways, the improvement on road safety & support for sustainable travel.

Congestion in and around Oxford. To improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions the number of cars travelling into and around the city will be reduced by encouraging travel by walking & cycling. Plans will be open to further input by the public, businesses, employers and other city organisations.

NHS. Efforts have been made to promote a range of alternative options for non-emergency situations including self-care, calling NHS 111, using local pharmacies etc. Age UK have joined forces with local partners to provide information on creating a personal winter plan. www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire or 01235 849434.

A copy of Councillors Field-Johnson's full report is available on request and was circulated to Councillors.

10. CORRESPONDENCE. None

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

20/00226/HHD. 2 Signet Hill. Installation of 2 new rooflights. No objection.

20/00063/HHD

20/00065/LBC. 89 & 91 High Street. Erection of wrought iron gate and close board fencing. No objection.

20/00042/FUL. Unit 1 Upton Downs Farm. Operational development. No objection.

19/03437/FUL. Burford Primary School. Erection of single storey extension. No objection

19/03262/LBC. 14 Priory Lane. Internal & external refurbishment to include replacement windows, doors, garage door, closure of redundant pedestrian access.

No objection but we would want to see the retention of the external stone staircase

Recreation Ground. The Wychwood tree project is underway and apart from the planting schedule it was agreed to leave an area of approximately 5 mtrs against the perimeter of the A40 boundary from the last allotment to the A40 gate, to sow yellow rattle seed and wild flowers. This will be cut back only in Spring and Autumn.

Westfield. The entrance has been severely rutted because of wet weather. This will be flattened with a mechanical roller kindly provided by the football club.

Pavilion. The football club is looking into funding to upgrade the Pavilion with a 10-15 year Tenure. A proposal is required for the Council to consider.

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

The road surface in Priory Lane is in a bad condition mainly with potholes. This will be reported on Fix my Street.

A working party of several Councillors will cut back an overgrowing bush from the Rec/Tanners Lane boundary.

Cemetery. It was noted that gravel has been laid around some of the flat tablets in the Garden of Remembrance. The Groundsman will remove and make good.

Several glass vases and pots have been removed from plots.

Traffic. Paper work on HGVs continues which includes surveys on volume of traffic & air pollution. Discussion is required regarding a pole on which to site the APNR camera.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Pollarding work has now been completed on all trees around the town.

Cllr Higgs requested reimbursement from BT via the Ombudsman concerning a service we did not require. A refund has been given with a goodwill gesture of £200

Quotations have been sought regarding the cleaning of the War Memorial.

A replacement Chairperson is required for BEAP (Burford Emergency Action Plan).

Nominees for a replacement representative from the Council will be required at the end of the academic year end for the Primary School and Burford School.

13. CHARITY MATTERS.

None.

