

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held in the Council Chamber
4 November 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom**

Present: Cllr J White, Mayor. Cllr J Tunnell-Westmacott. Deputy Mayor.
Cllr D Cohen. Cllr P Bush. Cllr M Taubenheim. Cllr D Cotterill. Cllr Cllr S Lofthouse.
Cllr S Palmer. Cllr P Higgs, Cllr F Triggs. Maggie Andrews Town Clerk.
John Yeatman RFO. Anna Lampard.

MINUTES Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 October 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Clerk on behalf of and with the authority of the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING .

Play Park. Further negotiations have resulted in the design being passed to the Contractors. Covid restrictions means the schedule has been delayed.

There has been no development on the possibility of a Trim Trail.

VIC Centre. WODC Cabinet are reviewing the current use of the VIC assets in order to appraise whether they could be better used as part of the Council's recovery plans and a re-imagining of the High Street. More information will be in the December issue of the The Bridge,

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Field-Johnson.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS.

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

Cllr Tunnell-Westmacott – Environmental & Cemetery.

Cllr M Taubenheim - Chairman of Planning & Pavilion.

Cllr F Triggs – Chairman Recreation Ground.

Cllr J White – Chairman Traffic. Cllr White declared an interest in planning application 20/02830/FUL. Chevrons, Swan Lane as a resident of Swan Lane. Also, he is accepting a cheque for £200 being expenses regarding the High Sheriff's visit.

5. TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY.

This item was discussed later in the meeting as a confidential matter.

6. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Covid. Councillors confirmed that they were ready and able to serve Burford residents during the second lock down with regard to shopping, collecting prescriptions etc. and that their Wards were all covered.

SRRA. Mr Blackburn has requested a 'champion' from the Council. However, since Cllr Bush is liaising with him regarding the Shilton Road development, the Mayor felt that this was sufficient especially as, with the Burford Emergency Action Plan back in force. Councillors would have little extra time .

Thames Water. Information has been received from a resident informing us that several properties have experienced a loss of water pressure to their homes on several occasions.

The Mayor will contact Richard Aylard at Thames Water to find out why this is happening.

It was suggested this may be caused by pump failure.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Vat has been reclaimed for the first half of 202/21.

A contract has been signed with Godman Nash for Business Rates retrieval and re-assessment. Thanks were noted to Maggie Andrews, Frank Triggs and Jan Cohen for supplying lots of information required for the case.

Budget. The normal items of expenditure are being prepared, extra equipment is needed for the Lengthman. Church yard trees, pollarding work.

Project items are: Twinning, November 5th, Christmas lights.

Cemetery extension, Burford Archive donation, WASP donation, Pavilion roof, Guildenford Car Park and The Bridge magazine donation. The budget meeting is scheduled via zoom on 18 November at 6pm. The November payments are listed for approval. BTC has Specific Power or General Powers for all payments except the High Sheriff's gift and Burford Church PCC where section 132 is used.

Payments.

John White	200.00
Gift of the Italian Book for High Sheriff	25.00
Information Commissioners Office Licence	35.00
Burford Church PCC	200.00
WODC Cemetery Tax	95.00
Mrs M Andrews	970.30
Mr D Buckland (S/O)	1256.28
J Yeatman	446.40
Mr P Denning (HGV)	417.00
HMRC PAYE	479.63
Nest Pension	65.52
A Grotex Cleaner	100.00
Systems & Solutions (Bytesafe)	20.00
McCracken 11 cuts to town 6 to Rec	1128.00
Margaret Johnson Stationers	81.96
Hickman Bros	191.84
Windrush Press (HGV)	150.00
Peter Denning expenses	138.17
M Andrews (Home telephone costs)	23.66
Bridge Magazine	300.00
Villager Community Bus	300.00
Castle Water (Rec)	22.70

The above were passed for payment.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported that he had met with the High Sheriff and her husband in Burford with Cllr Cotterill, the Town Clerk and the Mayoress, visiting the Priory, Burford school,

lunch and then a tour of St John the Baptist Church with the Revd Tom Putt.

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The Mayor also met with the site supervisor concerning the puffin crossing on the A40.
ighways **9. WODC REPORT**

WODC now has a new leader of the Council. James Mills has moved to Bristol and Michelle Mead from Carterton has been voted to succeed him with immediate effect. WODC is preparing for another lock down – the Community Wardens will not be patrolling so often and other services will slow down. WODC Revenues and Benefits will be reassigned to support Government legislation and distribute furlough money and other grants.

OCC has reinstated work permits for Lioncourt to recommence S278 work on the Shilton Road. Lioncourt is intending to put a second gang onto the work from next week in order to get as much done as possible before the current permit expires on 11 December. Some time ago the Town Council pressed OCC for a traffic light crossing on the A40 between the bus stops. OCC refused saying an island had to be installed first and the situation would be reassessed. The island has been hit many times and is a danger to traffic and crossing pedestrians. Consequently, a controlled crossing was required in the Schedule of the Promotion Agreement signed by the Foundation with Hallam Land in June 2014, for the development of the Shilton Road field. That requirement was confirmed at the appeal hearing in 2016. We may be close to getting it and paid for by Shilton Road development from S106 money. The promotion Agreement also included a requirement for speed control on the Shilton Road but did not specify the type as that needed study by experts. Chicanes were not favoured and so speed cushions were agreed at the appeal hearing in 2016 so they are also S106 contributions from the development. Other items, dropped curbs, the A361 island, footpaths, Carterton Leisure Centre, the extra Primary School classroom (as featured in The Bridge) and play parks all featured in the S106 payments for the site. The site will have affordable housing but a sum of £244,000 was also commuted to affordable housing on another WODC site.

10. OCC REPORT. None.

11. CORRESPONDENCE. None.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

Swan Lane House. The owner of the property sent the Council an update on their plans which have been considerably scaled down. Although the Council felt that parking would be an issue the owners have assured us there will be no problems.

20/02830/FUL, Chevrons, Swan Lane. Erection of single storey extension to main dwelling and conversion of existing garden store to create self contained holiday let. Provision of additional vehicular access together with associated parking and landscaping works. Council had concerns over the second entrance to the property which is 5 metres away from the existing resulting in 2 parking spaces being lost on the highway. The holiday let will be dominant. Over and above these objections, the new 2 storey building would overshadow the conservatory of the next door property, shading it and taking light and sun. This is against Planning policies OS 2 and OS 4. OS.2 is the quality of development, and OS 4 is development in the right place.

20/02767/HHD. Old Ropery Cottage, Sweeps Lane. Insertion of first floor window in

front elevation. No objection.

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20/02545/HHD. Battle Hill, 9 Tanners Lane. Alterations and erection of single storey rear extension. Erection of detached double garage.

Council felt this would set a precedent. All other properties have open front gardens and there are no other garages close to the road. Council objected to the garage plans but accepted the single storey extension.

20/02496/HHD. 10 Windrush Close. Erection of rear garden shed and office.

No objection.

Recreation Ground.

OCC have requested to use an area on the Recreation Ground to install welfare facilities and store construction materials regarding the work for a permanent crossing on the A40, since the demolition of the bridge. Councillor Triggs has met with the Senior Engineer and has agreed a site which includes the erection of Harris fencing and security. Cllr Triggs was keen to preserve the wildlife areas which will be protected.

OCC will make good at the end of work and leave a hard standing. The Mayor is in the process of drawing up a contract.

It has been noted there are old metal goal posts lying amongst the Rec hedges – these will be removed.

Pavilion.

Apart from minor electrical work required all is in order. Discussions will be held regarding the roof and costs for repairs or replacement. Cllr Taubenheim will convene a meeting to inspect this in time for the budget meeting.

Environment & Cemetery.

It appears that vermin seen in Priory Lane are now under control.

Vermin have also been seen in some parts of Frethern Close. Concerned residents will need to contact the Pest Control Officer.

The Rotary Club have planted crocus bulbs on The Hill.

Traffic

20 mph signage. Work to erect the signage has been delayed due to Covid. Hopefully by Christmas this work will have been carried out including the 30 mph signs for the A40 by Burford School.

HGVs. The beneficial effect for Burford is very noticeable. HGVs still ignoring the signs are being dealt with. Infra red cameras are being considered for night time traffic.

There is kick back from surrounding villages and towns who are considering weight restriction signs. Gloucestershire County Council are convening meetings to look at this problem.

TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY.

Council considered the applications received in March. This matter was delayed because of Covid. Councillors will individually advise the Clerk of their preference.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Higgs is working on Cemetery records creating a data base.

It is noted that a drain cover by the Co-op and Oxford Shirt Company is damaged. The Clerk will report this to Fix my Street.

The Council donated £200 during October half term for children needing meals as did the

Charity Trustees.

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However most of the money was not needed and so this is back in the Council coffers. The Trustees have suggested the Parish Church use their donation for Christmas activities.

It was noted that even though non-essential shops have closed for four weeks, the Garden Company remains open.

It has also been noted that there is noise pollution allegedly coming from parties held in the region of Lower High Street/ Church Lane. Neighbours are keeping a log of details to send to WODC for action.

The Post Office/Burford News are trading until Christmas Eve.

Drains by the Cotswold Gateway are still flooding as are those on the main roundabout.

The Clerk will report these to OCC.

14. CHARITY MATTERS None.

