

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held
6 January 2021 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 S Lofthouse.
Cllr S Palmer. Cllr P Higgs, Cllr S Chandler. Cllr N Field-Johnson.
Maggie Andrews Town Clerk. John Yeatman RFO.

1. MINUTES. Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 December 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.

VIC Centre. There is no further information to date and no response has been received from Toby Morris Cabinet Member at WODC.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr F Triggs.

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 P Bush declared an interest by way of the fact that he received a cheque for £120.61 being the reimbursement cost of replacing the water heater at the Pavilion.

5. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

BEAP. Cllr S Chandler agreed to become Chairman of BEAT (Burford Emergency Action Team). A zoom meeting will be convened with Nathan Crockford to update the plan as soon as it is possible.

6. SHILTON ROAD REPORT. Cllr Bush reported that to date there is little news. There are no updates on timescales for the new crossings. WODC and OCC Highways will in time carry out inspections and sign-off. However there is little doubt that 'Lockdown' will affect the work.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The RFO reported that the 3rd quarter expenditure and account balances had been circulated. Goodman Nash had planned to visit the Cemetery and the Tolsey in January for further Business Rates recovery information. This may be deferred. January payments are listed below for approval. BTC has Specific or General Powers for all payments.

(Christmas lights: P Adams £100, J Swallow £100

(Petty Cash £50	250. 00
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Netwise (V2 upgrade)	199. 00
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Moore (Auditors)	960. 00
Mr P Bush (water heater, Pavilion)	120. 61
SSE Tolsey (Credit £486.17)	
WODC Cemetery Council Tax	95. 00
Mrs M Andrews	938. 00
Mr D Buckland (S/O)	1256.28
J Yeatman	302. 40
Mr P Denning (HGV)	598. 40
HMRC PAYE	563. 65
Nest Pension	65. 52
A Grotex Cleaner	100. 00
Systems & Solutions (Bytesafe)	20. 00
Margaret Johnson Stationers	170. 40
A K Timms	41. 20
Hickman Brothers	53. 35
BT Business bill	21. 95
That Event Co: (Christmas lights The Hill)	1810. 20
Petty Cash	50. 00
Mrs M Andrews home telephone costs	15. 15
Peter Denning admin expenses	77. 58
K Gray (CCTV cameras, PC & Monitor, accessories Printing, admin – HGV)	5701. 65
Castle Water (Recreation Ground)	22. 70
The above were passed for payment.	

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

New Play Park. The Mayor reported that contracts are being drawn up. A grand opening is scheduled for Easter if Covid allows.

Puffin crossing. A licence has been signed and sealed between BTC and OCC for using space on the Recreation Ground for storing equipment when constructing the crossing. The Mayor reported that clarification was required regarding adult teams using the Rec for football training. He will write to the relevant team advising them that only the under 18's can use the facilities.

Post Office. Mr Paul Miller has successfully raised enough money to cover the cost of moving equipment but the Post Office are taking their time to agree to the move. They are looking for a stop-gap for a possible 'pop-up' shop. The Mayor will continue to pursue the matter.

9. HIGHWAYS . WODC REPORT

Cllr Cotterill reported that WODC is still operating entirely on-line. The situation is legally allowed to continue until the 7 May 2021 under present legislation.

The car park flooded on 23 December 2020 and water had been flowing over the millstream bank until 6 January. The car park is currently dirty with a lot of silt; scarpings have been washed out of the parking spaces. WODC to inspect.

During this flood Island House and possibly Ladyham also flooded, but this is not confirmed.

The Church had flood water in the Churchyard around the Chancel which was at risk of entering the Priest's door. Two pumps were installed to keep the water level down. Fullers Cottage planning application is not going smoothly and Cllr Cotterill has called it in to the February Uplands Committee.

10. OCC REPORT.

Cllr Field-Johnson's report was circulated to Councillors. It included reports on Covid-19 and the vaccination programme.

OCC are in the process of setting the budget which will go before full Council on 9 February. The proposals include:

A total of £1m long term funding to be invested in expanding the youth offer in Oxfordshire.

An extra £4m will be added to the adult social care budget for 2021/22.

The Better Care Fund (BCF) is a programme spanning both the NHS and local government. It seeks to join up health and care services.

The number of adults of working age with physical disabilities has increased in 2020/21 and there are forecast overspends for both care at home and for residential care. Pending a review of the needs and activity for these service users, £750,000 has been proposed to support expenditure on assessed care needs from 2021/22.

The County Council has been part of a joint partnership to procure and manage services for single homeless people in Oxfordshire since it was formed in 2017. A further one-off contribution to the partnership of £500,000 was included in the budget.

During the period of the pandemic, more people have chosen to take up drugs and alcohol. This has led to the Council proposal to put £50,000 more into existing services.

An extra £400,000 is proposed for Highway maintenance.

A £300,000 fund to support innovative community-developed projects and activities that improve people's health and well being in Oxfordshire is proposed.

An extra £330,000 will be invested into children's services on increasing early intervention services, increasing the skill base of children's social care workers and special educational needs related services.

A total of £81,000 would be invested in domestic violence services and £150,000 into apprenticeships.

11. CORRESPONDENCE.

A FOI request has been received from Mr A Goodwin concerning the engagement of C &

J Fire Co who carry out the safety check on fire extinguishers at the Pavilion.

All necessary information will be passed to Mr Goodwin.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

20/03136/LBC. 20/03135/FUL. 54 High Street, Oxford Shirt Co.

Internal & external alterations to increase height of existing rear flat roof to create extra

storage space. Increase height of existing flat roof for extra storage space.

No objection.

20/03410/HHD. 10 Sylvester Close. Partial replacement of existing conservatory, conversion of garage to habitable space, conversion of loft to habitable space with 4

roof lights and an opaque glazed side window. Extension of existing parking area and

removal of a section of stone walling to front of property to facilitate access.

Internal

modifications.

The Council had no objection subject to the 3 velux windows on the front (South) roof to be replaced with 2 dormer windows.

20/03472/HHD. 9 Orchard Rise. Erection of 2 storey extension and covered veranda

both to side elevation. No objection.

Recreation Ground. No report.

Pavilion

A new water heater has been fitted in the Pavilion.

It was agreed that the Pavilion would not last for another 20 years although it is usable for the time being. Discussion took place regarding the next step. Suggestions included grants from various bodies including the FA (Football Association), start a sinking fund, crowd funding. So far there is money in the budget for a new roof. Further discussion is required but in the meantime Cllrs White & Triggs will talk with John McLaughlin who manages the Clanfield team. It was felt we should act sooner rather than later.

Environment & Cemetery.

It was noted that there is a large amount of rubbish and litter in the Bay Tree car park.

It was also noted that there are several potholes around the town.

Cemetery. Cllr Higgs has carried out a survey of available grave space identifying at least a further 46 available plots. In light of this Council felt there was no immediate need to develop the top field.

The Contractors who quoted for the work will be advised accordingly.

Scalplings and gravel has been laid to the driveway for which we thank David Buckland.

A new sign pointing to the Cemetery has been erected.

Traffic. A40 crossing. The A40 will be closed for three days from 22 February for the installation of the Puffin crossing.

HGVs. The infra red cameras will be installed in the High Street as soon as they are to hand.

Some motorists are ignoring the 20mph limit throughout the Town. TVP will be asked if they could help with speed indicator display cameras.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that the Burford Garden Co have roped off areas where non-essential goods are sold.

It has been noted that access to the Defibrillator is difficult while construction work is carried out at the Barclays Bank site. Cllr Taubenheim to investigate.

The Chamber of Trade has requested use of the Falkland Hall notice board, using half the space. Council agreed.

A top window needs repairing or replacing at the Tolsey. The Clerk will contact one of our contractors.

It was noted that a cherry picker will be required when repair work commences to the front of the Tolsey. The flagpole will also need repairing.

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13. CHARITY MATTERS.

A Witney based Charity has requested long term use throughout the year for two Saturday's trading in each month. The Council's Policy is to keep the ground floor of the Tolsey available for Saturdays for as wide a spectrum of charities as possible and not to enter into long term commitments. The use of this space is always at the Council's discretion, so with regret, the applicant will be informed that their request cannot be accommodated.