

**Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting on
Wednesday 2 February 2022 at 7pm held in the Warwick Hall**

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

1. MINUTES. Resolved: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 January 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

Automatic Speed Indicator Sign. The post has been installed, the speed display unit has been programmed and is ready to go. However a resident on The Hill has complained about the position of the post in front of their property. OCC agreed the best site regarding the angle of the road, however we have asked if it is possible to reposition the post and at what cost.

Queens Green Canopy. Tree planting will take place on Sunday 6 February at 10am. Flyers have been delivered to households who showed interest in helping with the planting.

Jubilee Street Party. A meeting has been convened for 9 February to form a committee of those who have offered their services. Council agreed to present engraved pens to the Primary School children, marking the occasion.

Play Park. No update.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were noted from Cllrs Triggs and 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 Taubenheim – Pavilion & Planning

Cllr White – Traffic

Cllr Higgs declared an interest regarding reimbursement payment for grave markers in the sum of £24.99.

Cllr Tunnell-Westmacott received a payment of £150 for the Christmas party catering costs.

5. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Shilton Road. John Blackburn sent a report regarding outstanding works. A letter was sent to Lioncourt requiring completion of outstanding works within 21 days and stating that otherwise OCC would take legal proceedings to call in the Bond, which would then lead to the Council seeking an alternative contractor to complete the works.

OCC met Lioncourt on site and despite Lioncourt's failure to complete the works OCC accepted that in their view sufficient progress has been made and that with promises of further remedial works to be sorted asap OCC would not initiate proceedings to call in the Bond.

Lioncourt have given assurances to OCC that the preparatory work on the verges would be completed before Christmas and that once Streetworks gave road space to works on the A40 in the middle of January, the A40 works would be completed by the end of January 2022.

A request will be forwarded to John Exley, Highway Engineer asking that he contact the Bondsman to initiate proceedings for calling in the Bond so that we might finally see closure.

Council agreed to support the above and to push OCC to call in the Bond.

Colliers Charity. Cllr Taubenheim agreed to head up a small committee to discuss the annual presentation of bread to the children at the Primary School. A fresh approach is required for the presentation.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT. None.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2022/23 precept request has been submitted; there is no Parish grant again this year.

BTC Payments for approval:

Murray Mclean Farming (Queens Green Canopy)	409.68
Burford PCC room hire.	35.00
P Adams (Christmas lights)	100.00
J Swallow (Christmas lights)	100.00
ElanCityUK (speed sign)	2362.80
P Higgs reimbursement	24.99
Cotswold Connect (HGV)	28.80
SSE Tolsey	56.52
CPRE annual subs	36.00
WODC Tolsey business rates	117.00
WODC Cemetery business rates	108.00
Mrs M Andrews	904.70
Mr D Buckland	1258.08
J Yeatman	381.60
Mrs G Rolls (HGV)	490.88
HMRC PAYE	512.15
Nest Pension	65.52
Mrs James (HGV)	54.00
Anna Grotex cleaning services	100.00
Systems & Solutions (Bytesafe)	20.00
BT business bill	65.17
Margaret Johnson	41.15
Jane Tunnell	150.00
Petty Cash	40.00
Castle Water Rec	23.87

The above was approved and passed for payment.

8. HGV REPORT

Cllr White reported that the OCC Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee had met to discuss the calling-in request which we had lodged seeking a review of Cllr Enright's refusal to extend the Burford Weight Limit. He, Dr Ken Gray and Hugo Ashton, led by Cllr Field-Johnson, spoke on behalf of BTC and representatives of WiVTAG, the Road Haulage Association and certain hauliers spoke against the continuation of the BWL.

Cllr White explained that our appeal was based on three grounds, first that the OCC Officer's report ignored the ANPR survey data, secondly that the Officers had not taken into account the improvement air quality and thirdly that Cllr Enright was conflicted because he was a Witney Town Councillor and had voted at WTC meetings to support WiVTAG and to seek an overthrow of the BWL. The POSC voted to refer the matter to OCC's full Cabinet but it was not clear what the POSC wanted Cabinet to do.

The ETRO would expire on 4 February so we will have to ask for another TRO. Cllr White enquired if Council would support a new TRO imposing a weight limit of 18 tonnes (as opposed to the 7.5 tonnes limit under the ETRO) if it became necessary in negotiations with OCC. Council agreed that would.

Cllr White was thanked for his hard work on the HGV matters and especially the above report.

9. O.C.C. REPORT CLLR FIELD JOHNSON. Covered under HGV report.

10. WODC REPORT . CLLR COTTERILL.

Since the last Scrutiny meeting in December the Government has completed its annual Local Government Finance Settlement. This extends to New Homes Bonus by one year and turns a potential deficit for WODC of £830k into balance. This is very much a one-year gift.

The target budget for 2022/23 is £12,882. 076 and the New Homes Bonus contribution to that is £2,378.105. The Business rate share is £4,460. 000. Council Tax brings in £5,281.201 and Investment Income is £676.353. The tax increase overall is 4.57%.

11. CORRESPONDENCE.

A resident in Frethern Close has complained about the dual-purpose waste bins. The Mayor explained the new system in last month's Bridge magazine whereby residents are asked to put bagged dog waste in their own household rubbish bins. WODC are responsible for installing and emptying the bins; BTC are aware of several issues so far but will monitor the situation. We encourage residents to make their complaint to WODC direct by contacting Bill.Oddy@publicagroup.uk

12 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

21/04116/HHD. 15 Tanners Lane. No objection.

21/04098/HHD. 8 Tanners Lane. No objection.

21/03951/FUL. 33a High Street. Our only concern would be that the canopy should be within conservation colours, otherwise we have no objection.

21/03796/HHD. 12 Guildenford. The stone should match the existing and be approved by Officers, otherwise no objection.

21/04127/HHD. 173 The Hill. No objection.

22/00037/HHD. 35 Tanners Lane. No objection.

22/00103/OUT. Land North of 15 Shilton Road. Council has a strong objection to the vehicular and pedestrian access on to the A40.

21/04123/S73. Lane West of Shilton Road. No objection.

22/00233/LBC. 153 The Hill. No objection.

Recreation Ground.

A large beech tree on the Rec near the A40 has a sever split through the main trunk rendering it a real danger to the public. Nick Dalby at WODC has approved the felling of the tree. Council have accepted McCrackens quotation in the sum of £1125.

Pavilion. Quotations awaited for the repairs/refurbishment to the front timber of the Pavilion. Action Cllr Taubenheim.

Environment. Generally all in good order. A loose stone on the pathway outside Huffkins will be repaired. The waste bin on Church Green will be repositioned.

Cemetery. The Cemetery is in good order.

Traffic. Covered under HGV report.

BEAP. (Burford Emergency Action Plan)

Since Simon Chandler has stepped down as a Councillor, a Chairman of this committee needs to be appointed. For the time being Cllr Higgs agreed to fill the vacancy.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Service to Burford medals. A request for nominations will be in next month's edition of The Bridge and will be presented to six deserving residents of Burford at the Mayor's reception in June.

Burford bridge. OCC will be asked if the white pedestrian lines could be repainted and hatched.

Twinning. Cllr Cotterill reported that Matthew Albrighton at Burford school has corresponded with Potenza Picena with a view to programme exchange visits.

Fly tipping. Items have been dumped in Witney Street which have been reported to WODC. Their website has information where fly tipping can be reported.

14. CHARITY MATTERS.

Purete Provence Ltd are now trading under the Tolsey on Mondays only, therefore a vacancy is open for Tuesday trading.

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