

MINUTES OF BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION GROUND AND PAVILION COMMITTEES

Meeting Sept 5TH 2022 @ the pavilion 5pm

PRESENT - Present: Cllr Rushton - Chair, Cllr Higgs, Cllr Taubenheim, Cllr Craven, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Westmacott, Allan Tuckwell (Bowls Club), David Buckland

1. WELCOME
2. APOLOGIES - Lucy Staveley, John McLaughlin
3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING Agreed and signed by Cllr Rushton
4. MATTERS ARISING –
 - a. Rabbit gassing – 23 Aug. Numbers have been reduced. Rabbits have been less active on the filled holes but plenty of rabbit droppings so there are still rabbits on the rec.
 - b. Meeting with FC regarding lease – 22 Aug. Lease is required for minimum term of 10 years. FC are waiting for information from their solicitor regarding details of the lease required.
 - c. RoSPA inspection report – Received. Several low-risk items require attention. David is working through this and will find out details of previous supplier for replacement parts.
 - d. Scout garden – Scouts will now only use the firepit area. The rest of the garden will be used by Preschool and David will keep it trimmed.
 - e. Working party – 31/8. Thanks to all who attended. The Scout Garden was tidied and rabbit holes emptied of sand and filled with topsoil. Next meeting 29/9, 5:30 start. Weather and light permitting. October date of 26/10 will need to be re-arranged
 - f. Progress on Play Area improvements. Consultation to start as soon as possible once full council have reviewed the questionnaire and school are back for Autumn term. Questionnaire will be distributed online to parents via primary school, pre-school, church, scouts, football club, plus facebook and details in The Bridge. Cllr Rushton actioning. Pre-school have invited us for a face-to-face focus meeting with the children and this is something we hope to also pursue with the other groups.
 - g. BBQs have been removed. Thanks to Cllr Taubenheim for arranging disposal of these.
 - h. Hedge overhanging allotment – McCracken's have been to look at the job and have provided a quote which will need approval at next full council meeting. Hedge to be cut by 50%, brambles and brash cleared from rec, tree's along side of Tanner's lane to have canopy to be raised.
5. CLLR RUSHTON REC REPORT – See 'Matters Arising' . Also: Rabbits have continued to be the main focus of attention. Warrens along the Tanners Lane boundary have not been re-dug since gassing so there has been some success, however there must be warrens elsewhere as there are fresh rabbit droppings on the filled rabbit holes. We will need to consider ferreting in the autumn. Regarding the playground, Cllrs Rushton and Craven met to work out the consultation questionnaire and to look at the WODC grant requirements. WODC are not interested in an outline application but explained that next year's deadlines will be released in the New Year and are usually April and September. Questionnaire will be distributed for parents to fill in. We will also engage the children by asking for pictures of what they would like/not like in a new playground. One 'entry' will be drawn to win the opportunity to open the new playground.

6. CLLR TAUBENHEIM PAVILLION REPORT - Toilet lights have again been left on and door unlocked. New locks will be purchased with keys only for football club and David Buckland. David Buckland to action.

7. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

FOOTBALL Nothing reported. Waiting for details of lease from solicitor

WESTFIELD GATE Committee discussed the practicalities of the football team trying to close the gate whilst having training or matches. The difficulties include continual movement of cars for up to 2 hours which would mean the need for someone of the gate the entire time. This is not practical, and could be dangerous since Mr McLaughlin was attacked by a dog when trying to do this. Cllrs were mindful that the field is not an ideal place for parking and dog walking at the same time and some cars were witnessed driving quite fast in and out of the field during our meeting. Cllr Taubenheim suggested that a solution may be to park instead on the rec, parallel to Tanners Lane, as happens during the Burford Festival. Cllr Taubenheim to check that this would not inconvenience the Scouts.

SCOUTS - Scouts commented that their storage container still contains items belonging to the Football club.

BOWLS CLUB - Mr Tuckwell requested a sign to be placed on the gate between the car park and the rec as there were issues last week when a car parked in front of the gate, blocking vehicle access to the scout hut. There had previously been a large sign, but this has been removed by persons unknown. David Buckland to organise double-sided replacement, 'Emergency Exit, Keep Clear'.

PAVILLION - There were various discussions about the arrangement of toilets and inside access v outside access.

RECREATION GROUND IMPROVEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS – Thanks to Cllr Craven for the 'Plan on a Page' and Terms of Reference. Questionnaire and Poster competition have been forwarded to council for approval.

8. AOB – Committee toured Westfield following the departure of the Travellers earlier today. Most of the litter has been bagged already. Thanks to David Buckland, Jack Buckland and Cllr Bruce for tidying the field and collecting the rubbish.
9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday Nov 14th 5pm Burford Tolsey.