

MINUTES OF BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL  
RECREATION GROUND AND PAVILION COMMITTEES

Meeting Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ The Tolsey 5pm

PRESENT: Cllr Rushton (Chair), Cllr Higgs, Cllr Taubenheim, Cllr Craven, Cllr Westmacott, Allan Tuckwell (Bowls Club)

1. WELCOME
2. APOLOGIES John McClaughlin, (Clanfield FC), David Buckland
3. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING Agreed and signed
4. MATTERS ARISING
  - a. Security bollard on Westfield hard to open – Cllr Higgs checking
  - b. FC have signed the licence. Cllr Higgs and Rushton to sign on behalf of BTC
  - c. Signs on car park / rec gate discussed. Decision made to combine all the dog related signs onto one, and to rearrange signs into one line of 4 to make them easier to read. Cllr Rushton to action.
  - d. The hedge overhanging the allotments has still not been cut. Cllr Westmacott to chase since all hedge cutting must be done before Mch 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - e. OxPest gassing has been completed and invoice passed for payment. ACD Pest Control are waiting for availability from their ferret handler, once they have dates, we should receive the contract for ferreting the warren along the A40
  - f. Burford Bowls Club members have dug drainage channels in the car park to solve the flooding issues. Our thanks to the Bowls Club for giving their time to do this.
  - g. Lucy Staveley has spindle trees for Cllr Westmacott for Westfield.
5. CLLR TAUBENHEIM PAVILLION REPORT -
  - a. 2 ceiling panels down due to condensation
  - b. Septic tanks beside pavilion are empty, and do not appear to be in use. They are not locked and could pose a severe safety risk. Cllr Taubenheim investigating.
6. CLLR RUSHTON REC REPORT –

Lengthsman has now taken over weekly inspections of the Playground and spent a couple of days last week on general maintenance and tidying.

Memorial Tree for Nora Thomas has been planted near the North-east corner of the Bowls Club hedge.

Lovely to see the article in Burford School Newsletter about the Playground drawing competition. The Over 11 age group was won by one of the boarders. Under 11 age group was won by one of the Scouts.

Quotes are being arranged for path to playground. Further details below.

7. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

FOOTBALL – FC raised the following points:

- a. Were the rabbits gassed as planned at the end of January? Have advised him that some of the gassing was completed by then, along Tanners Lane boundary. The rest was delayed by the weather and should be done in the next week or so.
- b. The electrical safety certificate for the pavilion and remedial work from EICR need doing. Cllr Taubenheim to look into this.
- c. Some of the tiles have fallen through the ceiling that have got damp from rain coming through the roof. See Pavilion report, this is condensation not a leak.
- d. Some goals have been removed from the rec as only 4 teams now remain at Burford. John has moved his 3 teams elsewhere and the U15s have done the same.

- e. FC have no idea if the 4 remaining teams will survive at Burford next season given the increase in cost of rent and the number of teams it will now be shared between. This will be reviewed at the end of the season.
- f. Need to know when the grass cutting will start as the grass is getting long. Have advised him it is normally around March time.
- g. Complaint was made about allotment holders using the entrance next to the scout hut and driving across the football pitches. Have been in touch with allotment chairman to advise him of the complaint and asked him to remind allotment holders that they mustn't drive on the rec. Hopefully situation will resolve itself once all allotment holders have a key to Westfeld gate.

## SCOUTS

Amy has won the Under 11 age group Playground drawing competition. Certificates have been delivered.

## BOWLS CLUB

Rabbits in Bowls Club hedge have been gassed. Bowls club will make regular inspections of the hedge and fence and undertake maintenance as necessary.

Bowls club have accepted council offer of peppercorn rent and they will pay for their own water.

## PLAYGROUND PROJECT

All three designs have now been received and forwarded to council. These will be displayed at the Burford Eco day March 18 and feedback collected so adjustments can be made.

Competition entrants have all had certificates, and letter has been forwarded to primary school and pre-school families and boarding house. The contents of the letter will also be included as an article in the March Bridge magazine.

Recent email from WODC suggests that we will not be eligible for WODC's recently publicised rural funding.

Sub Committee are looking into crown funding. Other fundraising ideas were discussed.

RFO has been looking into the issue of procurement and has confirmed that we will comply with BTC financial regulations by securing three quotations. Still to clarify whether we are using 'Competitive procedure with negotiation' or 'Competitive dialogue'. Cllrs Rushton and Craven to liaise with RFO regarding this.

Three companies have viewed the rec with a view to quoting for construction of a path. Mathew Hall, Gorden Hill and Sons and JFK (Witney) Ltd. All have been asked to quote for tarmac and grassblock options. Conflicting advice regarding whether there is a minimum width that has to be complied with (1.8m or 1.4m or no minimum) and whether planning permission will be required. This needs to be investigated.

## LENGTHSMAN

- a. Play area on the rec needs maintenance, and spare parts will need to be purchased. Cllr Rushton to arrange updated quote from Sutcliffe Play.
- b. Septic tank shared by Bowls club and Scouts needs emptying asap. Cllr Rushton has contacted Bowls Club who will organise.

8. AOB None

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 5pm at the Tolsey