

BURGHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday 14th March 2024 **Time:** 7.45pm

Place: West Wing Committee Room, Burghfield Village Hall

Present: Cllr Greaves Cllr P Lawrence
Cllr A Gallagher Cllr D Selway
Cllr S Awbery Cllr Y Mattos
Cllr B Neilson Cllr R Thorrington

Present: Parish Clerk & Communications & Support Officer

Apologies: Cllr I Macfarlane

1.0324 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were presented, received and approved for Cllr I Macfarlane

2.0324 Declaration of any personal or pecuniary interests & Applications for Dispensations

Dispensation has been previously granted to Cllr Selway enabling participation in discussions relating to the allotments but no voting rights accordingly.

3.0324 Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee

The minutes of the last meeting of the Community Committee held on 15 February 2024, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

4.0324 Conservation & Management of Open Spaces within the Parish

a) Common Recreation Ground

Further to the quarterly play inspection noting the condition of the roadside stretch of fence, quotes were obtained for its replacement. Stronger stock wire fencing has been suggested to avoid damage and damage being caused. Concerns were expressed in relation to incorporating a midway access point creating a weak spot.

Resolved: To obtain all quotes for discussion at next meeting

A request for an exercise class to be held on the MUGA on a Friday lunchtime from June was presented. All relevant documentation has been provided.

Resolved: To grant permission as requested

b) Hatch Recreation Ground

The parish council approved electrician has been instructed to install an externally housed electrical cabinet prior to the May Fayre.

c) Wells Recreation Ground

The required repairs to the roundabout and jet washing of the safer surfacing under the slide and swings has been completed. The replacement gate has been installed.

Jet washing under the toddler unit was unable to be completed due to the condition of the surfacing. A recommendation was presented by the contractor, with accompanying quote for the replacement of the surfacing with Tiger Mulch.

Resolved: To replace the surfacing under the toddler unit and roundabout accordingly.

d) Auclum Green

Following approval at the previous meeting, the contractor has undertaken the required repair works within the play area.

e) Old Recreation Ground (Skate Park) – No issues to report.

f) To receive an update in relation to the Skate Park Refurbishment project

Betong Skateparks, the approved contractor, submitted a revised design following the filtration survey results. Modifications incorporated do not impact the usability, having been incorporated alongside feedback. The Certificate of Permitted development is in the process of being finalised for submission to WBC.

Avenues for fundraising require further exploration and commitment to ensure the remaining funds required are obtained. The extent of parish council involvement in fundraising and the promotion of the project to ensure its progression and delivery is to be determined.

Resolved: Re-engage with younger/user group, schools, work in partnership to seek funding. Clearly indicate that the PC are committed to getting it going.

5.0324 To receive the request to address the increase in dog mess on recreation grounds

Cllr Thorington presented a request for discussions to be facilitated on how we can reduce the dog poop being left by owners across our green spaces. Suggestions included signage at all entrances to parks, FB and website communication, Newsletter or a game at the May Fayre. Members gave consideration to the suggestions presented.

Resolved: To promote on social media and in the parish newsletter. Spray paint is to be purchased to highlight the mess being left and encourage more "pick up". Signage is to be improved.

6.0324 Pavilion

i) To receive an update in relation to the management and operation of the sports Pavilion

The heating & hot water continues to be an issue at the pavilion. (See item 2)

2) To receive the quotations received for the repair of the heating system following the leak

3 options were presented for consideration by members to repair the heating & hot water system at the pavilion.

Resolved: Progress with option B

7.0324 Tree Report

i) Update on tree works within the parish

Hedging plants consisting of Holly, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Hornbeam have been planted along the boundary of Chapel path. During planting, asbestos was discovered requiring specialist removal. Certification of its safe removal has been obtained.

Two large copper beech trees have been planted at the Common recreation ground to replace the large Cedar felled last summer.

Three Amber liquid trees are scheduled for planting at the burial ground in due course.

Mulch beds are to be installed around the larger trees on the common recreation ground to ensure moisture stays within the trees during the summer period.

A replacement Cherry tree has been planted at Auclum Green following vandalism to the trees planted for the Diamond Jubilee.

A request has been received from a resident for the laurel hedge at the rear of Badgers Glade, where it borders their property to be reduced. The hedge was not identified within the 3 year tree management plan.

Resolved: Visual assessment undertaken of the boundaries and access.

8.0324 Allotments

(Cllr Selway abstained from voting on the following items)

i) To receive a report in relation to the management and maintenance of allotment sites

A request had been received for a nature pond on an allotment plot at the Common allotments site.

Resolved: Majority vote granted nature pond under pre-determined conditions, no bigger than 3m x 3m. 4 in favour, 1 abstained, 1 objection.

Members present received a verbal report from the Clerk regarding the allotments

advising that due to weather conditions maintenance at both sites had been postponed.

ii) To receive a report regarding the water supply at the common allotments

W.J. Hatt began works at the common allotments week commencing February 19th to improve water provision. Plot holders patience was requested during the 2-week period. Unfortunately, the digger was vandalised beyond repair during the weekend period, causing significant damage. This caused a delay in completing the project. Thames Water are to advise of the date for the connection upon the works having been completed.

9.0324 Parish Maintenance

i) To give consideration to any specific works identified or required within the parish

No further items were identified by members present.

ii) To receive the quotations for the repairs required to the telephone box at the Village hall

Unfortunately, the contractors contacted for a quotation to undertake the repairs have all declined. Further investigation is required.

A plea is to be placed in the newsletter for a volunteer to paint the phone box.

10.0324 Future agenda items & Items for information only

Additional benches on the park with a request for dedications.

Meeting closed at 21.18pm