

BURGHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Recreation Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday 16th May 2024 **Time:** 6.30pm

Place: West Wing Committee Room, Burghfield Village Hall

Present: Cllr Lawrence (Chairman) Cllr Thorrington
Cllr Neilson Cllr Greaves
Cllr Mattos Cllr Awbery
Cllr I Macfarlane

Present: Parish Clerk , Communications & Support Officer and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Gallagher

1.0524 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were presented, received and approved for Cllr Gallagher.

2.0524 Declaration of any personal or pecuniary interests & Applications for Dispensations

No applications were presented.

3.0524 Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee

The minutes of the last meeting of the Community Committee held on 18 April 2024, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

4.0524 To receive reports on the management and maintenance of the following Play Areas:

a) Common Recreation Ground

The chairman suspended Standing Orders to enable a representative from Burghfield Santos to provide an overview of the request presented for permission for use of the Common Recreation Ground for Burghfest 2024.

(The Chairman declared the meeting open at 6.45pm)

Members gave consideration to the request received from the Burghfield Santa's for the use of the Common Recreation Ground for Burghfest 2024.

Resolved: A recommendation is to be presented to full council for permission for the event to be granted permission accordingly.

A further quotation for the replacement of the boundary fencing at the Common Rec is still being pursued. A specification has been devised as the basis for further quotes.

Further to permission being granted for pop up pubs during the summer period on the common recreation ground, the fee to be applied to the Burghfield Santos for usage is to be determined.

Resolved: A request is to be presented to the Santa's for a donation to be presented for use of the pavilion this year. A further request is to be presented to the Finance & Audit committee for a schedule of charges for the hire of the pavilion in the future.

An article was included within the newsletter regarding Memorial benches. To date, 2 requests have been received and will be actioned accordingly.

Resolved: Liaison is to be held with potential purchasers to determine preferred locations. Members are to review the locations to confirm placement at the next meeting.

b) Old Recreation Ground

The parish handyman has been asked to fill in the holes that have appeared from users of the park attempting to develop bike jumps.

c) Hatch Recreation Ground

The parish council tree surgeon is to be asked to undertake an assessment of the

boundary trees at the Hatch, particularly those on the inside boundary of Sulhamstead Road and the parking area due to encroachment.

The ground had fared well during the May Fayre weekend with the grass having been left longer to take the volume of traffic. A cut is scheduled for later in the week, weather dependent, which will aid full recovery.

d) Wells Recreation Ground

An order of works has been presented to Sawscapes for the safer surfacing to be replaced under the toddler unit with Tiger Mulch. It is anticipated the works will be completed within the next 6 weeks

e) Auclum Green

Vandalism to the fence surrounding the play area continues to be an issue with individual pails being removed. The parish handyman has been instructed to undertake a weekly visual check and undertake any repairs required.

Quotes for netball hoops are being pursued with the appropriate supplier.

f) Burghfield Skate Park

An application for a Certificate of Lawfulness development has been submitted to WBC. Updated visuals of the proposed skate park were displayed at the May Fayre with positive feedback from potential users of the park being obtained. Fundraising efforts continue. It is hoped the project is initiated prior to autumn.

05.0524 To receive reports on the management and maintenance of the following Open Spaces:

a) Badgers Glade

Works are to be scheduled in line with the priorities identified within the tree management plan.

Cllr Awbery enquired as to whether a policy was required for Badgers Glade, specifically in relation to the numbers and species of animals present. Members confirmed that the responsibility of the parish council was being upheld through the initiation and implementation of the Tree Management Plan. Due to the area being enclosed with no public access no further policy is required.

b) School Firs

Works are to be scheduled in line with the priorities identified within the tree management plan.

6.0524 Tree Management Plan

i) To receive an report regarding the tree management plan and determine any tree works required

Works have been scheduled for end of May in line with the priorities identified within the tree management plan.

A visual assessment from the arboriculturist of 4 specific trees is still awaited.

7.0524 Rights of Way & Footpaths

No issues were identified for consideration or requiring further action.

Cllr Awbery requested whether the bridleway running alongside Garlands School could be declassified to a footpath, or a staggered entrance installed to stop motorbikes from accessing the path and causing a nuisance. Investigations are to be undertaken with WBC.

The footpath running along The Rectory, Sulhamstead Road, has been reported as being very overgrown. A request is to be presented to WBC for the vegetation to be cut back.

8.0524 Parish Maintenance

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

Comments were made in relation to Hawksworth Road and Recreation Road regarding the state of the footpaths following the recent works. A request was presented for District Cllr V Poole to pursue with WBC accordingly.

The grit bin in Omers Rise has been damaged. The parish handyman is to be asked to undertake the required repairs.

9.0524 Litter collection

No issues were identified for consideration or requiring further action.

10.0524 Health & Safety

- i) To give consideration to any H&S issues identified and determine the required action

No items were identified for consideration or requiring action.

11.0524 Environment & Sustainability

- i) To receive a report regarding environmental work in the parish and plan future projects impact to reduce BPC's carbon footprint and promote sustainability

A report is to be presented at the next meeting identifying works to date and to determine area where sustainability can be promoted accordingly.

12.0524 Finance

- i) To receive a monitoring report

Amendments are being implemented to the accounting system to reflect the financial responsibilities of the committee more accurately. A report is to be presented once the amendments have been successfully incorporated.

13.0524 Future Agenda items & Items for Information Only

No further items were identified.

Close of meeting – 19.19pm.