

## **BURGHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Simpson Hall

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Simon Hairsnape (SH), Chairman, Mark Ellis (ME), Vice-Chairman, (AS), Dilys Price (DP), Anthony Vaughan (AV), David Bishop (DB), Bernie Green (BG), Beryl Staite (BS), Janette Pudsey (JP), Pat Eagling (PE), Alister Walshe (AW), Ian Watkins (IW), Sally Robertson (SR) and Sally Ware (SW)

**In Attendance:** Paulette Scholes, Parish Clerk, Pauline Crockett, (PC) Herefordshire Council Ward Member and 14 members of the public

All Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the Parishioners in attendance of this meeting

1. **To accept apologies for absence** - Pat Groves and Alan Stokes
2. **To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation** - Ian Watkins (item 6b), Mark Ellis (items 4 & 6a) and David Bishop (item 6a)
3. **Minutes** - to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and to approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Both sets of minutes were accepted and adopted by the Parish Council, the Chairman signed both sets of minutes.
4. **Neighbourhood Development Plan update** - The seventeen recommendations made by the Independent Examiner were accepted by the Parish Council at the Extraordinary meeting held in December. Kirkwells were instructed to incorporate these recommendations, the NDP was then submitted to Herefordshire Council ready for the referendum on 14<sup>th</sup> February. This will conclude the end of the NDP process, it is important that all Parishioners vote in this referendum. The question that will be asked is 'Do you want Herefordshire Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Burghill to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area? All parishioners eligible to vote will receive a polling card shortly.
5. **Public participation session** -
  - a) Brief verbal report from Ward Councillor Pauline Crockett - December was quiet regarding Council business, although serious decisions were made. Several future projects were accepted by Cabinet in December and these programmed projects will need to be carried out by the incoming administration, so nothing is set in stone. Peterchurch Primary School - approved the commissioning of a feasibility study for the rebuild of the school on the current site. Construction cost £4 million, this is based on Colwall costs. Purchase of accommodation to meet strategic priorities for supportive accommodation for vulnerable people with complex needs at a cost of approx. £740,000. Development Regeneration Programme – Station Approach project is approved to progress to stage 2, the development of a full business case for Stage 2 includes a development fee of up to £752,648. Hereford Centre for Cyber Security - the Cabinet approved the establishment of a joint venture company with University of Wolverhampton, and associated financial arrangements for the Hereford centre for cyber security, the council will provide a capital loan, on commercial terms, to the new company of £3.5m. Children's services at Herefordshire Council have been in the press due to a judgement against them, it was accepted that errors were made by social workers and their managers over a very prolonged period of time. The Independent Group Members feel further discussions and assurances are required and have initiated a request for an Extraordinary Public Council meeting, this has been accepted and planned for Friday January 18<sup>th</sup>. Locally, planning applications continue to be submitted on a weekly, if not daily basis, many have complex issues related to them. Herefordshire Council have now employed 4 new planning officers all are now in post. I have passed on several local issues to the Parish Clerk for attention.
  - b) Receive views of local residents on local matters (max 10 mins - members of the public are invited to speak or raise a matter for consideration at a future meeting) - It was requested that draft minutes of the previous meeting be placed on the website, this was agreed. Speed issues were raised on the road by the new development in Pyefinch, this was discussed at a previous meeting, with section 106 monies due to the Parish it was suggested a small group be formed to look into ways of spending this money in the best interest of the Parish, the Leasown Bus shelter is one area but looking at the speeding issues in the Parish and finding ways of calming traffic and reducing speeding is another.

## 6. Planning: to consider the following applications

- a) (AV) Consider and agree response to planning application 182936, to be determined by Herefordshire Council, Burlton Wood, Tillington, Herefordshire, HR4 7RQ. Biomass boiler and log drying kiln (retrospective). Mark Ellis expressed an interest in this application and left the Council to sit with the public. This was discussed, a Councillor has looked at this application, the Bio-mass boiler and log drying kiln have been in operation since the middle of May of 2018. Both the site operator and landowner were asked to submit the relevant retrospective applications in an attempt to regularise the burning processes taking place on the site. As a result of failure to submit the relevant applications Herefordshire Council issued a planning enforcement notice on the 19 September 2018. The notice required the use of the Bio-mass Boiler to cease by the 1 November 2018 and the Bio-mass Boiler be removed before the 1 February 2019. No appeal was made against the notice, so it still stands as a valid unchallenged enforcement notice making the current activities on the site unlawful and in breach of planning control. This process of operating a Bio-mass Boiler and wood drying kiln on this site has caused smoke and smell pollution at a nearby dwelling. This pollution has persisted at almost all times when the boiler has been in operation. Comments have been made on the height of the smoke stack and that it needs to be increased in an attempt to reduce smoke pollution. However, such an increase in height is unlikely to achieve the desired results. As the ground to the north of the site is higher than the location of the boiler, cooling smoke will not escape the small valley in which Burlton Court is located. The smoke will fall back into the valley through the natural convection patterns of cooling air and the pollution around the dwelling and the public footpaths at this location will persist. No submissions have been made by the applicant relating to transportation information. All the materials imported to the site or exported from it will pass along Burlton Court Lane and link with the A4110 at the cross roads at the bottom of Bewdley Bank. Burghill Parish Council takes the view that Burlton Court Lane is too narrow for any increased use from commercial vehicles. It is therefore, the view of Burghill Parish Council that planning permission should not be granted for this retrospective planning application. Mark Ellis re-joined the Council. The Clerk will add these comments to the application. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- b) (DB) Consider and agree response to planning application 184286, to be determined by Herefordshire Council, Area of farmland adjacent to the existing Bewdley Bank Reservoir, Bewdley Bank, Herefordshire. Construction of a new covered reservoir and associated works, including two valve houses and associated plant, soft landscaping design, the provision of approximately 1200m<sup>2</sup> hardstanding area, a sustainable drainage system, security fencing surrounding perimeter of operational land, and new access to the site. Ian Watkins expressed an interest in this application and left the room. This was discussed, a Councillor has looked at this application, this application is not in view for many houses, and it was accepted that Hereford is an expanding city and the current reservoir does not have the capacity to service the new builds, so there are no objections in principle to this application, but there are some concerns. These are to where the 'run-off' water would go, whether it is controlled or not it still may cause flooding. The resident's amenities would be disrupted as construction hours are long and at the weekends. The access to the site would cause major disruption and Burghill Parish Council suggest using the access off Bewdley Bank by the layby, as this would provide a shorter route to access the site. Ian Watkins re-joined the Council. The Clerk will add these comments to the application. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- c) (BG) Consider and agree response to planning application 184278, to be determined by Herefordshire Council, 2 South Cottages, Jasmine Lane, Burghill, Hereford, Herefordshire HR4 7QT. Two large Sweet Chestnuts to be felled, stumps ground out and be replaced with one Oak tree. This was discussed, a Councillor has looked at this application and it refers to two large well established sweet chestnuts that are showing some deadwood in the upper crown and appear to be in some distress. It would therefore, be recommended that the removal request, including the stumps, be given and then replaced with a suitable alternative as stated on the application form. The Clerk will add these comments to the application. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- d) (BG) Consider and agree response to planning application 184374, to be determined by Herefordshire Council, 8 Jasmine Lane, Burghill, Hereford, Herefordshire HR4 7QS. Proposed works to large Oak tree. To

thin out the Crown by 25% to allow more light and to tidy up the appearance of the tree. Long term this will preserve the health of the tree and enhance the appearance. This was discussed, a Councillor has looked at this application, it refers to a mature Oak in fairly good health that has had some tree surgery in the past to reduce the canopy. It is recommended to thin out the crown by 25%, as requested, to improve the appearance and extend the life span of the tree. The Applicant is to liaise with adjacent householder at the rear of her property. The Clerk will add these comments to the application. **Action: Parish Clerk**

- e) (PE) Consider and agree response to planning application 184494, to be determined by Herefordshire Council, Yewtree Cottage, Tillington, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR4 8LW. Proposed demolition of two storey and single storey extensions and replacement with two storey extension including solar panels. Demolition of existing garage and proposed double garage with log store. This was discussed, a Councillor has looked at this application, it states going from a 2 bedroomed property to a 4 bedroomed property, while the Parish Council do not object to this application in principle there are concerns regarding the size of the of the current septic tank and its soakaway, as there have been issues in this area with drainage. Also, the window on the west side of the new extension may need to be glazed with obscured glass, as it looks over the neighbour's property, this would allow privacy on both sides. The Clerk will add these comments to the application. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- f) Applications update – noted

## 7. Finance:

- a) **Payment of invoices** - all agreed and paid
  - P Scholes - Clerk salary
  - P Scholes - Clerk Expenses - £83.02
  - Arbortech (Tree work and report on trees on three commons) - £420.00
  - Autela (Payroll October - December) - £46.80
  - R Mills (Lengthsman) - £312.60
  - HALC - (Website hosting 2 years) - £132.00
  - Simpson Hall (Room Hire) - £56.00
- 8. **Lengthsman & P3 scheme update**, report work for the lengthsman to clerk - SW said there have be no complaints on the footpaths of late and all the signs that Tillington Orchards said they would erect on their land have been positioned except for one finger post, this will be done by the Spring.
- 9. **Commons Update** - The Commons committee have now received the report from the tree surgeon on all the trees on the commons. The main concern is the Chestnut tree as it is not in a good condition, this will be monitored throughout the year and the tree surgeon will look at it again next year.
- 10. **B T Pole - needs moving (opposite Burghill School)** - This was discussed as a local resident who uses a mobility scooter cannot pass the pole currently on the pavement. Both Balfour Beatty and Open Reach have said the responsibility lies with the Parish Council, this was disputed as neither the pavements or BT poles are the Parish Councils responsibility. It was agreed that ME, BG and AV will look into this and give a short briefing at the next meeting, with the recommended steps forward. **Action: Mark Ellis, Bernie Green and Anthony Vaughan**
- 11. **Green spaces grant opportunity** - This was discussed and the Council will apply for this grant for a mower to maintain the Copse area. SR will liaise with the Clerk on this. **Action: Sally Robertson and Parish Clerk**
- 12. **Welsh Water** - This is still on going and will be discussed again in the Spring. The Council did agree not pursue this unless there was a clear mandate from the Parish to do so, at this moment in time one does not exist.
- 13. **Leasown Bus Shelter** - The funding for this project will be available from the Section 106 monies the Parish Council have. SR has looked into the costs of this and in conjunction with the speeding issues discussed earlier in the meeting, a small group will be assembled to discuss the best ways of spending the monies to benefit the Parish.
- 14. **Correspondence, HALC and NALC updates** - noted
- 15. **Items for next meeting** - none
- 16. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019**