

Parish Council update report: January 2022

Our meetings currently continue to take place in the main part of the village hall where we can ensure adequate space and ventilation for all who attend. Details are always on the noticeboard in the High Street as well as on the community website and minutes of meetings are also on the website (www.buriton.info).

Recent work by the Council has included a focus on some significant planning applications, climate change, trees, the Queen's Jubilee and dog fouling.

It's expected that **household energy costs** will increase sharply soon and the Parish Council shares the concerns of many residents. In order to help, we are hoping to obtain use of a Thermal Imaging Camera to survey homes, identify where heat is leaking out and help people save money.

If our plans are successful this service would be available to anyone in the parish. If you are interested in having a survey done, please contact our Parish Clerk, Petra Norris, via 07943 536065 or buritonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk to add your name, address and contact details to a list.

There will be more ideas about saving money at home in the centre pages of the forthcoming Parish Magazine: the latest ideas from the community's **Climate Care** group. Hopefully many people have already joined the 'Buriton Climate Change Challenge' – pledging to do 'just one thing' during 2022.

New faces are always welcomed to help with this work – and for the 'Let's Keep Buriton Buzzing' pollinator project which will also be featured in the Magazine. Simply contact the Parish Clerk, as above. Details of both these initiatives are now featured on new sections of the community website: www.buriton.info/climate-and-nature

Thanks to Tree Warden Matt Marriott, more money has been raised to help buy more **new trees** for the parish. The novel 'Christmas Tree Recycling' event in January attracted local radio interest (available [here](#)) – and it is hoped that more people will take part each year. Recycle your Christmas trees locally – and raise money for a good cause.

The Parish Council is also asking EHDC to plant new trees at the village pond – to help mark the Jubilee. Although the willow that was damaged last year may re-shoot, it will never provide the same coverage. New trees could help screen parked cars and enhance the look of the area.

Councillors hope that the community will wish to mark **the Queen's Platinum Jubilee** and hope that volunteers will join a working party to arrange events for the Holiday Weekend (Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June). Arranging events like this shows how healthy a community is – and always relies on volunteers stepping forward to help with ideas and planning. Buriton has always put on fantastic events in the past: perhaps it is now your turn to help? Please don't just leave it to someone else! Please contact Petra Norris, Parish Clerk (via 07943 536065 or buritonparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk) to let her know that you are willing to do a bit!

The Parish Council is facing increasing costs for maintenance and safety inspections for **the playground** – and is considering how to raise more money. Councillors are aware that some users live outside the parish and don't make any contribution to Buriton through their local council tax. A cash box for donations is felt to be impractical and so other ideas are needed! Please contact our Parish Clerk, Petra.

At the time of writing there is a **big new planning application** to develop a greenfield site near the Greenway Lane roundabout for up to 60 holiday lodges, a re-charge centre for electric vehicles and a block for shops and cafes (with internal roads and about 125 parking spaces). Details are on the SDNPA website (ref: SDNP/21/06431/FUL). The Parish Council will be responding and guidance to help parishioners look at planning applications is on the community website: <http://www.buriton.info/planning-applications-parish-buriton>

Although two tall telecoms masts to serve EE train passengers have been approved near the village recently (one to the north and one to the south), the latest proposals to serve the line between the tunnel and the Greenway Lane bridge were refused in December. There had been many objections from the community (including a long petition) and EE must now decide whether to appeal against this decision, find a new location nearby or manage without a mast to cover this part of the railway.

It is anticipated that the Planning Authority will be determining the outcome of the application for the site of ten new houses at Greenway Lane soon. It is not yet clear whether the new public footpath, parallel to Greenway Lane between the site and the railway bridge, will be included. The Parish Council has been pressing for this new path (which is referred to in the National Park's Local Plan) to help reduce safety risks for pedestrians all along Greenway Lane.

Unfortunately a minority of **dog owners** allow their dogs to foul in public places and don't pick up the poo. This is anti-social and can be dangerous for children. The Buriton Ducklings childminding group have made extra poo bag dispensers around the village, so there are no excuses. The Parish Council has also arranged for EHDC's Dog Wardens to visit regularly.