

## THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AND AGREED AT THE NEXT MEETING

# Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Buriton Parish Council in the Upper Hall, Buriton Village Hall at 6:30pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 202

**Present:** Cllr D Jones (Chair), Cllr L Ashcroft, Cllr A Bray, Cllr T Crew, Cllr M Johnston, Cllr L Lloyd, Cllr S Stevens, Cllr T Wheeler and Mrs P Norris, Clerk.

**In attendance**: There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

# 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Clerk welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting of Buriton Parish Council, Cllr H Coates and County & District Cllr Mocatta gave their apologies.

## 2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllrs approved the appointments of Cllr Jones as Chairman and Cllr Johnston as Vice Chairman.

### 3. Review Membership of Committees and Working Groups

Cllrs agreed to the following membership of committees and working groups:

**Planning Committee** – Cllr Johnston (Chairman), Cllr Ashcroft, Cllr Jones, Cllr Stevens and Cllr Wheeler.

**Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee** – Cllr Coates, Cllr Crew, Cllr Jones, Cllr Lloyd and Cllr Stevens.

Rights of Way Working Group - Cllr Johnston, Cllr Jones, Dave Grant and Tricia Newby.

#### 4. Chairman's Annual Report

The Chair summarised a wide range of actions and activities that the Parish Council had undertaken during the last year. He reflected that, as in previous years, it is always surprising to see how many issues have been addressed, with so many successful achievements, by a small group of volunteers on the Parish Council and our part-time Parish Clerk.

He reported that much of the year had been affected by the Coronavirus pandemic and the Council had, therefore, to cope with additional pressures and responsibilities whilst ensuring that the finances have been kept on a sound footing. Provision had been made for future work to enhance the village hall and for other projects whilst also obtaining grants from other sources so that the burdens do not fall solely onto precept payers in the parish.

He reflected that it had only been at the on-line Annual Parish Meeting a year ago that the work on Climate Care had been launched and so it was particularly pleasing to see that a hard-working group of volunteers had stepped forward (including a number of parish councillors) and were making good progress in a number of areas. The Parish Council had purchased a Thermal Imaging Camera and initial surveys were already providing very useful results for parishioners: identifying where heat may be leaking out of their homes and adding, unnecessarily, to fuel bills.

The Council's 'nature' projects had also progressed well during the year, with changes on the recreation ground being praised by the County Council and filmed for their special COP26 event. The prospect of more successful funding applications suggested that 2022-23 could also be a very successful year, connecting with the South Downs National Park's Re-Naturing and Bee Lines initiatives.

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## **BURITON PARISH COUNCIL**

It had been a particularly busy year for planning applications with objections submitted to successfully prevent the Village Inn being changed into a dwelling, to prevent two applications for a phone mast near to Kiln Lane which were designed to serve passengers on the railway line and also to prevent the construction of 60 holiday lodges plus shops, cafes and parking areas for about 125 vehicles near the Greenway Lane roundabout.

The Council had worked hard when the details of the housing site specified in the 2019 South Downs Local Plan appeared. In addition to arranging for the developers to attend a public exhibition meeting in the village, a number of representations had been made to try to influence a range of important matters including designs, layouts, affordable housing, parking, drainage, water supplies, landscaping & biodiversity, energy & sustainability, lighting, highways matters as well as the inclusion (for safety and amenity reasons) of the footpath referred to in the Local Plan from the site in Greenway Lane to the railway bridge. Unfortunately attempts to obtain provision of the footpath had failed. It was noted that the development met the minimum policy requirement that four of the ten dwellings should be affordable homes for local people and that the developers (Metis Homes) had promised a similar provision for the private housing, too. It would be interesting to see the delivery of this promise.

Dark Skies work had also been praised during the year with the Parish Council's initiatives being show-cased in a National Park webinar, featured on BBC World Service radio and published in a Case Study report by the South Downs National Park Authority.

As usual, a number of highways issues, Rights of Way issues and instances of littering, fly-tipping, dog-fouling and abandoned vehicles had been addressed. And a number of seats on the recreation ground had been repaired during the year.

The resurfacing project at the village hall had been completed, a series of repairs had been made to the heavily-used playground, the recreation ground had been kept in good condition and a major project to replace all the windows and doors in the village hall had been commissioned.

Many other miscellaneous but significant issues had been addressed and a fuller summary of activities during the year would be posted onto the community website. The Chair thanked the Clerk, the Hall Manager and all colleagues on the Council for all their efforts during the year.

A copy of the full report can be found on the Buriton Parish Council Website: <u>2021-22 Parish</u> Council Summary .pdf (buriton.info)

#### 5. Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

In

Cllr Lloyd gave a full summary of the series of events happening to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Volunteers are still required especially for the set up and break down for the event. People are being encouraged to bring their own food and drink but there will be a bar tent and a barbeque. Everyone will be asked to take home their waste, black bags are being provided. Cllr Lloyd confirmed that all activities were covered by insurance, the Council's own policy and those of others attending the events. A breakdown of the events is:

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The Chair Cllr Lloyd and Denise Lloyd for all their hard work in organising all the events, he also thanked all the other volunteers.

## 6. Future Opportunities to Enhance the Village Hall

Executive Windows and Construction have been the appointed contractors to carry out the enhancements to the Village Hall. The work will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022. There are three phases of work:

- Phase 1 Replacement windows and doors
- Phase 2 Roof repairs and replacement facias and gutters
- Phase 3 Replacement fire escape from the Upper Hall.

BuildPass and Project Solar had both visited the Village Hall to provide advice about the potential and priorities for future sustainability and energy efficiency projects to help cost and CO2 savings, including the prospects of solar energy generation and opportunities for the provision of charging for electrical vehicles.

As part of a future project the Parish Council would also look at changing the internal village hall lighting to be motion-triggered so that they are only on when needed.

# 7. Update on Climate and Nature Projects

Many things have happened within these projects over the last year, with significant progress following the launch at the 2021 Annual Meeting, including:

- A 'Climate and Nature Charter' had been produced and adopted by the Council after public consultation
- An annual "Hay Day" in September saw villagers come together to gather the grass cut from the wild strips around the recreation ground, this was filmed by Hampshire County

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# **BURITON PARISH COUNCIL**

Council for their Pollinator Project. In April "Cut & Collect" mowing of the wild strips around the Recreation Ground occurred this will allow more flowers species to become established.

- The Parish Council has been successful in their bids for SDNPA's Call for Re-naturing Sites and Beelines Campaign.
- Thermal Imaging Camera The Parish Council purchased the camera to enable surveys to be carried out to show residents where improvements may be required to help ensure that their homes are well insulated.
- The Village Show in August will again publicise the projects and encourage participation.

#### **Public Forum**

The one member of the public commented that all the Parish Council work is very good.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

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