

**BURWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**The Jubilee Reading Room**  
**99, The Causeway, Burwell Cambridge. CB25 0DU**  
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**Chairman: Mr D A Reader**

**Clerk: Mrs Y Rix**

Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014, 7.30 pm in The Jubilee Room, 99 The Causeway, Burwell, Cambridge, CB25 0DU.

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**Present:-** Derek Reader (Chairman), Jane Hall, Gus Jones, Pat Kilbey, Joan Lonsdale, Laura Murfin, James Perry, Michel Scarff, Mike Smith and Liz Swift, Fay Whitehouse, Hazel Williams, Brenda Wilson.  
District and County Councillor David Brown and Mr Whitehouse.

**01.09.14 Apologies:-** Apologies for absence had been received from Liz Goodman and Sylvia Greenaway.

**02.09.14 Declarations of any interests known to Councillors:-** The following pecuniary interests were declared:-  
Joan Lonsdale 08.09.14 Hatley Drive Amenity Area  
Pat Kilbey 08.09.14 Hatley Drive Amenity Area

**03.09.14 Approval of Minutes:-** The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014 were approved and signed as a true and correct record.  
Proposed – Joan Lonsdale, seconded – Pat Kilbey

Laura Murfin arrived at 7.35 pm

**04.09.14 Public Forum:-** District and County Councillor David Brown informed Council that he had attended the recent Planning Committee meeting at East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC). He was extremely annoyed and disappointed with the approval of the planning application for the former D S Smith Site, despite a motion being raised by Lavinia Edwards to refuse the application. He felt that the situation had not been helped by Hazel Williams' indication to the District Council that she would find the approval of the application acceptable, if it helped with the refusal of the application for the David Wilson site. Hazel William informed those present that she had not made this statement to the District Council. David Brown explained that the amended draft Local Development Plan (LDP) had been presented to the Full District Council on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014. The delivery of 6 sites in Soham, previously included in the draft Local Development Plan, had been brought forward to meet the 5 year targets required by the Inspector. David Brown informed Council that he had objected to the proposal for the acceptance of the amended draft local plan.  
Mr Whitehouse asked Council for an explanation of the current situation regarding proposed development within the village and the Burwell Masterplan. Hazel Williams explained the situation with the Masterplan, the amendments required to the LDP to meet the Inspectors requirements and the opportunities for developers that have arisen with the delay in the adoption of the LDP. Council informed Mr Whitehouse that they look at each application individually. However the views that the Parish Council has of an application, may differ from the view taken by the District Council. Hazel Williams explained that it was her understanding that although the Planning Officer for the D S Smith Site had referred to being unable to refuse an application on grounds of the LDP or other policies; applications could be refused on other grounds. Mick Scarff remarked that there had only been 4 objections submitted for the proposed D S Smith Site development and he expressed that there was a need for more residents to register objections, stating strong material planning considerations for the refusal of the application.

Gus Jones expressed concern that there will be a lack of local employment opportunities for residents, especially with the level of new planned housing in the area. Jim Perry voiced disappointment about the way that the proposal for the D S Smith Site had been presented at the Planning Committee meeting by the Planning Officer and the lack of the availability of the Viability Study and the associated Peer Study when requested.

District and County Councillor David Brown and Mr. Whitehouse left the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed Jane Hall to the Council.

**05.09.14  
Planning  
Applications:-**

The following Planning Application was considered:

**14/00899/FUL**

**Daisy No. 1 Ltd – Land off Heath Road**

Provision of 4 passing places (3 temporary and 1 permanent) and construction of site access from Heath Road, Burwell in connection with the approved solar farm 13/00878/ESF.

**No Objections – Council would prefer to see all passing places made permanent.**

Derek Reader made Council aware of an invitation that had been received to visit the Solar Farm at Wilburton on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**06.09.14  
Decisions  
from County  
and District  
Council:-**

The following decision received from the District Council was noted:-

**14/00703/FUL**

**Mr. and Mrs K Beech – 32 Toyse Lane**

Two storey side extension and demolition of existing garage  
**REFUSAL**

**07.09.14  
Action  
Points  
Update:-**

Council noted the Action Points with the following updates being made.

The goal posts at Jubilee Green are due to be removed in the next week.

Following a request from Brenda Wilson, Council confirmed that they would be willing to contribute 10% towards the cost of the grasscrete for the Causeway should the Local Highways Improvement Initiative bid be successful. Gus Jones reported that he had spoken to Inspector Omerod at the recent Pilot Parish Conference and that the Inspector had confirmed that vehicles are allowed to park on the pavement as long as they are not causing an obstruction and that the Police need to witness vehicles being driven along the pavement in order to prosecute.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Meads regarding the work to the driveway at the Cemetery and that the date for the work to be carried out in early October. She informed Council that she would speak to Meads again to try and get the work carried out at an earlier date. The Clerk was also requested to ask Meads for a price to build up the area of driveway near the side entrance, following increasing the width of the gate. The handyman has started to cut back the hedge in order to access the full width of the new gate. Once completed, this will leave an opening to the Cemetery. Council agreed that the handyman should infill this with a wooden fence.

**08.09.14  
Parish  
Reports:-**

**Grounds –**

Weekly Play Area Inspection Reports

The playhouse at Jubilee Green has now had an initial inspection by Wicksteed. However the extent of the repair work will need a proper inspection and this will cost £45.00 plus VAT. The representative from Wicksteed had expressed concern about some low line bolts that were showing and that were potentially a danger. Council considered the option of fencing off the playhouse and getting an inspection carried out. However in the end Council agreed that the playhouse should be removed straight away with a view to replace in the near future.

Byway 7B and Footpath 7 Hythe Bridge to Anchor Bridge

Concern had been raised by a resident regarding the condition of the Byway 7B and Footpath 7 between Hythe Bridge and Anchor Bridge, The grass now disguises the edge of the river bank. This is unlikely to be cut by either the County Council or the Environment Agency. The exact ownership of the byway and path is not known.

Council agreed that if the handyman has time he should cut along the bank a couple of times a year.

A question had also been raised about gardens encroaching onto Footpath No.17.

The Clerk had raised this with the Footpaths Officer, who had suggested that it may

be more appropriate for the Parish Council to approach the residents. Council agreed that this was not something that the Parish Council should be expected to do and that the matter should be referred back to the County Council.

Hatley Drive Amenity Area – Trees, recommendations from Tree Officer

Following previous discussions about the Amenity Area and concerns about the height of some of the conifer trees, the Tree Officer from ECDC had visited the site and had made recommendations as to the options that the Council could take. It is likely that the work will be expensive and it was agreed that the Clerk should initially obtain one quotation in order to obtain some idea of the likely cost.

Portable Appliance Testing at Council properties

Two quotations had been received to carry out the annual Portable Appliance Testing. Council agreed to go with M S Electrical who had provided the cheapest quote of £84.00.

Recreation Ground - Quotation from Play and Leisure

A quotation for the provision of a multi sports area and outside gym equipment at the Recreation Ground had been received from Sports and Leisure Ltd in the sum of £36,661.00 plus VAT. Pat Kilbey asked Council to consider including in the scheme a basket swing which would be suitable for the use of the disabled. The cost for a swing seat to be installed would be around £5,000 to £6,000. The provision of this type of equipment is likely to prove favourable when applying for grants and basket swings are popular in other local parks. Savings in the cost may be available if the work is carried out as one project. The Clerk was asked to obtain an inclusive price for all the work to be carried out.

***Mick Scarff proposed, seconded by Liz Swift, that the Council should authorise £43,000.00 for the project, including the provision of the swing.***

***Council resolved that £43,000.00 should be authorised for the project including the provision of the swing.***

**Trees/Environment –**

There were no matters to consider.

**09.09.14** No District or County matters were discussed.  
**County and District Matters:-**

**10.09.14** The following reports were noted:  
**Other Reports:** Notes from meeting held on 18.8.14 with ECDC  
Jim Perry and Gus Jones gave a verbal report on the Pilot Parish Conference. They found the event well presented, with an interesting presentation by Swaffham Bulbeck Parish Council on the recent work to their play area and woodland. There had been an opportunity to meet with the new police inspector. The seminars allowed a useful opportunity to discuss and resolve matters with other Councillors. Gus Jones reported that he had visited the Funding Fair and would pass useful information to the Clerk.

**11.09.14** Consideration of payments to the following:-  
**Finance** Derek Reader explained that he had dealt with a complaint from one of the football teams about the condition of the grass at the Recreation Ground. The Clerk had authorised an additional cut, following discussion with members of the Grounds Working Group. As the contractor was still at the Recreation Ground, Derek Reader had requested that the pitches were recut and left in a more suitable condition.

Laura Murfin questioned why the main grass contractor tended to cut the verges on a Thursday which is recycling day. She reported that she had received some complaints that the contractor tended to go around the wheelie bins leaving uncut areas of grass. The Clerk was asked to contact the contractor with a request that verges are not cut on the Thursday.

It was noted that only 4 people had used the Dial-a-Ride Service in August. A decision as to whether the service will continue needs to be made in February.

