

BURWELL PARISH COUNCIL
The Jubilee Reading Room
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Chairman: Mrs E Swift

Clerk: Mrs Y Rix

Minutes of the meeting of Burwell Parish Council held in The Jubilee Room, 99 The Causeway, Burwell, Cambridge, CB25 0DU at 7.30p.m. on Tuesday 9th January 2018.

Present:- Liz Swift (Chair), Richard Adams, Robin Dyos, Jane Hall, Gus Jones, Joan Lonsdale, Jim Perry, Derek Reader, Mick Smith, Michael Swift, Paul Webb, Hazel Williams and Brenda Wilson. 5 members of the public and County Councillor Josh Schuman.

FC/090118/01 Approval of Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Jenny Moss, Joe Parker and Gordon Roach.

FC/090118/02 Declarations of any interest known to Councillors:-

The following declarations were made:

Jim Perry – Finance

Jane Hall – Planning – Elmside, 31 The Causeway

FC/090118/03 Approval of Minutes:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2017 were approved and signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Proposed – Joan Lonsdale, Seconded – Robin Dyos

FC/090118/04 Public Forum

John Clarke of the RADE Group spoke of how the electricity sub-station in Weirs Drove would continue to attract projects such as the battery storage facility and the gas powered generators whilst it has a surplus capacity. The storage facility supports renewable energy. The noise report has been well done. The company is prepared to include a barrier around the sub-station within the project and include a wildlife strip. Aura Power has also offered £10,000 per year to help support the community. The Group concluded by informing the Council that RADE supports the application for the proposed development of the 49.9MW battery storage facility in Weirs Drove.

Mr. Chinery spoke to Council about the same planning application. He commented that he felt moving the cooling plant to the west was a good idea. However no demonstration had been given within the application of increasing noise levels as the plant gets older and less effective. The plant will be running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, unlike the existing sub-station. There are also no tests results shown of the noise levels that can be expected by future residents of the 5 new houses on the same piece of land which has recently had planning consent granted. Properties in Low Road in the vicinity of Poplars Close tend to be very sensitive to echo's. The proposed site will also be visible from Low Road. The application shows varying heights for the acoustic fencing. Mr. Chinery commented that should this proposal go ahead, it will not prevent other proposals, such as the gas powered generators being submitted.

A further resident raised concern about the noise level from the proposed battery storage facility.

Mr. Clarke (RADE Group) informed Council that a similar project in Bristol with housing within 60 metres away had received no complaints.

County Councillor Joshua Schuman apologised for his lack of attendance at Council meetings due to representing a large number of parishes in the area. He will be sending out a Quarterly Report to Councils in the future. He informed Council that there had been issues with Libraries who were keeping their Wi-Fi's on 24 hours a day. This had led to an increase in anti-social behaviour in the vicinities of the buildings. In future it has been agreed that Wi-Fi will not be left on all of the time. Cllr. Schuman confirmed that he would be attending the Burwell to Exning Cycleway meeting on 16th January 2018.

There is a new pilot social care scheme looking at providing a more local service taking place in Soham and there will also be a pilot community transport scheme taking place in the near future. Cambridgeshire County Council has been unsuccessful in gaining fairer funding and this is likely to leave the county in a worse condition financially. It is likely that the County Council will look to increase its community charge levy to meet some of the shortfall. The Council will continue to push for fairer funding.

Gus Jones asked Cllr. Schuman if he could provide details of the exact parish boundary between Burwell and Exning.

Cllr Schuman left the meeting.

FC/090118/05 Planning

The following planning applications were considered

17/02045/FUL Mr. and Mrs Lomas – 9a Tunbridge Close

Demolition of existing single storey side extension and conservatory and construction of two storey side extension **No objections**

17/02102/FUL Mr. Paul Flemming – 57 Parsonage Lane

First floor side extension **No objections**

17/02119/FUL Mrs Sally Cullum – 89 Ness Road

Rear extension and new conservatory **No objections**

17/02128/FUL Miss Fiona O'Neill – Welney Lodge, 7 Hythe Close

Proposed two bed dwelling and removal of existing garage at no. 7 (resubmission of 17/01506/FUL) **Objections (same as objections to previous application)**

17/01682/FUL Mr. Matt Macintosh – 40 Silver Street

Retrospective as part built two storey side and rear extension and entrance porch and store. **Information only**

17/02106/FUL Mr. S. Morris – 63 High Street

Proposed single storey commercial unit suitable for use classes A1, A2 and A3 **Objections – Concerns re parking, support of neighbour concerns**

17/02145/OUT Mrs Whitehouse – Land to West of 4 Newmarket Road

Proposed detached dwelling and vehicular access **Objections – Poor access and support of neighbour concerns**

17/02125/FUL Mr. and Mrs Yates - Elmside, 31 The Causeway

Part replacement single storey side extension and new garden structure – **No objections but all construction vehicles should be considerably parked especially in the lane leading to the property**

17/02193/FUL Mr. P Murray – 38 Ness Road

Proposed demolition of existing side extension and erection of new side/rear extension – **No objections**

17/02205/FUL Aura Power Storage Solutions – Land North West of Electricity Sub-Station, Weirs Drove

Development of a 49.9MW battery storage facility, bridge and associated works

Members of the Council were given the opportunity to make comments on the application. Robin Dyos felt that due to the lateness of the application being received by the Council, there had not been enough time to look at the documents fully and make a decision on the proposal. He commented that he was in favour of the proposal, but felt that some areas in the supporting documents did not read true. He pointed out several issues including lithium batteries being highly volatile and that nothing was included explaining how they would be disposed of. Other concerns were the use of child labour in the production of cobalt sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo and that halon gas, which had been stated as being used as a fire suppressant when discussed at the public meeting, had been banned in 2003 and no clear indication had been given on the alternative type of gas that would be used instead. There are currently no solid Lithium batteries in production. Suggestions made by the ECDC Environmental Officer on noise levels need to be made a condition of consent.

Joan Lonsdale expressed concern about the access to the site and also the type of bridge that was due to be installed. She also questioned if recent planning consents for neighbouring land had been considered.

Paul Webb agreed that recommendations on noise levels should be a condition of any consent. Noise levels must be monitored, particularly as the equipment as it gets older will become noisier and less efficient.

Jim Perry, although he is agreeable to this kind of development, foresees that if successful the size of the facility will be increased. He would prefer to see the facility next to the sub stations not at the current proposed location.

Gus Jones pointed out that if the facility is the same as the one in Bristol, there should be no problems.

Michael Swift explained that his main concerns were the visual impact and the level of noise and pollution on the environment.

Hazel Williams added that Aura Power is very clear on their intentions for screening the facility and the acoustic fencing that they intend to use. She commented that there will be further proposals whilst the sub-station continues to have spare capacity and that by saying no now may lead to something worse being built there. She continued to say that she was much swayed with the positiveness of the Bristol facility and was generally in favour of the proposal, but felt that a number of questions still needed to be answered. Traffic to the site will be limited after installation.

Liz Swift felt that clarification should be sought on the differing fence height and on how it would screen units at a height of 5 metres high.

Liz Swift proposed that in principal the Parish Council is in favour of the application provided that the questions and issues are addressed in a satisfactory way to the benefit of the residents of the parish.

Council resolved that in principal the Parish Council is in favour of the application provided that the questions and issues are addressed in a satisfactory way to the benefit of the residents of the parish.

5 members of the public left the meeting.

17/02194/TPO T1 Ash Tree on land opposite 1 Casburn Lane on the corner of Newnham Lane and Dalzell's Lane – Fell

Council noted the application to fell the tree due to damage being caused to the property. They agreed that they had no objections if the felling was necessary, but would like to see a replacement tree planted.

FC/090118/06 Planning Decisions

The following planning decision had been received from the District Council and was noted by Council:

17/01937/FUL 23 Casburn Lane Single Storey Extension APPROVAL

FC/090118/07 Action Point Updates

The following updates were noted:

The transfer of the Freehold of Mingay Park and the Cricket Club Lease have now been completed. Registering Mingay Park with the Land Registry may take up to six months.

Mandeville Hall Ceiling

Robin Dyos reported that the Council will probably have to appoint a structural engineer to make a decision on the best action to take with the ceiling in hall 1.

Grass Cutting Contract

The advert inviting suitable organisations to submit tenders is due to be published in the Cambridge News on Thursday 11th January 2018. The closing date for tenders is the 2nd February 2018.

Hythe Farm House

A letter was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 20th December 2017 in support of the Enforcement Notice issued by East Cambs District Council

Trees on Mingay Park

The work to the trees has now been carried out.

FC/090118/08 Group Reports and Recommendations

1. Consideration of the notes from the Finance Group meeting held on 19.12.17 and their recommendations as detailed below:

Hazel Williams reminded Council that the precept along with hall, allotment and cemetery charges are the only source of income for the parish council. This is unlike the county and district councils which receive funding from the government. The Finance and General Purposes Group has suggested increasing the precept to £130,000 which equates to approximately a 7p rise per week for a band D property. She expressed that the village gets very good value for money from the contribution paid. The following recommendations were made by the Finance and General Purposes Group:

a) The group recommends to Council that the salary scale range of points for the handyman is increased and that the handyman is moved to point 15 £8.87 per hour (subject to approved NJC increases) from 1.4.18.

Proposed Hazel Williams – Seconded Michael Swift

Council voted unanimously in favour and resolved that the salary scale range of points for the handyman is increased and that the handyman is moved to point 15 £8.87 per hour (subject to approved NJC increases) from 1.4.18.

b) The group recommends to Council that both Key holders should receive an increase in salaries of 2% from 1.4.18. In addition to this the group recommends to Council that Debbie Cawley receives an increase of a further 2% to reflect her additional role of Premises Supervisor for Mandeville Hall

Proposed Hazel Williams – Seconded Paul Webb

Council voted unanimously in favour and resolved both Key holders should receive an increase in salaries of 2% from 1.4.18. In addition to this the group recommends to Council that Debbie Cawley receives an increase of a further 2% to reflect her additional role of Premises Supervisor for Mandeville Hall

c) The group recommends for approval the attached draft budget for the financial year 2018/2019

Proposed Paul Webb – Seconded Michael Swift

Council voted unanimously in favour and resolved that the attached draft budget for the financial year 2018/2019 is approved.

d) The group recommends to Council that the precept for 2018/2019 is £130,000.00.

Proposed Michael Swift – Seconded Gus Jones

Council voted unanimously in favour and resolved that the precept for the financial year 2018/2019 is £130,000.00

FC/090118/9 Property Reports

1. Weekly Play Area Inspection Reports

The Handyman has carried out weekly checks and there is nothing that requires attention.

The Clerk reported that there are still moles on the Recreation Ground. A large branch had fallen from a tree on the Recreation Ground and had blocked the neighbouring byway. The Clerk had arranged for SR Landscapes to clear the branch. A damaged gas bottle had been found on Spring Close. The Clerk was advised to ask the local fire brigade to see if they were able to remove. The Clerk informed Council that there had been two incidents where human excrement and used toilet paper found on the council's property.

A letter of complaint had been received from a hall user regarding tripping due to pot holes at Mandeville Hall. The holes to be filled temporarily or marked with cones and prices to be obtained to repair the area properly.

Concerns over damp in the cellar at Mandeville Hall had also been raised. The pump appeared to have turned off and the drainage area was full of gunge and building debris. The handyman had cleared the area and hopefully resolved the issue.

2. Spring Close - Email regarding remaining hay cuttings

An email had been received complaining about the hay cuttings left on Spring Close. The Clerk was asked to respond to the email explaining the problems experienced with getting the hay cut and that at the time heaping the hay into one area had been the best solution at the time. It is hoped that when the next hay cut is carried out the hay can be baled and removed.

Trees/Environment

Council noted the following notification of approved tree work from East Cambs District Council:-

1 Dalzell's Lane

T1 Ash Tree – reduce by approximately 2 metres on the horizontal branches, clearing buildings by 2 metres and the street light by 1 metre. Crown lift to 5 metres over the road and parking bay.

FC/090118/10 County & District Matters:-

Council noted the following:

1. Temporary Road Closure Heath Road
2. Temporary Traffic Order Low Road

FC/090118/11 Other Reports (in circulating file):-

Council noted the following:

Burwell Museum – Thank you for donation

FC/090118/12 Finance

1. Consideration of quotations for new boiler, Jubilee Reading Room

Three quotations had been received for the replacement boiler for the Jubilee Reading Room.

Hazell Williams proposed, seconded by Michael Swift that quotation A, which was the cheapest at £1820.00 plus VAT should be accepted. The quotation was from DG Plumbing and Heating Ltd.

Council resolved that quotation A in the sum of £1820.00 plus Vat should be accepted for the replacement of the boiler at the Jubilee Reading Room.

2. Consideration of payment to the following:

Jim Perry declared an interest in this item.

The following payments were considered and approved for payment: Proposed Paul Webb, Seconded Joan Lonsdale

George Rowland	Mileage	£36.90
Debbie Cawley	Mileage	£31.50
Martyn Wright	Mileage	£68.40
Burwell Office Cleaning	Dec-17	£1,062.72
Polysafe	Concrete Barriers	£1,106.40
Anglia Gas & Elec. Services	Boiler JRR	£65.00
Trulink Ltd	Spring Close - Hay Cut	£420.00
Tigers Football Club	Winter Grass Cut Donation	£200.00
	Freehold Transfer Mingay Park	
Ward Gethin and Archer		£1,712.00
Cartwright Brothers	New Light GMH	£110.40
Latta Hire Limited	Temporary Toilet	£144.90
Eastern Tree Surgery	Tree Work Mingay Park	£486.00
ESPO	Cleaning Supplies etc	£37.60
Copy IT Digital Solutions Ltd	Photocopier Contract	£67.69
ECDC	Change of Premises Supervisor Fee	£23.00
Eon	Streetlight Energy	£31.15
Lloyds Bank	Various December 2017	£100.72
BT	Phone Line	£87.48
BT	Phone Account	£161.26
ECDC	Mandeville Hall Rates	£456.00
ECDC	JRR Rates	£37.00
ECDC	Cemetery Rates	£137.00
ECDC	GMH Rates	£45.32
Eon	Pavilion	£30.70
Eon	Cemetery Chapel	£24.86
Eon	JRR	£53.38
British Gas	JRR	£139.05
British Gas	MH - Electric	£467.48
Wave	Pavilion	£45.66
Wave	JRR	£47.42
Wave	Burial Ground	£14.67
Wave	GMH	£72.86
	Salaries, NI, Tax and Superannuation	
Salaries		£4,811.81
Return of Deposits		
Donna Davy	MH	£50.00
Prospects Trust	MH	£50.00

Burwell WI
Total

MH

£50.00
£12,486.33

FC/090118/13 Correspondence
None

FC/090118/14 Consideration of the following:

1. Consideration of acknowledgement for Newmarket Town Band and Burwell Village College Primary School contributions to Carols around the Tree.

Council agreed to make a donation of £100.00 in gratitude of the band playing at the village Carols around the Tree. Proposed Michael Swift – Seconded Joan Lonsdale.

It was also agreed that at this point in time no donation would be made to the school.

Liz Swift thanked Derek Reader and his family for erecting and decorating the Christmas tree on Pound Hill and for putting up the decorations at the Gardiner Memorial Hall. Derek Reader informed Council that new decorations would be required for the hall for next year and a new set of lights would be required for the tree on Pound Hill.

A Public Meeting is being held in Fordham on Friday 12th January 2018 regarding local policing and the role of Special Police Officers in Fordham and Burwell. Liz Swift will attend the meeting, but overall disappointment was shown in the short notice of the meeting and the need for Burwell to have its own meeting with the Police.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed this the _____ day of January 2018 _____ Chairman