

Burwell Parish Council

Community, Leisure and Sport

Meeting of 21.1.20 at 7.30 pm in the Jubilee Reading Room

Present Michael Swift (Chair), Michael Geary, Jenny Moss, Jim Perry, Liz Swift and Paul Webb

CL&S/210120/01 Apologies for absences and declarations of interests

Apologies for absence had been received from Max Jamieson and Helen McMenamin-Smith. There were no declarations of interests.

CL&S/210120/02 Approval of the minutes of the 19.11.19

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2019 were approved. Proposed – Paul Webb, seconded – Liz Swift.

CL&S/210120/03 Action Plan Updates

Please see Appendix 1 dated 21.1.20

The toilet at the Recreation Ground is now being opened by the handyman weekday mornings and closed by the key holders in the evenings, who also open and close at weekends. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the Action Plan Updates.

CL&S/210120/04 Updates from the following:

Pauline's Swamp

Hopkins Homes have now instructed their Solicitor to deal with the transfer of the land. Funds as previously stated will be made available once the land transfer has gone through. Successful working day held on Saturday including the clearing of a fallen tree in Love Lane. Now that the trustees are working to the terms and conditions of the Trust document, two present trustees' terms of office will finish on the 31st March 2020. Any Council Member who is interested in becoming a Trustee (Including the retiring Trustees, Jim Perry and Michael Swift), should inform the Parish Clerk by this date. Appointment of new Trustees will be considered by the Trust at their April meeting. The water level is well up. Jim Perry informed the group that there is another tree in Love Lane that has fallen and is laying across another.

Burwell Action for Youth

The group is now operating from the Day Centre. The sessions are going well, and numbers are not down with the move to the Day Centre. The Day Centre Manager is so far happy with the arrangement.

Spring Close

The Spring Close Management Group has drawn up a vision plan. Michael Swift, Jenny Moss and Paul Webb to meet with the ECDC Tree Officer to look at the trees on the site and where additional trees can be planted. Rachel O'Leary has a supply of small native trees which need to be planted in the next 5 to 6 weeks. The Litter Pickers may be able to help with this and it would be handy if James Moss could bring his hole digger along. The next meeting is on 6th February 2020.

Sports Provision Group

The next Sports Provision Group meeting is due to be held on 27th January 2020 when hopefully Recreation Ground loose ends will be sorted. A quotation has been received from Cambridge Courts to repair a small scuff that has been made in the surface of the Tennis Court in the sum of £100 plus VAT plus a further £50.00 plus VAT for touch up paint so that the handyman can carry out repairs in the future. The Group agreed that a recommendation should be made to Council on this occasion and the repair be undertaken.

The Group recommends to Full Council that the quotation from Cambridge Courts in the sum of £100 plus Vat to repair the scuff on the Tennis Court and the £50.00 plus VAT for the paint so that the handyman can carry out repairs in the future is accepted.

CL&S/210120/05 Recreation Ground

Overflow car park

The issues with the overflow carpark to be discussed at the Sports Provision Meeting on 27th January 2020. At an earlier meeting with the Sports Federation, Jack Smith offered to speak to Meads

Construction regarding the possibility of some free surfacing materials. Paul Webb to speak to Jack Smith to find out if he had been successful. It would be good to have the overflow carpark surface the same as the main carpark, but very costly.

Picnic Tables and seats

Having reconsidered the options available for the seat and picnic benches at the Recreation Ground, it was agreed that a recommendation should be made to Full Council to purchase from the Recreation Ground funding two picnic tables and one bench all made out of recycled plastic. The total cost of all three items not to exceed £1600.00 plus VAT.

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Signs

The Clerk explained that the supplier of the play equipment could give no definite indication of the lowest age that could use the play equipment. However, there is not a legal requirement to have a sign showing age range on the equipment. The Clerk suggested having a single large sign with all required details at the entrance to the field. It was agreed that she should obtain prices to have the sign made. It was suggested that she should also look to see if Fields in Trust had any funding available for signs.

Remainder of funding -options

The Sports Provision Group to discuss how the remainder of the Recreation Ground funding should be spent at their meeting on 27.1.20. The Community, Leisure and Sports Group agreed that it would be acceptable for the Sports Provision Group to make recommendations straight to Full Council if the recommendations were included in full on the agenda.

Paul Webb explained that he was still waiting to hear back from BT and had made some initial enquiries with the previously called Reach Community provider. Liz Swift expressed that this needed to be sorted out by the end of the month at the latest.

CL&S/210120/06 Sport Facilities – Users

Tennis Courts – Usage update and Titan Tennis

Titan Tennis has agreed to the Council's terms and are due to start sessions at the end of February/early March. It is hoped that Burwell Netball Club will start using the Tennis Courts.

Income from tennis players to date is £198.00 and from the Stetchworth Netball Club £90.00.

Pitch Allocation and rules

Michael Swift reported that he had confirmed that it was for the Council to decide pitch allocation both permanent and temporary and not the Football Clubs.

CL&S/210120/07 Community Garden Update and Tree Planting in Open Spaces

No progress has been made to date with the plans for the Community Garden.

Jenny Moss suggested that the Council should consider purchasing an area of land, with contributions from residents, to establish a further area of woodland in the village, like Priory Wood. Michael Swift expressed the high cost of land in Burwell and that there are already areas of Parish Council land in the village where trees could be planted, such as Spring Close, Margaret Field and the boundaries of Pauline's Swamp. It was suggested that through a Climate Change Policy, interest could be raised in the village for a new wooded area.

CL&S/210120/08 Climate Change

Jenny Moss explained to the group that ECDC has declared a Climate Emergency. Richard Kay the Emergency Planning Officer is keen to work with the Parish Council with a pilot scheme. She reported that she and Paul Webb have been compiling a draft Climate Emergency Policy for Burwell Parish Council and asks that the Group recommends to Full Council that they declare a Climate Emergency and adopts the draft Climate Emergency Policy which outlines 8 areas to address. This was agreed by the Group.

The Group recommends to Full Council that Burwell Parish Council considers declaring a Climate Emergency and considers adopting in principle a draft Climate Emergency Policy.

It was noted that the ECDC Planning Dept expects planning applications to comply with environmental policies and that any work carried out on the Gardiner Memorial Hall should also meet these requirements.

CL&S/210220/09 Consideration of CCTV Policy

The Group recommends to Full Council that the draft CCTV Policy is adopted. It is noted that a Privacy Impact Assessment is to follow.

Gill Miller left the meeting at 8.28 pm.

CL&S/210120/10 Any other business

Dementia Friendly Communities Update

Liz Swift agreed to speak with Sue Evans about the requirements for becoming a Dementia Friendly Community.

Public Open Space Accessibility

A letter has been received and initially discussed with the Assets and Environment Group about difficulties for the disabled to access some of the open spaces in the village. Michael Swift explained that he had said that the Community, Leisure and Sports Group would look at the sites and see if anything could be done. However, it is thought that most improvements would be expensive.

VE Day Weekend

Further to previous discussions on holding an event to mark VE Day, it had been suggested that a Parish Picnic could be held on the Recreation Ground on Friday 8th May 2020. Council agreed that this should be recommended to Full Council.

The Group recommends to Full Council that a Parish Picnic on the Recreation Ground should be organised for the VE Day celebrations on the 8th May 2020.

Grass Cutting – Retention of wildflowers

A further email has been received from a resident asking for areas on the parish verges to be left uncut to encourage wildflowers. The Clerk was asked to respond explaining that Spring Close and Pauline's Swamp are managed to encourage wildflowers and that it is intended to have a wildflower area around the edge of the trim track which she may wish to join in when the seeds are sown.

Carols around the Tree (Hall)

Due to the wet weather the 2019 Carols around the Tree event was held at the Gardiner Memorial Hall. The event was well attended, and the hall was a preferred location for the band. Consideration to be given nearer the time on the location for next year's event.

Safety Campaign (Safety Group)

Paul Webb gave a short presentation on the proposed Safety Group, Safety Campaign.

Tree Sign – Community Orchard

Gus Jones has asked for a sign to be erected in the Community Orchard providing tree details. James Moss is due to take a drone photo of the area and until this is done, the sign can not be designed. Jenny Moss to remind James Moss.

Dog Training

An enquiry has been received regarding the hire of a field or open space for dog training. Margaret Field is an option, although no toilets would be available. The Clerk to obtain further information.

CL&S/210120/11 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 24th March 2020. The meeting closed at 8.53 pm

Signed

Dated