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**Date: 4th February 2025**

Membership

Michael Swift: Chair  
Clive Leach  
Charlie Milner  
Jim Perry  
Liz Swift  
Geraldine Tate  
Paul Webb  
Ian Woodroofe

**Location: Gardiner Memorial Hall**

**Present:** Mike Swift, Liz Swift, Charlie Milner, Jim Perry, Clive Leach, Paul Webb

**Apologies**: Ian Woodroofe and Geraldine Tate

1. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 19 November 2024**

It was noted that the next meeting date had been changed from the 18th to the 4th February. With that exception it was proposed by Paul Webb that the minutes are signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting on 19 November 2024. This was seconded by Liz Swift.

1. **Rolling Actions and updates**

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| **Ref** | **Item** | **Action** | **Responsibility** | **Due** |
| A | Donations | The following interests were declared:  Liz Swift, Paul Webb and Jim Perry in the Day Centre.  Liz Swift and Jim Perry in Twinning.  Charlie Milner and Paul Webb in the Sports Centre.  **It was confirmed that we have £1257.19 left in the donations budget for 2024/2025**  **Twinning**  Twinning requested £300. Mike Swift said other Parish Councils/Town Councils often fund completely and they have asked for very little. We provide free room hire at the moment.  **PW proposed that we meet their request of £300, Clive Leach seconded and all in favour. Recommend to Council**  JP highlighted it is the 30th Anniversary for Twinning next year  **Day centre**  The Day Centre had two requests – one for us to add their sanitary bins to our collection and another for first aid training. PW highlighted that there may be spare places for BPC to attend first aid **training.**  **It was proposed that we offer Burwell Day Centre a donation of £500 – Clive Leach proposed and Mike Swift seconded**.  **Sports centre**  The Sports centre were seeking a donation towards IT equipment**. Clive Leach proposed a donation of £400 and Liz Swift seconded the proposal**  It was discussed that we should increase the amount in the donations budget. The budget for 2025/2026 has already been approved. Clerk to notify Mike Swift of amount in Budget. | Clerk to make recommendations to Council. | 5/2 |
| B | Recreation Ground and Margaret Field football provision and liaison with Burwell Football Club | Minutes of meeting 27/11/24 enclosed.  Mike Swift proposed that George Rowland and someone from football attend the required course. Clerk to approve funding and check if non parish council person can attend.  Ball stop funding: Mike Swift and Paul Webb to provide previous documents/quotes to the Clerk | Clerk  Mike Swift and Paul Webb | Feb  Feb |
| C | Spring Close and Priory Meadow Management Group | Nothing specific to report from meetings. Wild Burwell members and volunteers will be working at the tree nursery on Priory Meadow on 15 February 2025. They will be tidying up and planting new saplings.  The Clerk is checking insurance cover for volunteers.  Pruning at orchard completed. Held a Wassail. | Clerk | End of Feb |
| D | Pauline’s Swamp | Work day planned 1st March. Continuing discussion with Mr Clarke about access.  CCTV waiting for Sam (J&J Drakes) to redesign.  Thank you to be passed to Richard Jenkins for the work that he has done and the advice given. |  |  |
| E | BAFY | Sunday evening football is running for 16-18yr olds  Junior group to be set up.  Paid for Youth bus to start after Easter, location tbc, duration 16-17 weeks | BAFY |  |
| F | Community Orchard | This item to be deleted – discussed in Item C |  |  |
| G | Community Garden | No update from Helen McMenamin-Smith.  Jim Perry raised the issue about the old vehicle gate now being unusable due to the location of the benches. He expressed the need to get vehicles onto the community garden for mowing/delivering items/spreading woodchip.  The Clerk and Chair of Burwell Parish Council had discussed moving the gate at a site meeting with the maintenance officer and it was decided that we don’t need to get a vehicle directly on site as it is a small area next to the car park. |  |  |
| H | Liaison with Sports Centre | It was noted that we had always had a liaison with the Sports Centre. Paul Webb said that the current Chair of Burwell Sports Centre is very keen to maintain a close relationship with the Parish Council. |  |  |
| J | A to B1102 and Public Transport issues | Jon Cooke is arranging a new meeting for the A-B1102 group.  Liz Swift had long chat with the Mayor. They are back in negotiation with the bus company. Liz Swift has highlighted Burwell’s public transport issues with the Mayor and will continue to do so. The Clerk highlighted that residents had asked why we are not included in the Tiger on demand service. |  |  |
| H | Westhorpe Play Area | Nothing to note. Budget remains to be spent. | Clerk | March |
| I | Repair Café/Swish | Next Repair Café is March 2nd, next Swish is 16th March.  Clerk is checking insurance for Swish events. | Clerk | Feb. |
| J | Newmarket Road Sports Hub | Meeting pre Christmas as previously reported.  Craig Mulhouse is working with the football association and Dan Prest, who works for the Grounds Management Association (GMA).  This has raised a number of questions re This Land’s responsibility. Dan’s role in the project would be to support the Parish Council / Burwell Football Club/ This Land to help procure the services of an agronomist to then carry out a feasibility of the land being proposed for the new sports hub.  The Clerk is going to review old notes, current emails and the section 106 to see if we can challenge This Land’s role in preparing the land prior to handover, | Clerk | Feb |
| K | Trees on the Avenue | The Clerk has chased and unable to get feedback.  It was noted that the trees are becoming unsafe so highways reports will be made. | Clerk | March |
| L | Waterways | Nothing to report |  |  |

1. **Correspondence:**

The following corrspondance was noted and the Clerk will respond, if necessary, unless noted otherwise.

* **300th anniversary of Burwell fire tragedy**

The Council felt it would be more appropriate for the Church and Museum to organise events.

* **Lack of accessibility at Burwell Sports Centre**

This is being addressed by the Sports Centre.

* **Trees on Margaret Field**

The Clerk and Chair had both checked these trees and it was confirmed that no further action/consideration will be taken until after the Parish Council Tree Report, due this year. The football club have been updated.

* **Railway 200 - National Event 2025**

As we have no railway station we do not plan to celebrate this

* **Dog walking rules for Hatley drive**

The Council confirmed no further signs were being considered at this point due to other greater priorities for Council budget.

* **80th Anniversary of VE Day**

It was confirmed that this would be considered by the Museum and the Parish Council expressed their wishes to support this event if they can.

* **VCAEC request to use JRR for surgery to advertise volunteering opportunities**

It was confirmed this should go ahead.

* **Request to borrow tables – St Mary’s Church Fete**

The Parish Council office have confirmed they can borrow tables with the caveat they may be required for bookings. Clive Leach said that the museum have spare tables if required.

* **Living Sport – payments for Hall proposal.**

The Parish Council are sympathetic to their situation but cannot reduce the rates any further, it was also noted that hall charges are not going up this year and we need to maintain parity for other charity groups. The group can apply for a small donation from the 2025/2026 donations budget.

1. **Creative Arts Membership – due for renewal in April.**

Liz Swift proposed that we renew this year, seconded by Paul Webb. If the membership isn’t used we will cancel next year**.**

1. **Burwell at Large 2025 - Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd March**

Liz Swift, Mike Swift, Jim Perry and Paul Webb are available for the stall. This should be raised at Council on 25th February to remind other Councillors.

1. **Other reports/meetings**

Nothing to report

1. **AOB**

**Cricket nets**

An email was sent by the Cricket Club about new nets and whether section 106 money was available. It was confirmed to them that it is not. The Clerk asked if anyone had other funding suggestions having already suggested ECDC facilities grant. The only other suggestion was Sports England.

**House martin cups**

Wild Burwell have spare House Martin Cups and have asked if these can go on Gardiner Memorial Hall, it was confirmed that the group are happy for the Clerk to liaise with Wild Burwell and arrange this.

**Scouts**

The Scouts would like to make dog poo bag dispensers and put them on Parish Council properties. This was agreed with oversight of the Clerk. The Clerk suggested a competition to design a poster encouraging people to pick up dog poo.

1. **Next meeting date: 1 April 2025**

**Meeting closed at 20:47**

**Signed Dated**