

# BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Burnham Park Hall on Monday 6 January 2003 at 8.00 pm

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**Members Present:** Councillor L K Hazell (Chairman)

Councillor J Somers (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: *P C Adams, P Beard, N Binns, H Blair, M Cole, P A Davies, B S Dhillon, G Edwards, H P Evans, E J Glover, D R Pepler, M W Taylor, J M M Thomson and S Tilbey.*

### **PART I**

107. **To accept apologies.**

Apologies were tendered and accepted from Cllrs, P J Adams, J P Capel and S E Davies

**Chairman's Communications.**

108. The Chairman wished all Members a happy New Year

109 **Chairman's Christmas Walk**

The Chairman thanked all those who attended the Chairman's Christmas walk which had been led by Cllr S L Tilbey

110. **Standing Orders**

The Chairman informed the meeting that the new standing orders which are in the process of being written in plain English will be circulated to those Members on the reviewing committee in time to be considered at the next full Council meeting on 3 March 2003.

111. **Declaration of Interests**

Cllr S L Tilbey declared a prejudicial interest in two items considered in the planning minutes as he had acted as agent on those matters.

Cllr P C Adams declared a personal interest in minute 75 of the Recreation and Amenities Committee as a member of the Burnham Tennis Association.

112. **Minutes of the Council Meeting – 04 November 2002**

Cllr L K Hazell, Chairman of the Council, presented and moved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 04 November 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be approved.

**Matters Arising**

Cllr E J Glover drew the Council's attention to the use of the incorrect initials in her name.

113. **Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee 2 December 2002**

Cllr S L Tilbey, Chairman of the Committee, presented the unconfirmed minutes of the Recreations and Amenities Committee held on 2 December 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

114. **Matters Arising**

Cllr H P Evans drew the meeting's attention to the incorrect spelling of the word missen in Minute 69 of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

Cllr M Cole, requested that the Recreation and Amenities Committee should consider the development of modern facilities within Burnham Park and that the English Sports Council should be contacted to make an assessment of the development of the George Pitcher Memorial Ground.

Cllr M Cole informed the meeting that he had a contact within the English Sports Council, whom he would contact in order to undertake an assessment of the services and opportunities available for the future development of the George Pitcher Memorial Grounds.

115. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee 18 November 2002**

Cllr B S Dhillon, Chairman of the Committee, presented the confirmed minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 18 November 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

116. **Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee 16 December 2002**

Cllr B S Dhillon, Chairman of the Committee, presented the unconfirmed minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 December 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

117. **Minutes of the Planning Committee 25 November 2002**

Cllr P A Davies the Chairman of the Committee, presented the confirmed minutes of the Planning Committee held on 25 November 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

118. **Minutes of the Planning Committee 9 December 2002**

Cllr P A Davies the Chairman of the Committee, presented the unconfirmed minutes of the Planning Committee held on 9 December 2002.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes be noted.

**Finance Report**

119. **Schedule of Payments at 29 November 2002.**

The Executive Officer presented the schedule of payments at 29 November 2002, totalling (£19,810.95) Nineteen thousand, eight hundred and ten pounds and ninety five pence.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the report was received and noted.

120. **Schedule of Payments at 19 December 2002.**

The Executive Officer presented the schedule of payments at 19 December 2002, totalling (£14,103.57) Fourteen thousand, one hundred and three pounds and fifty seven pence.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the report was received and noted.

121. **Current Council Balances.**

The Executive Officer presented a report identifying the current balances at the bank at 30 November 2002.

<b>Location of Investment</b>	<b>Amount of Investment</b>
Newbury Building Society – term deposit	£440,737.11
Halifax Building Society – Instant Access Account	£ 6,234.44
Lloyds TSB- Deposit Account	£ 1,147.55
Lloyds TSB – Current Account	£127,967.85
Total Investment	£576,086.95

**RESOLVED**

- ◆ The report was received and noted.

**Reports from Outside Bodies**

122. **South Bucks Forum**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2002 be noted.

123. **South Bucks Association of Local Councils**

**RESOLVED**

- ◆ The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2002 be noted.

124. **Burnham Community Association**

**RESOLVED**

- ◆ The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2002 be noted.

125. **Burnham Access Group**

**RESOLVED**

- ◆ The unconfirmed minutes of the General Meeting held on 28 November 2002 be noted.

126. **Parish Precept 2003/4**

The Chairman presented to the Council the proposed budget and precept for 2003/04.

The Chairman informed the meeting that in 2002/03 the Parish Council took the bold step of bringing the Parish budget and precept into line with councils of a similar size.

Having established this solid base, this year the Councils Committees have worked hard to review the budgets in line with the current financial climate and have planned their budgets accordingly.

Bearing in mind the growing demands being placed on this Council as a result of additional legislation in the areas of Health and Safety, EEC guidelines on play equipment and the need to take on independent legal advice, the Recreation and Amenities Committee has reallocated resources towards the long term renewal of play equipment within the village and has maintained its budget increase to 1.46%

The Finance and General Purposes Budget has had to anticipate the falling investment income from which we are all suffering. As a result the revenue budget reflects this reduction in income. Members are reminded that the Parish Council receives no income from central Government or local business within the parish.

The Committee has also made an additional provision for the training of new councillors in May, however has maintained its expenditure budget for 2003/04 at 2.23%.

Overall the recommendation of your Finance and General Purposes Committee is to increase the precept by £1.91 per year for each Average Band D household. This will result in an increase in the precept of 4.35%.

Cllr H Blair requested that with regard to the South Bucks District Council tax leaflet, the loss of investment income due to the fall in investment rates of interest should be mentioned together with the fall in the tax base.

Cllr J Somers reminded Members that it was important to bear in mind the impact this would have on the Council's reserves and that any future developments may require the Council to borrow as opposed to reducing reserves.

Cllr B S Dhillon proposed and Cllr P A Davies seconded that the Parish Precept for 2003/04 should be set at £198,259.

The Council voted in favour with one abstention.

**Resolved:**

- ◆ That the Parish Precept for 2003/04 should be set at £198,259.

127. **Parish Appraisal Survey**

Cllr S L Tilbey presented to Members the draft questionnaire regarding the parish appraisal and it was hoped that the survey would be circulated to the public in the next few weeks, once the problem of the Freepost licence had been resolved with the Royal Mail.

Cllr E J Glover expressed her dissatisfaction at the short period of time being given to Members to comment on the questions in the survey and that although she had been involved in the early stages of the appraisal she had not been notified of any further meetings.

Cllr M Taylor expressed concern at the detail asked in some of the questions and the need for such information.

Cllr S L Tilbey informed the meeting that this information was required to correlate the findings of the Parish survey with research held by other authorities i.e. Bucks County

Council, South Bucks District Council and was necessary if the Parish Council wished to access other forms of external funding.

Cllr E J Glover informed the meeting that the types of crime identified in the survey was not clear as she did not understand the differences between certain categories of sexual offences.

Cllr M Cole requested that the classification of responses to the community safety questions should be reviewed.

Cllr E J Glover requested that the minutes recorded her dissatisfaction and concerns regarding the method by which the survey was being progressed.

After a lengthy discussion the Chairman asked Members, that considering the concerns expressed by the Members, was it their wish that the matter to be adjourned to the next full Council meeting, or would they wish to submit any comments to the Executive Officer an agreed timetable.

**Resolved:**

- ◆ That the survey should continue, but Member's comments would be received up until Friday 10 January 2003 for consideration.

128. **Completion of Land Exchange in Windsor Lane**

Members noted the legal process with Bucks County Council regarding the land exchange in Windsor Lane had now been completed.

129. **Application for Public Entertainment Licence**

Members considered an application for the renewal of a Public Entertainments licence from Corus and Regal Hotels, Burnham Beeches Hotel, Burnham.

**Resolved:**

- ◆ The Council had no objection or comment.

130. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

**Resolved**

- ◆ That under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Act

Chairman .....

Date .....

Meeting Concluded at 9.02 pm