

# Burnham Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7:00pm in Burnham Park Hall.

### Members of the Council present:

Cllr Marie Hammon (Chairman)	Cllr Carol Linton (Vice-Chairman)	
Cllr David Pepler	Cllr John Carey	Cllr Jackie Slater
Cllr Pat Bird	Cllr Graham Mummery	Cllr Trevor Stewart
Cllr Judith Foster	Cllr Lindsey Chatralia	Cllr Ekta Kaur Ross
Cllr Terry Gamble		

### In attendance:

Officers of the Council: Louise Hayday (Parish Clerk)  
Rupinder Gaidhu (Finance Manager)

Members of other authorities: 0  
Members of the public: 2  
Members of the press: 0

### FC23/086 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Paul Bunce, Cllr Alexa Collins and Cllr Akash Bagga, no apologies were received from Cllr Paul Kelly and he was considered absent

### FC23/087 Declarations of interest

Cllr Jackie Slater declared an interest in the parade item (item 17), being a member of the RBL. Cllrs Jackie Slater, David Pepler and Judith Foster all declared interests in item 18, being members of the Twinning Association.

### FC23/088 Public Forum

A member of the public attended to raise the issue again of flooding on Chiltern Road, he shared pictures with the Committee which the Clerk will scan and send to Buckinghamshire Council on his behalf. Cllr Marie Hammon will also get in touch with one of the Councillors responsible for highways to raise his concerns.

### FC23/089 Thames Valley Police

A report from the local police was noted, in particular the number of local burglaries and the advice regarding home security. The number of thefts from motor vehicles and theft of motor vehicles was also noted.

### FC23/090 Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### FC23/091 Minutes of Parish Council Committees

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of:  
Planning Committee – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (draft)  
Recreation & Amenities – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (draft)  
Burnham Park Management Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (draft)  
Policy & Resources Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 (draft)

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**FC23/092 Finance**

The Council noted the October management accounts with any significant variances explained by the Clerk. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the October bank reconciliations and October summary of payments.

**FC23/093 Budget**

The Council voted to add £15k to the reserves in next years budget, after the hospitality rate relief scheme had freed up this money from the BPH budget. Cllr Ekta Kaur Ross voted against this in favour of reducing the precept request by £15k. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget and it will be brought back to the Council for sign off once the tax base had been received from Buckinghamshire Council.

**FC23/094 Policies & Procedures**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the biodiversity policy and action plan.

**FC23/095 Working Groups**

- a) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group - Cllr Carol Linton gave an update and summarised the note that had been circulated from the consultant, all agreed that the way forward seemed most appropriate and were happy for the steering group to continue to work as per the note. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her hard work in getting the Neighbourhood Plan moving again.
- b) New School Steering Group - An update from the steering group chairman Viv Nicholas was read. Cllr Marie Hammon stated that she has now received a reply from Anita Cramer regarding a free school and she has replied to this. Cllr Linton reported that she and Cllr Dev Dhillon were arranging to visit the Pioneer school to explore how it can be better publicised to Burnham parents. Cllr Judith Foster expressed her concern over the carbon emissions of the coaches travelling out of Burnham daily and the time the children have to get up in the mornings to catch the coaches.
- c) Climate Emergency Working Group - The Clerk reported on the progress with the new bank and explained that now most of the 'easy win' items had been completed the committees should be looking to prioritise a few of the more complex tasks for completion.

**FC23/096 Expenditure**

None

**FC23/097 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors**

Graham White from the Beeches Community Board was present and gave an overview of the history of the boards and the current remit. He stated he would be the contact for the board until at least March 2024 and the priorities for the current year were Infrastructure & Highways, The Environment and Health & Wellbeing. There was currently around £63k left unspent in the pot that could be allocated to appropriate projects, the board was now looking for match funding for all grants. Cllr Terry Gamble asked about the opportunity Bucks areas and how they had been decided upon, it was explained that the areas were selected after analysis of local deprivation figures and statistics.

Cllr Carol Linton reminded the Council that there would be an upcoming Bi-Election after the resignation of Cllr David Anthony.

**FC23/098 Chairmans Report**

The Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk were invited to the launch of an exciting new augmented reality application to celebrate the completion of The Beacons of The Past project at Burnham Beeches on the 15th November. The AR app allows visitors to use their mobile phones or tablet devices to superimpose periods of Burnham Beeches history, such as the Iron Age, Middle Ages and World War II when the area was used by the army to hide vehicles before the D-Day landings. The Chair, as Chairman of Burnham and District Heritage Society chaired the AGM on the 16th November. Many local residents attended, including quite a few councillors and John Carey the Vice Chairman. The main event of the meeting was the showing of the film 'Burnham Bells Ring for the King', featuring Cliff Blundell with the Tower and Handbell Ringers who are situated at St Peter's Church.

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In planning the Chairman has been supporting the residents fighting to remove compounds situated on the green spaces at Grenville Close and The Green. The planners have now instructed L&Q to remove the compound in Grenville Close by the end of the year (as they are breaching the Permitted Development law by not working on local properties). But they have refused to do the same for the space on The Green as L&Q are claiming they are working nearby; no evidence has been seen of this. Cllr Mark Winn, who's portfolio is in Housing, has taken this up at the request of the Chairman.

**FC23/099 Reports from Outside Bodies**

None

**FC23/100 Clerks Report**

The Clerks report was noted and a discussion took place over the MVAS data.

**FC23/101 Clerk Resignation**

The Council noted the resignation of the Clerk and the progress on the recruitment of a replacement. The Council stated they would miss the outgoing Clerk but were delighted at her new appointment and wished her well for the future.

**FC23/102 Remembrance Day Parade**

The Council **RESOLVED** to nominate Cllr Jackie Slater to organise, in conjunction with the Parish office, the parade for 2024.

**FC23/103 Twinning**

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the new constitution for the Twinning Association.

**FC23/104 Christmas Closure**

The Council noted the Christmas closure dates.

**The meeting closed at 8.20pm**

**Date of the next meeting: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024**

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