

Burnham Secondary School Update 23rd February 2022

This document/web page provides residents and councillors with the status of the activities of the Burnham Parish Council working group and its activities to hopefully get a secondary school established on what was the E-Act Burnham Park Academy site.

Secondary School Place provision

The Bucks Council policy is to provide Burnham residents secondary age children, with places either at Burnham Grammar (those passing the 11+), Bourne End Academy, or at various schools located in Maidenhead (RBWM) or Slough.

Longer term with the increase of building development in Maidenhead (14,000 possible new homes), it is likely that many of the places available for Burnham secondary age pupils in Maidenhead will no longer be available. In that case Bucks Council would look at expanding Bourne End Academy to provide the required places. This would reduce parental choice to a school run by the same academy group that performed unsatisfactorily when they managed Burnham Park Academy.

Over the last few months, the Parish Council working group have been in touch with a wide range of contacts, to try and get a clear picture of the educational needs in the area, and to try and find out what was happening to the site.

We have talked or communicated with:

- Bucks Council Educational Services
- Bucks Council Planning
- Bucks Council Asset Management
- Bucks Council councillors
- Department of Education
- National Health Service Statistics Department
- Office of National Statistics
- Local GP Practices
- Local Primary and Grammar School Head Teachers
- Regional School Commissioners
- Slough Council School Planning
- Slough Council Planning
- Slough Council Education Department
- Slough Council Councillors
- RBWM Council School Planning
- RBWM Council Planning
- RBWM Council Education Department

- Joy Morrissey MP

Get accurate information from all of these sources has been a very time-consuming process, as many of the departments have had serious staff shortages, or people ill with covid. We now have an update, but unfortunately it is not good news.

Current Status

- **Bucks Council has passed responsibility for the site from Education to Asset Management**
- **The Bucks Council Asset Management group are looking at the following options for the site:**
 - **Redevelopment of the site (most likely for housing) possibly keeping some areas for sports activities.**
 - **Disposal of the site (selling the site to a developer)**
- **Whilst the options for the site are being developed Bucks Asset Management are prepared to look at or continue the following options:**
 - **Use of the sporting facilities on the site by residents**
 - **Use of the site by Burnham Lighthouse**
 - **Potential rental of parts of the site to businesses**
 - **Use of the site for TV and film work**

Obviously, we as Burnham Parish Councillors and as members of Burnham New School Working Group are not happy with this development and we urge you to email your local Bucks Councillors, Bucks Education and Joy Morrissey MP, stating your concerns.

Bucks Council Education Department state that they are seeing no demand from Burnham residents for a school. We need to prove them wrong!