

This was the Annual meeting.

Election of Officers Colin Pople did not stand for re election as he had already tendered his resignation as a Councillor with effect from 4th May 2017. Richard Dallimore was unanimously elected Chairman and took over as Chairman of the meeting. Tony Duval was unanimously elected to continue as vice chairman.

As Chairman, Councillor Richard Dallimore will become ex officio Trustee/ committee member of Burtle Village Hall. Cllr Sandra Bull was unanimously elected as the Parish Council's nominated Trustee/ committee member of Burtle Village Hall. Cllr Tony Duval was confirmed as Footpaths Liaison Officer.

Casual Vacancy Following the resignation of Cllr C Pople a casual vacancy will occur. If no election is requested by ten electors by 1st June the vacancy will be filled by cooption. Full details will be advertised but in the meantime more details about the role may be obtained by contacting any Parish Councillor or the clerk.

Cllrs were all very sorry that Cllr Pople has decided to step down from the Parish Council. The Chairman said that Colin will be missed and all present thanked him for all his hard work for the village during his time serving the community as a Parish Councillor. Cllr Pople in turn thanked the other councillors and the clerk for their support during his chairmanship.

Highways Cllr Colin Pople and Cllr Tony Duval had a very successful site meeting with Alyn Jones, Interim Director of Economic and Community Infrastructure Operations and Andrew Turner, Service Manager – Highways, to discuss highway issues in the parish. They noted several outstanding items and gave assurance that where evidence was available HGV owners would be required to pay for repairs to damage caused by their vehicles coming off the road. Unfortunately, there is no proof regarding the damage to Black Bull Bridge and so Somerset County Council is having to pay the cost of repairs. If anyone has any evidence about the incident in December 2015 SCC Highways Dept would be very pleased to have it. However, there are photographs of the lorry that caused the damage to the verge just over the bridge and Somerset County Council intend to recoup the cost of those repairs. Unfortunately, the repairs carried out recently have failed and arrangements are being made for the contractors to carry out the work again. This may mean another road closure in the near future.

Finance Precept 2017/18 has been received.

Audit of 2016/7 Accounts have to be submitted to external auditors by 28 June 2017. Clerk to ask Richard Young to act as Internal Auditor.

Insurance renewal has been received and the premium has been loaded to reflect the claim regarding the trees in Westhay Broad Drove although the Parish Council has been advised that the claim has not yet been settled.

Noise and increase of HGV traffic from Godwin's site No news of planning application regarding current use of the site that Chipping company need to submit by 19th May. Landscape Officer at Mendip has been contacted regarding concerns that piles of chippings and wood etc are encroaching under the mature trees that surround the site and that this will be detrimental to the health of the trees. Many of these trees are believed to be mature oaks. Burtle Parish Council is still being proactive in bringing this inappropriate use of the site to the attention of all agencies and they have been assured that investigations are still being made with regard to use of the site.

Fly tipping Still continues in the parish. Piles of garden waste and black bags of rubbish have been dumped in the lay-bys at Westhay Broad Drove. Clerk to request their removal by Sedgemoor DC.

Next meeting Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.