

## **Burtle Parish Council Summary March 2020**

**Highways** Cllrs please to see that road surface by the Sandpit has been repaired. Catcott PC has also reported deterioration of road surface in Catcott Broad Drove. Highways are to take up with the contractors as this road was subject to major repairs less than two years ago.

Highways Dept and Drainage Board still discussing flooding in Robins Lane by the pond. There is some discussion about who is responsible and whether there is a culvert under the road.

The electric cable is being laid across the road again in Catcott Broad Drove to supply power to the horsebox parked in the lay-by. Highways Dept asked to investigate this dangerous practise.

**Planning** Two planning applications for the Burtle Inn site were discussed

**55/20/00001** Erection of a dwelling on site of demolished section of the Old Burtle Inn (Revised Scheme)

**55/20/00002** Variations of Condition 1 of planning permission 55/18/00004 (Retrospective application for the change of use of part of the old Burtle Inn to 1 No. residential unit.) to amend the approved drawings to allow for the installation of solar pv panels to the roof and removal of Condition 4 relating to the low stone wall.

Councillors unanimously agreed to object to both applications their comments were:

- *The main objection is because of the proposed wall on the eastern boundary of the properties taking in part of the highway. The location of the wall is currently part of the highway and Cllrs feel that this encroachment on to the highway will make the road too narrow and impede access especially of agricultural machinery and emergency vehicles on this congested corner. Catcott Broad Drove is a narrow road leading off the dangerous junction with Burtle Road. Burtle Parish Council could not support any formal application to stop up the highway in this location.*
- **55/20/00001** *Cllrs would like to see all the conditions in the permission granted on 25.1.19 retained*
- **55/20/00002** *Cllrs would like to see all the conditions in the permission granted on 22.1.19 retained especially condition 2 relating to the cladding on the dormers.*
- *This corner of the village has been an eyesore for several years now and Cllrs are hopeful that all the outstanding matters can soon be resolved and the work completed.*

**Westhay Broad Drove** Sedgemoor District Council Enforcement Team were successful in quickly having the caravan, vehicles and tin shed removed from the Westhay end of the site but Highways Dept has still not had the fence and barbed wire that has been erected on the highway verge removed despite requests dating back to July 2019.

**Speeding and Traffic through the village** Still awaiting promised road markings. Cllrs were pleased to note that the Police enforcement van has again visited the village.

**Maintenance of River Brue** Meare Parish Council have circulated details of the meeting with the Environment Agency at Godney. The EA are still very reluctant to spend money dredging the River Brue as they believe there are more important places to protect. They also cited operational problems to carry out dredging and disturbance of wildlife. They said that £500,000 had been given by the government specifically to dredge the River Brue which has not been dredged since about 1970, but £250,000 of this money had been spent on the River Parrett and the other £250,000 was still in a bank account. If this money is not used then the government will take it back.

**Fly tipping** caravan full of tyres has been abandoned in Westhay Broad Drove. Clean Surroundings Team at Sedgemoor D C promptly removed the tyres and a second lot of tyres that were subsequently dumped by the caravan but there has been delay in removing the actual caravan because of an asbestos risk.

**VE Day** Cllrs agreed to order commemorative coins to present to every school age child in the village. These will be similar to those presented to mark the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 8pm. This is a meeting of members of the Parish and everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Following all the usual reports etc there will be a presentation 'PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE LOCALLY' by Shelly Easton, Climate Change Adaptation Officer, Somerset Wildlife Trust. Tea and coffee will be served at the end of the formal business to allow informal discussion.

**Next meeting Wednesday 1st at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be a short meeting to discuss urgent business before the Annual Parish meeting at 8pm**