

Summary of Burtle Parish Council Meeting – November 2021

Highways Bow bridge over rhyne at Halterpath Drove has been repaired. Clerk to report that Edington Road has subsided again by the cattery.

The Parish Council has undertaken a detailed safety review of the road markings and signage through the village from Redgate to First and Last, it has been submitted to the County Traffic Engineer. This highlights white lining in need of refreshing and signs in need of attention.

Deep Lake by Godwin's. County Cllr David Huxtable reported that County Traffic Engineer will not erect barriers on bend by the lake but will support white lines on edge of carriageway. District Cllr Stuart Kingham is still hoping to have a site meeting with the County Traffic Engineer to discuss road safety on this stretch of road.

Planning Cllrs unanimously agreed to object to applications at Burtle Inn site. They were unable to have an informed discussion and reach a considered opinion due to apparent inaccuracies and the way in which the proposals were presented. Boundaries did not appear to be shown accurately.

Councillors strongly object to the proposed car parking layout to extend the garden area and reduce the parking area noting that there were now five parking spaces shown instead of the original six. Councillors believe that the size of the parking area and the amount of turning space is inadequate for the number of spaces shown. Vehicles must be able to enter and leave the property in a forward gear on this busy corner.

Councillors are disappointed that confusion and delays continue with this prominent site within the village. The last five years have seen a continuing stream of inaccurate submissions, amendments and deviation from agreed plans by a succession of agents and builders. They are very sad to see that the original objective to retain as much as possible of the old pub, parts of which were an historic cider house, has fallen by the wayside with alterations and unauthorised demolition.

Enforcement Issues Cllrs are becoming increasingly frustrated that despite reporting issues and continuing to contact the relevant authorities they very rarely receive a reply and the issues are not investigated. There are at least five outstanding issues in the parish that have been ongoing for a long time with no apparent action from Sedgemoor District Council, over years in some cases. Activities at Westhay Broad Drove and Catcott Broad Drove are on Edington and Chilton Moor Site of Special Interest but Natural England have reported that they are waiting to hear from Sedgemoor DC before taking action. Environment Agency have little interest in reported tipping and have even issued a retrospective licence for tipping at Westhay Broad Drove.

Footpaths Cllr N Ponsillo, Footpath Liaison Officer has the longstanding defects on the paths in the parish especially promised repairs to sleeper bridge on footpath along Dobbins Drove with no success to date.

Next meeting Wednesday December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall