

BURTLE PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Burtle Parish Council was held on Wednesday 4th March 2020 at 7.30pm in Burtle Village Hall.

163 PRESENT

Councillor R Dallimore (chairman)
Councillor S Bull
Councillor N Ponsillo
Councillor J Porter
County Councillor D Huxtable

164 APOLOGIES

Councillor A Duval (vice chairman)
District Councillor Stuart Kingham
District Councillor M Martin (Mendip)

165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

166 DISPENSATIONS

None were sought

167 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2020 were agreed and signed as correct.

168 REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

These were reviewed and progress noted

169 MATTERS ARISING

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 practice.

Still no update regarding the safety of deep-water lake beside the peat works.

CIL Payments for Burtle Inn development still being monitored by Sedgemoor DC.

Required further reminders have been issued by Sedgemoor prior to Enforcement action.

Notice boards nothing to report

Meeting re 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.

Planning for Climate Change Meeting Cllr N Ponsillo attended this meeting and gave a short report. It was very informative giving predictions of the effect of climate change on the local environment

VE day Cllrs agreed to order 70 commemorative coins to present to every school age child in the village. These will be similar to those presented to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday. Clerk will produce form to enable parishioners to reserve medals.

Tipping in Catcott Broad Drove Sedgemoor Enforcement dept are taking this up.

Village Clean up Day agreed for Sunday 16th March. Meet at the Hall at 10am. Free soup and pudding lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Clerk to advertise

Grass cutting Wayne Pople is happy to continue cutting the grass at the Sandpit 2020/21 under the same terms as previous year.

170 PLANNING

Applications –

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

After discussion Councillors unanimously agreed to object to the application with the following comments:

- The main reason for the objection is the proposed stone wall on the eastern boundary of the property 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.
- Cllrs would like to see all the conditions in the permission granted on 25.1.19 retained.
- Cllrs note that ownership of this part of the site appears to have changed and the land outlined in blue (land in the same ownership) does not extend to Berry and Brow Houses or the orchard area at the rear. The previous application was designated as self-build and Cllrs would like to know if this will still apply.

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 at Burtle Inn, Catcott Broad Drove, Burtle

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- 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.

- Cllrs note that ownership of this part of the site appears to have changed and the land outlined in blue (land in the same ownership) does not extend to Berry and Brow Houses or the orchard area at the rear.

Councillors also noted that the Burtle Inn site on 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.

Decisions – none notified

171 FINANCE

Grant application from Friends of Burtle Church Cllrs unanimously agreed to make a donation of £200.00 towards the upkeep of the churchyard for 2019/20

The following cheques were agreed and signed

Mrs M Perdue	<i>Clerk's salary 1.10.19 – 31.3.20</i>	£400.00	
	<i>Clerk's expenses 1.10.19 – 31.3.20</i>	£ 94.20	£ 494.20
Friends of Burtle Church	<i>towards upkeep of churchyard</i>		£ 200.00

Proposed: Cllr R Dallimore

Seconded: Cllr S Bull

172 WOOD CHIPPING OPERATIONS

Mendip District Cllr Matt Martin was present at the meeting a said that they were now concentrating on the Westhay Road site now that SWWP have been made to vacate the Ashcott Road site. Permit at the site is only for virgin wood but they would appear to be processing recycled wood products. Burtle PC offered to share all correspondence their correspondence since 2015 when SWWP first started operations at Westhay Road. Burtle PC's efforts had always been disadvantaged because the site is not actually within their parish.

173 SSSI LAND AT 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.

174 TRAFFIC THROUGH THE VILLAGE

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

175 FINGER POSTS

South West Heritage has agreed to help with the costs of refurbishment of the post at the Burtle Inn as it is an historic design. They will fund the replacement arm and a new spigot. Cllrs unanimously agreed to accept this offer and proceed with the work.

176 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st April at 8pm immediately after the Parish Council meeting.

Cllr N Ponsillo has arranged for Shelly Easton, Climate Change Adaptation Officer, Somerset Wildlife Trust to give a short presentation on 'Planning for Climate Change Locally'.

177 CORRESPONDENCE

Information regarding theft of lead from churches has been forwarded to Burtle churchwardens

178 ITEMS OF INTEREST

Plaque on Bow Bridge Catcott Broad Drove South West Heritage have removed the plaque from the damaged bridge after liaising with Bridge Dept at Somerset CC. South West Heritage have cleaned the plaque and it will be repainted ready to be put back on the bridge when it has been repaired.

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.

179 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting Wednesday 1st April 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be a short meeting to deal with urgent business. The Annual Parish Meeting will follow at 8pm

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Signed.....Date.....