

## Summary of Burtle Parish Council Meeting – July 2022

**Highways** Cllrs noted that some edge potholes have been filled but others still have to be repaired. Clerk to remind Highways Dept.

**Deep Lake by Godwin's** White lining and slow signs in road have been installed. Promised reflector posts are still awaited. Traffic engineer to be approached about the corner nearer to Burtle on the other side of the peatworks. This is a sharp bend with no verge and a steep drop into the rhyne. The problem is made worse by the mud and grit that is usually over the road causing a skid hazard.

**Speed Indicator Device** Councillors are frustrated at the amount of time it is taking to complete this project but are pleased that the site meeting with Traffic Engineer has finally taken place. Unfortunately, she has advised that posts previously used for SIDs by Somerset County Council opposite Chapel Hill Farm, Mark Road and Sunset Bay Farm, Burtle Road are no longer suitable and new poles will need to be erected in these locations, the location of the pole by Southview Farm Burtle Road is suitable but it will need to have an extension fitted as it is not considered tall enough. Fortunately, the two suggested locations in Catcott Broad Drove and Station Road are suitable with no modifications. The work to the poles has to be financed by the Parish Council but undertaken by Highways Dept. and the only estimate for completion of the work is 'within the current financial year'.

**Road Safety** Opportunity was taken during the visit to review other ways to slow traffic including cutting back vegetation to make signs clearly visible and refurbishment of some signs. Cllrs agreed to look again at 'village gateways' at the entrances to the village to try to slow through traffic as it may now be possible to obtain grant funding for these.

There have been several incidents of vehicles damaging items in the village recently, many seem to occur at night. The most recent and serious being the house on the Cross which has been extensively damaged after being hit by a car.

Others include:

**Bus shelter** was hit by a vehicle recently. Fixing was broken and the shelter moved several feet. Thanks to Cllr James Hedges for carrying out temporary repairs to make the shelter safe. Inspection has shown that it requires quite extensive repair. Quotes for the work are being obtained.

**Black Bull Bridge** (River Bridge) Bridge was hit and memorial plaque to Albert Watts was damaged. Thanks to Brenda Gibbons and Dudley White for their magnificent work in restoring the plaque.

**Catcott Manor Bridge** was hit and damaged by a vehicle.

**Road traffic signs** several around the village have been hit and pushed over. This has happened in other parishes and appears to be deliberate.

All of these have been reported to the relevant authorities including the police.

**Finance** Cllrs agreed to finance the cost of a small reprint of the Burtle Welcome booklets.

**Planning Applications** Permission has been granted by Sedgemoor DC for erection of a rear extension in place of conservatory at Crossing Cottage, Catcott Road.

**Enforcement Issues** Planning breaches, many of which go back over several years, continue in the parish with little progress with regards to enforcement action despite continued reminders by the Parish Council. There are now a total of four unauthorised caravans in Catcott Broad Drove and tipping continues. The mobile home in Westhay Broad Drove has still not been removed.

**Sandpit** Thanks to Cllr Sandra Bull for leading the project for volunteers including Lorraine and Ian Simmonds to clear and replant the flower bed and repaint the fencing at the Sandpit in time for the jubilee.

**Platinum Jubilee Mugs** Burtle Parish Council has purchased commemorative mugs for young people of the village. Many were distributed at the events over the Jubilee Weekend. If there is anyone in the village would like one, they will now be available on a 'first come, first served' basis at Café Burtle on 13<sup>th</sup> August or by contacting any councillor or the clerk.

**Royal Mail Collection Times** Although there has been no contact from Royal Mail, it was noted that Royal Mail has changed the collection times from the box in the wall by Gatcombe Farm. Collections are now 9am weekdays and 7am on Saturdays. Collection times at the box near to the Burtle Inn remain as 4.15pm weekdays and 10.30am on Saturdays.

**Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Cllrs agreed to not hold a meeting in August unless any urgent business arises. All Parish Council meetings are public meetings and everyone is welcome to attend.