

Summary of Burtle Parish Council Meeting – September 2023

Highways Some repairs have been made to the road surface in Mark Road by Sweets corner although the road surface still remains very uneven.

Bow bridge in Catcott Broad Drove is still awaiting repair from damage caused by a vehicle in April 2022. Apparent deterioration has been reported to the bridge department and they have agreed that its condition has worsened but consider it to still be safe. It is listed for repair when finance and resources allow. Burtle Parish Council will replace the historic plaque that they have restored when repairs are completed.

Rubbish bin by the bus shelter is now being used for dog waste. This is not a dog waste bin and there is no provision for it to be emptied but despite it becoming full people have continued to pile more bags of dog waste in and around it. Councillors are concerned that it is very unpleasant and a potential health hazard to the children using the shelter. After discussion they agreed purchase a dog waste bin and enter into a contract with Somerset Council to have it emptied on a monthly basis at a cost of £2.68 per time. In the meantime, dog walkers are kindly asked to take the waste home for disposal.

Planning Somerset Council, North has granted permission for the erection of a general purpose agricultural building at Whites Farm, Green Drove, Burtle

Enforcement Issues Councillors continue to engage with relevant bodies regarding the numerous planning breaches within the parish, many of which are on SSSI land.

Audit 2022/3 Exemption certificate has been accepted by the External auditor and 2022/23 accounts are now closed.

Speed Indicator Device has been erected in Burtle Road for two weeks facing in an Easterly direction and for two weeks facing in a Westerly direction. It will be rotated between the five locations that have been agreed with the County Traffic Engineer i.e., Burtle Road (Southview Farm), Burtle Road (Sunset Bay Farm), Mark Road, Station Road and Catcott Broad Drove. Thanks to Mr Chris Mockridge who has volunteered to look after the SID for the village.

Somerset Film are proposing an archive film project, inspired by the C S John Sparkes film collection. 'A Village Apart, Villages Together'. Their aim is to work with local residents from Burtle and the surrounding villages in the Children Polden area to explore and add to the social, industrial (agricultural and railway) and environmental (landscape and wildlife) history of their community using still image and film archive, in particular the C S John Sparkes collection. Councillors agreed to write in support of their grant application to Heritage Lottery Fund for the project.

Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 4th October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.