



THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AND AGREED AT THE NEXT MEETING

**Minutes of a meeting of Buriton Parish Council held at Buriton Village Hall, at 7:00pm  
on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.**

**Present:** Cllr D Jones (Chair), Cllr L Ashcroft, Cllr A Bray, Cllr H Coates, Cllr T Crew, Cllr M Johnston, Cllr S Stevens, Cllr T Wheeler and Mrs P Norris, Clerk

**In attendance:** There was one member of the public in attendance.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Lloyd and County & District Cllr Mocatta

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Declaration of interest from both Cllr Jones – as a Member of the South Downs National Park Authority, the Local Planning Authority for the area, I wish to make it clear that any views which I express today are based on information before me at this meeting and might change in the light of further information and/or debate at National Park meetings. This is to make it clear that I am keeping an open mind on the issues and cannot therefore be found to have predetermined any matter if it should come before me at the National Park for decision. Cllr Jones also declared that he is also a member of the South Downs Local Access Forum: a body which advises Hampshire County Council, SDNPA and others about their decisions in relation to Rights of Way and about making improvements to public access for outdoor recreation and sustainable travel. It is purely advisory and has no decision-making powers. Cllrs Jones and Johnston declared that they are members of Buriton Tennis Club Committee.

**3. To approve minutes from BPC meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

The draft minutes of the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved as a correct record and the Chairman will sign a copy for the Council's Minutes Books. **Action: Cllr Jones.**

**4. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

- Pond Green Bridge – Cllr Jones will check with Matt Marriott if he is still able to carry out this work. **Action:** Cllr Jones.
- Bank signatories: Cllrs Coates and Stevens yet to be added.
- Monks Walk: Cllrs Jones, Johnston and Lloyd still to meet to discuss the way forward.
- Finance Committee review of insurance values for Parish Council buildings and Asset Register on the agenda.
- Staging stored in the village hall: not yet considered by the Hall Committee.
- Proposals from Buriton School for School Meadow – further details still awaited.
- Halls Hill area: all actions taken by HCC/QECP continue to work well. Parish Council monitoring throughout 2021 now completed (359 out of 365 days): on only 12 occasions were any cars found parked outside the car park (a total of 14 vehicles). Capacity of the car park therefore appears adequate. It was noted that there had been lots of activity at Head Down where a motor event had been held and a course was being built. Cllrs felt that it would be useful to find out what was happening and to be informed of any planned events. **Action:** Clerk to contact Tim Speller, QECP Manager.
- Pond at Chalk Pits Nature Reserve: QECP investigating repairs.
- Tree near Kiln Lane entrance to recreation ground yet to be addressed by Matt Marriott.
- BT have now removed the phone equipment from the kiosk in the High Street and it has been acquired by the Parish Council, awaiting installation of the defibrillator by the defib team. Clerk to contact the team to find out what is happening. **Action:** Clerk.
- Spring on the gate to the playground – work to be completed. **Action:** Cllr Wheeler

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- Missing bin on recreation ground – Cllr Crew has the new bin it just needs to be installed. **Action:** Cllr Crew
- EHDC hedge along Petersfield Road – an update has been received from Cllr Mocatta to say the fence has been moved. Cllrs felt that one panel had been moved but the post was in the same location and it was agreed that this would be fed back to Cllr Mocatta
- Reference was also made to a nearby untidy rear garden in Sumner Road where waste and domestic materials has been left, visible from Petersfield Road, for a number of weeks. Residents had contacted the Housing Association to complain but the Parish Council was available to follow-up if no progress is made
- Dog fouling – no updates have been received; it was agreed that Cllr Mocatta be asked to find out about visits.
- Replacing young tree on Pond Green – Matt Marriott is planning to undertake this work.
- Use of Parish On-line on the EHDC website – still outstanding. **Action:** Clerk.
- Repairs to the school fence by the school still needed.
- CIL funding for two new houses in North Lane: the situation may not be known for some years.
- The Lengthsman has removed the gravel from the bottom of Kiln Lane, Cllrs agreed that he had done a good job.
- Gullies up Kiln Lane: Cllr Bray has dug the lower one out but the top gully opposite the old rubbish tip gate has nearly disappeared. It was agreed to bring this to Cllr Mocatta's attention.
- EHDC replacement trees at village pond: Cllr Mocatta has provided an update.
- No apology has been received from J&T Plumbing & Heating for anti-social parking.
- The family of a former resident has approached the council as they would like to donate money for a tree or bench in her memory. Cllrs to think about what this could be. **Action:** all

### 5. Coronavirus and Chairman's Update

The Chair reported that there were no particular updates or issues relating to coronavirus but the item would be kept on the agenda for future meetings and the special delegated powers would be retained as effects of the pandemic could yet return. Steve Franks, the Village Hall Manager, has been monitoring and adhering to any changes in the regulations relating to the village hall.

The Chair has been in contact with possible organisers of the annual litter pick event around the village but a date has yet to be agreed.

### 6. County and District Councillor's Reports

County and District Cllr Mocatta had forwarded his reports to Cllrs as he was unable to attend the meeting (attached to these minutes).

- **Grit Bins** – Cllrs are asked to check the level of grit in the bins around the village.
- **Offer of training course by Cllr Budden (EHDC)** – Cllrs were pleased that this offer of training was available, they were happy with the suggested planning and standards training but would like to also see financial and legal responsibilities added. They would like the training to be either on-line via Zoom or face to face. **Action:** Clerk to feed back to Cllr Budden.

### 7. Finance and Accounts

- **Summary of reserves** – Cllrs approved the reserves and noted that the 'Free Balance' was approximately one year's precept as recommended by auditors. It was noted that there was no funding specifically available to employ any external experts to help fight any large unwelcome planning issues in the parish. This could be considered at a future meeting.
- **Approve receipts and payments up to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 for the Parish Council** – Cllrs approved 3 receipts totalling £450.91 and 14 payments totalling £2,933.71.

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- **Approve receipts and payments up to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 for the Village Hall** – Cllrs approved 26 receipts totalling £3,033.45 and 26 payments totalling £2,759.96.
- **Budget against performance up to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022** – Cllrs noted the budget against performance continued to be broadly in line with expectations with no significant overspends or underspends in any cost heading.
- **Approval of Standing Orders** – Cllrs approved the Standing Orders subject to any amendments to the amounts quoted in paragraphs 24 and 29 and the references to the EU. They also wished that “Chairman” be amended to “Chair” throughout. **Action:** Clerk
- **Approval of the Risk Assessment** – Cllrs approved the Risk Assessment.
- **Approval of the Asset Register** – Cllrs approved the Asset Register but wanted the office equipment added, laptop, scanner and shredder. **Action:** Clerk
- **On-line Banking** – Information has been received that Stroud, Harting and East Meon Parish Councils all use Unity Banking. Lloyds do online banking but the information was difficult to find on their website. Cllrs agreed to use Unity Banking and have the same three separate accounts as with Nat West. Cllrs asked if the Clerk could possibly negotiate the monthly fee as there would be three accounts. Cllrs suggested this to commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, Clerk to check with the Internal Auditor if this was the best commencement date. **Action:** Clerk

### Open Forum

A resident advised that he is usually the only person on the bus from Buriton, although others are picked up in Petersfield.

### 8.Village Hall and Recreation Report

The Chair summarised points from a report which is attached to these minutes:

- There are no bad debtors.
- The Hall Manager will be off due to a planned operation. Cllrs Crew and Lloyd will cover.
- Cllrs agreed to start on-line banking before trialling an on-line booking system for the Hall
- More information has been circulated from Andy van den Broeke for the potential works to the village hall covering the three projects: (1) windows and doors; (2) roof repairs, fascias and soffits and (3) external fire exit. Four companies had been approached, in some cases to update previous quotations. Cllrs agreed to select Executive Windows and Construction who could provide continuity and mean that we would only have to deal with the one company. Cllrs requested that more details are received on colours and the external fire exit. A start date in July and August would be favourable as the school would not be using the hall during that period. **Action:** Cllr Jones to feed back to Andy and meet the company on site.
- BuildPass has completed an inspection audit to assess energy and sustainability efficiency, performance and identify improvements. The report has not yet been received.
- Ducklings Nursery – Cllr Jones has met with Jade Styles from Ducklings Nursery. There are currently two children attending but they are planning to advertise to recruit new children and are hopeful for the future. The group have spent money on materials as in order to be approved by Ofsted they need to offer a range of different activities. Ducklings are currently charged £3 per hour for use of the upper hall following a request to keep the fee at the lower amount. Following a discussion Cllrs felt that as extra heaters are being used that the Parish Council is unlikely to be making any profit. They therefore agreed to charge £3ph until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and then £4.50ph from then and reviewed at the end of July with a view that this be increased to £6.50 from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 as per the original agreement. **Action:** Cllr Jones to feedback to Ducklings.
- Changing Rooms – the Buriton Tennis Club are currently renting the changing rooms for a fee of £300 for 12 months plus electricity but the outgoing costs have exceeded this amount. At this time there has been no indication if the tennis club are seeking a future

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agreement. Cllrs agreed that the cost for the exclusive hire of the changing rooms should be £100 per month from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. They also agreed that any further discussions within the Council could be dealt via email in case agreement is required prior to the March PC meeting. **Action:** Clerk.

- Findings from the structural survey undertaken by Howard Newby were noted including the fact that the internal partition walls are not load-bearing. Copies of original plans were being obtained from EHDC for a small fee.
- Bowls Club – the bowls club have contacted the hall manager to question the heating system as it can be cold in the evenings despite the thermostat being set at 22°. They have also had to switch to a Friday evening on the six times per year when the Parish Council meetings are held in the main hall to provide adequate space during Covid. It was agreed that at the present time there was little that could be done about the temperature as the boiler is relatively new but replacement windows and recommendations from the BuildPass report should be helpful. It was also agreed for the parish council meeting to move back to the upper hall to allow the bowls club use of the main hall. **Action:** Clerk to inform the bowls club and hall manager as Ducklings will need to push back their equipment on the meeting days.
- Friends of the Playground – a response has been received from Karen White who has suggested a resident who may be willing to start this project. Cllr Coates agreed to contact the resident. **Action:** Cllr Coates. Cllrs answered queries raised by Karen White and the Clerk would reply. **Action:** Clerk
- Cllrs also discussed the signs at the playground that set out the “rules of use” which may now be faded or missing. It was agreed that these should be replaced and supplemented where necessary. **Action:** Chair to provide Clerk the wording, the Clerk to obtain quotes.
- Cut & Collect – quotes have been received to carry out a cut and collect mowing. Cllrs agreed to hold off appointing a contractor as Cllr Crew is obtaining quotes for the grounds maintenance contract and this extra task could be included in those annual quotes. **Action:** Cllr Crew.

### 9.Planning

Cllr Johnston presented a report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

- Cllrs agreed that there should be an 18 monthly tree inspection carried out on all trees on Parish Council owned land. It was hoped that Matt Marriott, our tree warden will be able to carry this out. **Action:** Chair
- **SDNP/21/02014/FUL 10 residential homes at Greenway Lane.** Cllrs agreed that Cllr Johnston would speak on the parish council’s behalf at the SDNPA Planning Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- **SDNP/21/03220/DCOND Discharge of conditions** 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24 and 27 of planning approval SDNP/20/01535/FUL Butser Hill Lime Works – an update has been received from SDNPA explaining the delay but saying that the old kilns appear to be being adequately protected.
- **Affordable Homes (Greenway Lane/Kiln Lane) enquiry** – following a detailed discussion Cllrs decided not to support this potential proposal for a number of reasons including:
  - when the landowners had put the site forward for housing in the Local Plan, SDNPA felt that it was unsuitable on landscape grounds. Cllrs felt that landscape character and setting of the village are very important
  - the proposal has not emerged from the community and, if it was felt that an exception site for more affordable housing was required, the Council would expect a thorough site selection process to be undertaken taking account of a wide range of criteria
  - the Council has been monitoring the need for affordable homes for people with local connections for some time, including in connection with the current Local Plan site on

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Greenway Lane. It is understood that there are twelve families with a 'local connection', some of whom may also have connections with other places

- there are currently 61 affordable homes in the parish: 27% of the houses in the village
- a further 4 affordable homes are planned in the current Greenway Lane Local Plan application and EHDC has said that these will meet local needs
- Cllrs decided to see how the Local Plan scheme pans out in addition to the existing 61 homes before considering whether there is then any real need for more affordable housing. The Council would want any new homes, particularly in an exception site, to be for people with a connection to Buriton rather than for other people
- the access road in the layout provided could open up the prospect of more housing to the west and south of the affordable homes. This was felt to be totally unacceptable. Any site layout for an affordable housing exception site must not include opportunities to provide future vehicular access to other land
- it was also noted that there may be issues relating to drainage / surface water flooding, that another access onto Greenway Lane may have road safety implications and that there could be other adverse effects such as adequacy of water pressure elsewhere
- **SDNP/21/06431/FUL – Recharge One – Eco pods, shops and electric charging points**
  - Cllrs agreed to oppose the application, Some of the issues identified were:
    - Very visible from viewpoints to the south
    - Light pollution and reflection of sunlight affecting surrounding view points
    - Noise and loss of amenity
    - Issues relating to safety of the Buriton interchange with the A3 – Cllrs agreed to write to Highways England to highlight these concerns
    - Many aspects of this initiative have not been proven anywhere at the moment – a risk in a national park
    - The drainage and sewers system are not proven
    - No benefits to locals. The village pubs are objecting. No local farms contacted
    - Issues with people walking into Buriton with no footpath
    - It was felt that the location was completely wrong: other places may be better
    - Affect on dark skies and wildlife
    - Likely increase in signage whereas Buriton has de-cluttered
    - Issues relating to Butser Quarry – views from there when restored in next few years
    - A previous application for stables on the same site had been refused because of visual intrusion
    - Contrary to many aspects of National Park purposes, Local Plan, Settlement Policy Boundaries and Village Design Statement.

### 10. Work for Lengthsman & Highway Issues

It was agreed to ask the Lengthsman to tidy up the area by the village sign in Greenway Lane and also to clear the ditch from the path from Glebe Road to the village. **Action:** Clerk.

Highway issues identified for Cllr Mocatta's new regular meetings were:

- Ditch in Petersfield Road opposite Bones Lane has caved in
- The road has eroded in Greenway Lane from Tithe House to the village on the left-hand side.
- Loose stones/ kerbs on the shared surface outside the Village Inn
- The recent accident at Hurst needs consideration by HCC as a number of Rights of Way feed out onto this fast section of road.

**20mph in your community – Proposal from Charles Cockburn, Chair Beech PC** – Cllrs agreed to support this motion. **Action:** Clerk.

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### 11. Rights of Way

The Chair summarised points from a report, attached to these minutes:

- Cllrs agreed to write to the Chief Executive of the SDNPA to draw attention to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the South Downs Way and request that Buriton be featured appropriately in any celebratory activities as it had been the start and finish of the route for many years.  
**Action:** Clerk
- Cllrs agreed to ask Hampshire County Council to include the Milky Way in any future temporary closures of BOATs.
- Cllrs delegated to the Rights of Way Working Group to reply to the Government's consultation on the Glover Report which highlights the issue of off-road motor vehicles using routes such as BOATs.

### 12. Update on Trees, Pollinators, Biodiversity and Climate Change Initiatives

The Chair highlighted points from a report which is attached to these minutes:

- The Parish Tree Warden, Matt Marriott, raised £135 towards new trees by shredding Christmas trees. Shine Radio covered the event and they wish to interview people about various initiatives in the village.
- Pond – EHDC are preparing to carry out works on the pond and banks. Any replanting of trees will be in the next planning season and the Parish Council would like to see this done during Jubilee Year. Cllrs noted that another tree has been removed, it was decided to ask Cllr Mocatta to find out about this process so that advance notice can always be provided to the Parish Council to help with explanations to the public. **Action:** Clerk
- Members of the Climate Change and Pollinator Projects have been busy:
- Helping Nature section and Climate Change and Buriton have been added to the community website
- Article in the Parish Magazine by Melaine Oxley on "Gardening to Help Nature", she is also willing to give a talk in the village. Also in the Winter 2021 magazine was an article on Buriton Climate Change Challenge.
- A talk has been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 about the wildlife in the Ditcham area and what can be done for nature.
- A grant of £1,500 has been received from Cllr Mocatta from HCC towards the purchase of a Thermal Imaging Camera so that basic surveys could be provided to households across the parish. Cllrs agreed to pay for the difference between the grant and the cost of the camera. **Action:** Clerk to order and to add the equipment into insurance cover.
- Contact has made to the landlords of the social housing in the village to establish their plans for improvements/retrofitting in the context of Government Guidance. Abri, who manage forty properties, are happy to work with the group. Joint projects could include Carbon Literacy and Living Well campaigns
- It should be possible for the village show to have a Climate and Nature theme again – and additional recycling opportunities are still being explored by a parishioner.

### 13. Website Updates

Ali Martin has provided further information about the updates for the website. Cllrs agreed to the proposals including the additional elements such as the security certificate (SSL).

### 14. Post Covid Tea Party and Queen's Platinum Jubilee (June 2022)

The Chair summarised a report, attached to these minutes including potential activities in Petersfield and elsewhere. A call for volunteers has been included in the latest Parish Magazine. Cllr Lloyd has agreed to help initiate the group. **Action:** Cllr Lloyd.

### 15. Correspondence

The list of correspondence received is attached to these minutes.

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- Street Light in High Street – This has been reported but Cllrs suggested that Mr Mitford was in the best position to monitor this and report to SSE.
- Dark Skies – it was felt that the advice that would have been given to Mr Mitford relating to the lights of a nearby property (contacting the Dark Skies Officer at SDNPA and Environmental Health at EHDC) has already been done. The Parish Council does not wish to be involved in neighbour disputes. **Action:** Clerk to reply
- All other matters have been covered within the meeting.

**16. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting of Buriton Parish Council is on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (subject to any legislative changes)

At the conclusion of business the meeting ended at 10.05pm.

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## **EHDC Councillor report**

**January 2022**

On January 20<sup>th</sup> EHDC Councillors voted unanimously to formally separate operations from Havant Borough Council. HBC's Councillors are expected to do the same at their council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January. The process will be underway once both councils have supported this move. The official EHDC press release is here:

[Partnership announcement update | East Hampshire District Council \(easthants.gov.uk\)](#)

Full details about the background were given to EHDC Councillors last week. In summary, Councillors felt that both councils have increasingly different strategic priorities and resources, and the interests of our residents were best served by separating rather than moving closer together.

[\(Public Pack\)Item 8 - Withdrawal from Joint Management and Shared Staff Arrangements Agenda Supplement for Council, 20/01/2022 18:00 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Councillors agreed to make an offer to EHDC's existing Chief Executive (Gill Kneller) that (subject to suitable conditions and having regard to employment law requirements) her duties be changed to that of Chief Executive solely for East Hampshire District Council

## **Hampshire County Councillor report**

### **1. Roads update**

Highway operations are continuing as normal during the Plan B restrictions.

Statistics have been published by Hampshire Highways for last November. In that month 406 emergencies were attended, 21,173 square metres of carriageway were resurfaced, 18,436 gullies and other drainage were cleared and 7,295 potholes were fixed. In addition, they also coped with Storms Arwen and Barra, keeping the roads clear of fallen trees and other vegetation, debris and excess water.

General road problems should be reported online at:

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems>.

Emergency issues on the highway can be reported outside of office hours by calling 101. In any emergency where there is a danger to life, call 999.

Going forward, Hampshire County Council has agreed to put extra "recurring" funding into highway maintenance, equating to about £7 million per year, from April this year.

### **2. Severe weather**

At the time of writing, we have had some very cold weather and so road gritting is my mind at the moment. When we do have freezing temperatures forecast, the Hampshire Highways' fleet of salting lorries head, focusing on the main roads first. If you're driving behind a gritter please

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keep well back and be patient - as they do their job to help keep you on the move. You can see the priority salting routes at: <https://maps.hants.gov.uk/highwayssaltroutes/>

Many of our roads and lanes are not on the priority routes but you will be aware of the blue grit bins provided by HCC across the area. These are filled with salt for community use throughout winter. They're particularly useful for smaller roads or on the pavements. A small amount of salt from these can make a big impact on frozen and icy surfaces. One tablespoon of salt (20 grams) is sufficient to treat one square metre of road or pavement surface.

If you spot grit bins are empty or running low, do contact Hampshire County Council for replenishing. This can be done either online at:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance>

or by emailing [roads@hants.gov.uk](mailto:roads@hants.gov.uk). Parishes are in any event advised to check these.

### 3. Support for vulnerable households

Hampshire County Council has received £7.124m from the Government's Household Support Fund to support households in need with food, energy and water bills, as well as wider essential costs and housing costs. The county proposes to deploy this funding (which must be spent by 31 March 2022) through its "connect4communities" programme.

The programme includes support for free school meals in holidays and half terms, support with utility bills, community pantries giving access to discounted food and community grants, which could be used for example to assist unpaid carers.

Details can be found at [connect4communities.org](https://connect4communities.org) where it is possible to apply for community grants, and at HCC's online directory ([connect4communities | Family Information and Services Hub \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/connect4communities)) which will also be a useful resource for families and individuals in need of food and fuel support.

Residents can also apply for half term support for food and activities at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/holidayactivities/holiday-activities-hants>

### 4. New Year resolutions

A new 12-week weight management programme has been funded by Hampshire County Council for residents who want to achieve a healthier weight. Offering free professional support either in-person, through regular online meetings or via a mobile app, Shapeup4life Hampshire is available to anyone with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or above and combines exercise and food choices to make positive lifestyle changes rather than a prescriptive diet. To find out more, check your BMI and to self-refer, go to [www.shapeup4lifehampshire.co.uk](http://www.shapeup4lifehampshire.co.uk).

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### Village Hall and Recreation Report for PC Meeting: 31 January 2022

The Hall Committee has met again recently and this report provides updates on a number of matters and seeks views / agreement from Councillors on some issues:

- Our Hall Manager, Steve Franks, has continued to do an excellent job in the ongoing Covid circumstances with the hall complying with all appropriate rules / regulations at all times
- The Hall Manager has given advance notice of some periods of time when cover will need to be arranged in February (and possibly into March). The Council needs to confirm arrangements
- There are no bad debtors
- The Hall Manager reports that, as at the end of December, income for the year to date (from 1st April 2021) exceeded direct expenditure by about £2,900. Electricity and gas supplies are both on fixed deals until November 2023.
- Bookings for the Hall are returning with improvements in the Covid situation: there are birthday parties etc at most weekends, Aspire have booked school holiday activities again and there is also potentially a scout camp. The Buriton Art Group is now using the hall for two hours every Wednesday afternoon
- There is still scope for more regular bookings on weekday mornings or afternoons
- Government announced a new grant scheme to support the hospitality and leisure sector in England on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021: the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant (OHLG). On this occasion, applications are necessary and it would be necessary to prove reductions in income as a result of coronavirus. The maximum grant would be £2,667 and, as things stand, it is not intended to apply for this grant
- Consideration is being given to utilising an on-line Booking System such as Hallmaster, Avalon, Planyo or Skedda. The Hall Manager is currently exploring options with a view to a free trial period – although on-line banking (for the Parish Council's accounts) may also be required
- All servicing is up to date, including PAT testing, with fire alarm testing having taken place in January. Regular testing of the water tank temperatures continues with no problems. Servicing of the screen between the upper and lower halls is planned for early in the next financial year.
- The dishwasher is not working properly and the Hall Manager is arranging an inspection and repair (subject to costs) as it will be needed for events in 2022
- The efficiency of the radiators is being questioned in the colder, winter months
- An inspection audit has been undertaken by BuildPass (12<sup>th</sup> January) to assess energy and sustainability efficiency, performance and improvements: with advice about measures and prioritisation that we could consider to optimise choices for cost savings, CO2 savings and also on sequencing of works and choice of materials. The survey covered both the hall and the changing rooms. The report is awaited but should be available before the PC meeting.
- Andy van den Broeke continues to pursue quotations from prospective contractors for replacing windows, doors, soffits etc (and also potential work to the roof and rear stairs) in line with documents agreed at PC Meetings. Tony Taylor has reported that the roof insulation in its current state will be producing approximately 30% of the u value currently required under today's building regulations. He is not sure what the ceiling tiles are made of or if they are for insulation, acoustic or just decorative purposes
- Contact has been made with the HCC team which administers grants to make community buildings more energy efficient, with a view to following-up once the implications of the BuildPass assessments are known

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- The opportunity to register an updated application for an allocation of SDNPA CIL receipts during 2022/23 will also be taken (as agreed at the last PC Meeting) prior to the 28 February deadline
- The Hall Committee felt that the summer period (when there are no school bookings of the hall) may be the best time to try to schedule resultant work
- The Upper Hall is still being used by the Buriton Ducklings Childcare Group - at a special concessionary reduced rate of only £3 / hour (the initial agreement had been for £4.50 / hr rising to £7.50 / hour over a twelve month period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021). The agreement enabled the Upper Hall to be booked and used for other events or meetings. However, following a recent request from the Ducklings Group (linked to the infectious nature of the Covid virus), the Hall Manager is currently not taking any additional bookings for the Upper Hall (some of which would have paid £11 / hour). Councillors are asked to consider the current charging arrangements and any potential changes.
- The Changing Rooms are still being used by the Tennis Club with the agreement running until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. No correspondence has been received from the Club about whether or not they would wish to continue to use the Changing Rooms after their experimental trial period comes to an end. The Club is paying £300 for the 12 month period (plus all electricity bills) with the Parish Council paying the water charges. The Hall Manager has reported that costs incurred and paid for by the Parish Council during the 2021-22 year to date have exceeded £300. The agreement with the Tennis Club sets out that, because of Covid uncertainties etc, the Club “may make use of the Changing Rooms at a very reduced fee for 12 months [from 1 April 2021]. After that period the Parish Council are likely to seek a long-term user at a commercial rent.” Councillors are asked to consider the current charging arrangements and any potential changes.
- A structural inspection of the Changing Rooms building has been undertaken by Howard Newby to advise as to whether the internal dividing wall is load-bearing or not. He reports that the internal partitions are non- load bearing elements as regards vertical support to the roof structure. He points out that external flank walls of the building may be oversized if there are no internal lateral restraints provided over their length. Such panel restraint, primarily for windage, may be offered by “wind posts” within the external cavity walls or via the buttressing effect of intersecting internal partitioning. ie at the WC’s/shower wall partition intersect to the NE and the referee walls to the SW. Consequently, whilst the internal partitions are non-load bearing; where they intersect with the outer walls; they may offer some lateral stability to the external flank walls and perhaps to a lesser degree, to the end walls. He has advised that it would be appropriate to endeavour to obtain a copy of the original construction drawings, lodged with EHDC Building Control, and a request for these plans was subsequently made to EHDC in December. His conclusions are that most of the centre spine wall could be easily be removed (together with parts of the remaining shower/WC/ referee partitions if/as required) so as to create a relatively open space within.
- Since the meeting of the Hall Committee, the Bowls Club has written to the Hall Manager to thank the Parish Council for the expenditure on repairing the village hall car park but point out that the heating in the hall is still not very satisfactory. They say that as Bowls is not a very physical sport they are sadly losing members during the winter months making it difficult to pay the rent. They ask if something can be done to improve the heating system. They also point out that, with the Parish Council currently using the main hall for its six meetings on Mondays each year, the Bowls Club has arranged to meet on the Friday night instead in those

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

weeks. But they are finding that they get lower numbers on Friday evenings and ask if the rental charge could therefore be lowered for them. The Hall Manager advises that the heating already comes on at 5pm (so he doubts that putting it on any earlier will help) and that the thermostat is already set for 22 degrees. He also advises that normally the charge for Friday evening bookings would be £10/hr but he is only charging the Bowls Club the Monday-Thursday rate (£8/hr) because they have been displaced on these few occasions. Councillors are asked to consider these requests.

- Observations suggest that usage of the playground continues satisfactorily with regular inspections by Cllr Wheeler
- In order to seek extra funding towards the maintenance and repair costs for the playground the idea of encouraging the creation of a 'Friends of the Playground' Group has been shared with Karen White and her response has been circulated to all Parish Councillors for consideration
- Further to the discussion at the last PC Meeting, a quote has been obtained from Idverde to undertake a 'cut and collect' mowing (in March / April time) of the edge areas of the Recreation Ground where the growth of longer grass is being encouraged as part of the community's Pollinator Initiative. The 'cut and collect' mowing should help with the longer term reduction of nutrients that we are seeking – and it will be in addition to a community hay-day in the late summer. Idverde have said that they will charge £265.03 and Councillors are asked to agree to this payment. Concurrently grant funding is being sought from EHDC and HCC, but if these bids are unsuccessful it will be helpful to have had agreement from the Parish Council to pay this small extra charge.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Planning Report 31st January 2022

To be read in conjunction with the minutes of the Planning meeting of the 7th January 2022.

#### **Update on current planning matters.**

**SDNP/21/00956/FUL.** Construction and part retention of farm track access from Horsechestnut Farm onto the Causeway (B2070), Petersfield. Application in Progress.

**SDNP/21/02014/FUL** 10 residential houses at Greenway lane. Pending Decision  
This decision will now go to the SDNP Planning Committee on the 10th February for determining.  
Buriton PC proposes to speak at this meeting to emphasise our main concerns.

**SDNP/21/03220/DCOND** Discharge of Conditions 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24 and 27 of Planning Approval SDNP/20/01535/FUL.  
Butser Hill Lime Works Ltd Butser Hill Buriton Petersfield Hampshire GU31 5BQ. Application in Progress

**SDNP/21/05279/FUL** New arts centre at Ditcham Park School. Application in Progress

**SDNP/21/03827/HOUS** New Shed at 3 Monks Walk. Application in Progress.

#### **Other items for discussion at this meeting:**

**SDNP/21/06431/FUL** Application from Recharge One. This expires on Thursday 3rd.

Proposal to create a planning reserve to allow for the occasional employment of planning consultants if required.

We should introduce an 18 month tree inspection of those trees owned by the PC to ensure they are monitored and kept in a safe condition.

Response to the affordable housing enquiry from Mags Wylie.

To note: SDNP/21/05947/FUL. An application to extend old chicken houses to provide lambing/storage shed space at land to the rear of 28-38 Petersfield Road.

Maggie Johnston

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Rights of Way report for PC Meeting: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the South Downs Way on 15 July 1972. The designated route ran between Eastbourne and Buriton and for over 30 years Buriton provided the start or finish point for thousands of long distance walkers. It was not until 1995 that the route was extended to Winchester. The South Downs Way was one of six long-distance paths recommended in 1947 by a special Government Committee. It is suggested that the Parish Council writes to the Chief Executive of the South Downs National Park Authority to draw attention to this special anniversary and to ask that Buriton should be featured appropriately in any celebratory activities.

EHAPTC has continued to raise the issue of BOATs with SDNPA and HCC. Landowners in the parish provided information and photographs of damage caused by off road motorbikes and recreational 4x4 vehicles. HCC has introduced a series of ‘temporary closures’ of BOATs during the winter period to prevent damage. The closures are for six months from 20<sup>th</sup> December. BOAT 47 at Sunwood has been included but BOATs 18 & 19 (which are more useful links in the Rights of Way network and more popular with users) have not been included in spite of their poor condition in places. Bad conditions on BOAT 18 have been reported to HCC a number of times recently. Councillors may wish to consider pressing for BOATs 18 and 19 to be included in future years. There have, however, already been reports of 4x4 drivers flouting the winter closures at Sunwood and HCC have installed temporary barriers at each end. The Government response to the Independent Review of Protected Landscapes undertaken by Julian Glover highlights the issue of off-road motor vehicles using routes such as BOATs, stating that impacts on wildlife and tranquillity (and making routes less accessible for other users such as those on foot, bicycles, horseback, or in vehicles used by disabled people) can undermine the Statutory Purposes of National Parks. There is currently a Government Consultation about their proposals to address recommendations in the Glover Review and it is suggested that the Parish Council may wish to submit a response to Government.

The issue with the footpath that crosses the field from the Greenway Lane roundabout towards Mapledurham House which was reported at the last meeting has been resolved. Although the gate is permanently locked there is a stile nearby which had become completely overgrown and covered over by brambles. This has now been cleared.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Trees, Pollinators, Biodiversity and Climate Change Report to Parish Council meeting (January 2022)

There is progress to report on each aspect of our 'Climate & Nature' initiative with some decisions / agreement required on some issues:

#### Trees

Thanks to Parish Tree Warden Matt Marriott, £135 was raised on January 8<sup>th</sup> in the Christmas Tree Recycling initiative to help buy more new trees. The equivalent figure last year had been £109. This can be added into our financial reserve for nature projects so that it can be spent in the next planting season – including marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. In spite of appalling weather this novel 'new trees for old' scheme attracted a steady flow of parishioners and also interest from the local Shine Radio service. It is hoped that more people will gradually take part each year.

Following our request to EHDC to plant new trees at the village pond (to help mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to replace trees that have been lost or damaged in recent years) we have learnt the following: EHDC think that they are going to have to carry out quite a lot of work on the pond including work on the banks, dredging and on the structure of the pond and the surrounding area. Included in this will be to remove some of the fish and to look at the trees to see if they need to be managed because of the root structure and damage caused to the pond banks. Aquamarine are due to start some work on the water condition and top the chalk levels up in the pond. They explain that over recent years more water now finds its way to the pond at a higher speed causing damage to the pond and surrounding area. EHDC officers are looking at what they will need to do with different experts. Once a decision is made on any planting this will happen in the next planting season.

#### The Pollinator Project

Since the last meeting of the Parish Council the following steps have been taken:

- a new 'Helping Nature' part of the community website has now been created:  
<http://www.buriton.info/helping-nature-help-us>
- there will be an article in the forthcoming Parish Magazine by Melanie Oxley, highlighting 'Gardening to help nature'
- Melanie has also kindly agreed to come to the village and give a talk on this subject here
- the interviews conducted by Shine Radio at the Christmas Tree Shedding event included coverage of the Pollinator Project – available here: <https://shineradio.uk/2022/01/christmas-tree-shredding-raising-funds-for-new-plantings-in-buriton/>
- Shine Radio have subsequently contacted the Parish Clerk and are asking if they could come to Buriton to chat to 2-3 people about (a) pollinators (b) our climate change initiative and (c) local history projects. It may be possible to arrange this during February
- a talk in the village hall on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March (about the Ditcham part of the parish) will include a focus on the very special wildlife in that area which has attracted ecologists from around the world for over 100 years but it will also make links to what everyone can do for nature, including pollinators, throughout the parish today

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- As reported elsewhere on this Agenda, the Parish Council has sought and obtained a quote for a 'Cut & Collect' visit to the longer grass around the edges of the Recreation Ground in the spring (March / April time). This should help with the longer term reduction of nutrients that we are seeking – and it will be in addition to a community hay-day in the late summer. Grants are being sought from EHDC and/or HCC to help with this so that Parish Council funds can be spent on other aspects of our projects such as buying new trees etc.
- It is anticipated that the village show will have a green (climate and nature) theme again.

### The Climate Change Initiative

The group of volunteers, including a number of Parish Councillors, formed following the Parish Council's Annual Meeting on this topic, have recently made the following steps and achievements:

- a new 'Climate Change and Buriton' part of the community website has now been created: <http://www.buriton.info/climate-change-and-buriton>
- encouragement for all parishioners to join the 'Buriton Climate Change Challenge' by pledging to do just one thing (or one thing more) in 2022 was circulated to every household with the Winter 2021 Parish Magazine and is also featured on the website: <http://www.buriton.info/news/your-new-years-resolution-2022>
- there will be a feature article in the centre pages of the forthcoming Parish Magazine highlighting a range of initiatives already being taken by households in the parish to address climate change and reduce domestic bills
- exploring the use of social media to engage with households in the parish
- considering the use of a Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) to reveal to parishioners exactly where heat (and money) may be leaking out at present: an idea which could be very timely as it links to the forthcoming anticipated hike in energy costs and household heating bills
- the Parish Council has applied to Cllr Mocatta (HCC) for a grant so that the Council can purchase the preferred TIC: a Flir E6 (£1,749 plus VAT; <https://www.flir.co.uk/products/e6-xt/>) and we have been awarded a grant of £1,500 towards the costs. The application details have been circulated to all Councillors who are now requested to approve the funding gap of £249
- consideration had been given to employing a company to do these surveys for us (but this would cost at least £350 per house) and renting / hiring TICs was also considered: this would cost about £300 for the time required to do a handful of houses, but would rely on having the right weather on the days of hire (or the money could be wasted...). Hence the preferred idea of obtaining a TIC so that we can offer surveys to all households (to be done whenever the weather is suitable)
- the TIC can also be used for demonstrations in the village school and at the Village Show etc
- part of the idea is to gradually encourage more and more households to become interested in having a survey done and then making improvements to address the main issues that are revealed: better insulation needed, air leaks, better glazing, thermal bridging etc ... As well as saving them money, this reduces emissions etc. This initiative should fit well with the Retrofit Programme that PeCAN is planning for the wider Petersfield area
- a number of households have already asked to be amongst the initial cross-section of homes to have surveys undertaken. Michael Bennett is already trained in the use of TICs but, as part of the initiative, he will train others so that the TIC can be used as frequently as possible whenever weather conditions are suitable

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

- the group has decided not to spend the £50 approved at the last PC Meeting to obtain packs of information / materials from the Greening Campaign as it was felt that the approach may be rather prescriptive, that it might inhibit local innovation and that it might require the group to re-start all its work
- contact has been made with all the Housing Associations with properties in the village to find out their plans for improvements /retrofitting in the context of Government’s guidance about climate change etc. In total there are 61 homes (over 25% of the houses within the settlement policy boundary) with Abri having 40 of them (comprising all the ex-Radian / ex-Drum stock)
- Abri are currently ‘piloting’ (in a small number of places) how to get all their stock up to EPC C standard, As there could be significant effects on tenants whilst work is done they want to learn how to handle that most sensitively: working with their customers will be important throughout. They are also aiming to increase awareness about impacts of carbon emissions on everyday lives so as to increase motivation to reduce emissions. They are working with the Carbon Literacy Trust on this: <https://carbonliteracy.com/> and are also interested in a broader ‘Living Well’ campaign. They like Buriton’s Thermal Imaging initiative and may be able to come to Buriton alongside our work to help improve the profile of our initiative. This could help with their programme of ‘planned maintenance’ (replacing faulty windows etc). There may also be opportunities for us to draw upon their ‘Carbon Literacy’ materials and their ‘Living Well’ campaign and, potentially, become a bit of a pilot or exemplar for them
- it is anticipated that the village show will have a green (climate and nature) theme again which could provide opportunities to show Electric Vehicles (including bicycles) on the Recreation Ground - and to involve organisations like PeCan (and the refill shops from Petersfield etc). Residents who have made improvements to their homes could explain the benefits and lessons learnt etc and the value of Thermal Imaging surveys could be demonstrated
- as reported elsewhere, an inspection audit of the village hall has been undertaken by BuildPass to assess energy and sustainability efficiency, performance and improvements: with advice about measures and prioritisation that we could consider to optimise choices for cost savings, CO2 savings and also on sequencing of works and choice of materials. The survey covered both the hall and the changing rooms. Initial findings suggested that the supply of electricity to the buildings should be capable of supporting charging points for Electric Vehicles
- following the discussion at the last PC Meeting, a resident is continuing to explore ideas for additional recycling options for the community.

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**Queen's Platinum Jubilee report for PC Meeting:  
31<sup>st</sup> January 2022**

Her Majesty the Queen acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 and is due to become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee.

The Parish Council discussed this matter at its meeting in July 2021 (and subsequently) and agreed to consider the matter more fully at this meeting with a view to encouraging the establishment of a group of volunteers to arrange appropriate events and activities. In the past the community has arranged things like street parties, activities in the Hall and/or on the Recreation Ground and dances in the evening.

Lee Lloyd has kindly agreed to help initiate this group and to provide support and help move things along thereafter if/as necessary. Involvement of other Parish Councillors would also be welcomed. A call for volunteers will appear in the forthcoming Parish Magazine (and can also be circulated in other ways) and it is hoped that at least some members of the group that had been established to arrange events for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day may be willing to re-form.

The special Holiday Weekend is due to run from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June and the Parish Council may wish to suggest a preferred date(s) to the volunteer group?

Contact with the Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Petersfield Town Council and St Mary's church has established the following:

- The Parish Council contacted the Country Park about this matter in early October 2021, asking whether a Beacon on the top of Butser Hill could be arranged (as part of a national Jubilee Beacons initiative) and if the event could be 'branded' jointly with the parish of Buriton. It is understood that arrangements for such a Beacon are now in hand
- There will also be a series of events in Petersfield. Full details have yet to be received from the Town Council but they are aware that Hometown Events / Petersfield Festivals already have some planning underway: <https://www.petersfieldfest.com/petersfieldspringfestival>
- St Mary's church would like to arrange a Songs of Praise type event outside the church by the pond on the Sunday afternoon/evening: perhaps singing some of Her Majesty's favourite hymns, topped and tailed with a prayer and with some refreshments to be served afterwards.

Councillors are asked to make any further suggestions and to assist in any way possible.



## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Correspondence

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Sender</b>
1.12.21	CIL from new properties	SDNPA
1.12.21	Recycling - new Environment Act	Sam Horne, HCC
3.12.21	Waste Collection	Kay Goswell
6.12.21	Police attendance at events	Almy Toogood, Police
7.12.21	20s plenty	Peter Bowen-Simpkins
9.12.21	BOATS & SDNPA	Susan Davenport, Chair East Meon PC
12.12.21	Copy of email to EHDC re noise Huntleys Scrapyard	Michelle Bradley
14.12.21	Copy of email from EHDC re noise Huntleys scrapyard	Luke Galloway, EHDC
2.1.22	4 x 4s using byway 47	Wendy Wolfe
4.1.22	BOATS & SDNPA	Susan Davenport
5.1.22	Query about who cleaned War Memorial	Clerk, East Meon Parish Council
9.1.22	Call for 20mph zones	Charles Cockburn, Chair Beech PC
10.1.22	Self Build and Custom House build Register Consultation	SDNPA
10.1.22	Request to do Podcast with Cllrs and other Villagers	Claire Bennet, Shine Radio
11.1.22	Response to questions Energy Efficiency Grants	Lisa Wood, HCC
11.1.22	Copy of email to Cllr Mocatta re trees and other work at the Pond	Craig Stainton, EHDC
12.1.22	Training requirements for Cllrs	Cllr Keith Budden, EHDC
14.1.22	Recreation ground registered as a Call for Nature site	Katharine Stuart, SDNPA
14.1.22	Flouting of BOAT Closure restrictions	Elliott Rowe, HCC
17.1.22	Street Light in High Street	Tim Mitford
19.1.22	Street lighting High Street	Tim Mitford
21.1.22	Accident B2146 Hurst – horse killed	Andrew Shaxson, Harting PC
23.1.22	Light pollution High Street	Tim Mitford
25.1.22	Passenger transport forums 27 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	HCC

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