



## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

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 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**Present:** Cllr D Jones (Chair), Cllr A Bray, Cllr T Crew, Cllr M Johnston, Cllr L Lloyd, Cllr S Stevens, Cllr T Wheeler, County & District Cllr R Mocatta and Mrs P Norris, Clerk.

**In attendance:** There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr H Coates.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

Declaration of interest from both Cllr Jones and Cllr Mocatta – 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. Cllr Jones and Cllr Johnston declared that they are members of the committee of Buriton Tennis Club.

#### 3. To approve minutes from BPC meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The draft minutes of the meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were approved as a correct record and the Chair will sign a copy for the Council's Minutes Book. **Action: Cllr Jones.**

#### 4. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

- Monks Walk driveway: agreement to be explored with residents' management committee.
- Staging stored in the village hall: discussed at the Hall Committee, school to be contacted to see if it is still required. **Action: Clerk.**
- Proposals from Buriton School for School Meadow – further details still awaited.
- Pond at Chalk Pits Nature Reserve: QECF investigating repairs.
- Defibrillator: being located to The Nest Inn (alternative use for telephone kiosk available)
- EHDC hedge along Petersfield Road – the hedge is in a very poor condition, Cllr Mocatta confirmed that he is meeting with the Head of Property at EHDC on 1<sup>st</sup> December and this matter will be discussed. **Action: Cllr Mocatta.**
- A meeting has been held with the leader of the EHDC Dog Wardens/Enforcement Team. There is to be a meeting with the school and an article going into the parish magazine.
- Repairs to the school fence: completed.
- EHDC has removed the ash tree from the island in the pond. Cllr Mocatta will discuss the other work required and the replacement of the other trees at the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. **Action: Cllr Mocatta.**
- New seat in memory of a former resident: the seat is waiting to be installed as soon as the scarifying has been completed and the ground conditions allow vehicles onto the recreation ground. **Action: Cllr Johnston.**
- 'Friends of Playground' Group: **Cllr Coates** has this in hand.
- Action about B2146 at Hurst: the hedges have been severely cut back on both sides of the road. Correspondence still awaited from Harting PC. Cllr Mocatta has also spoken to

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

Hampshire Highways about the flooding at Nursted bends due to the ditches being blocked. He reminded Cllrs that highway issues should be reported on-line.

- Ineffective ditch in Petersfield Road by Bones Lane still has not had any work despite the on-line system states that work has been completed. Cllr Bray has cleared the ditched at the top of Kiln Lane. **Action: Cllr Mocatta to chase.**
- Playground gateway works: **Cllr Crew** has this in hand but it has been too wet to carry out the work.
- South Downs Way 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plaque and other recent framing to be displayed in the Village Hall.
- CIL report to be sent to SDNPA confirming that all the parish CIL award of £20,094.16 has been spent on the recent village hall project. **Action: Cllr Jones**
- Clerk to check the situation regarding the new email addresses for Cllrs. **Action: Clerk**
- Using the changing rooms as a hub for encouraging reuse and recycling with surplus food, toys, clothing etc in the period up to Christmas: volunteers sought via Facebook, still outstanding. **Action: Cllr Stevens**
- Ideas to help parishioners through the worst of the winter (taking into account the current financial climate): The church is happy to have events in the Seward Room fortnightly from January to Easter. Cllr Mocatta informed Cllrs that HCC are providing grants for "warm hubs". The Five Bells are willing to provide food. It was agreed to see if the Neighbour Care Team would be willing to deliver food to those who were unable to go out. A parishioner present at the meeting suggested that it would be nice to have the room open on a daily basis so people could just go for warmth and a natter. It was agreed that a flyer would be added to the next edition of the Directory and, if possible, to be circulated with the imminent parish magazine. **Action: Cllr Jones** to discuss with the Church.

### 5. Chair's Update

The Chair thanked the Reverend Judith Bee who has retired from St Mary's for all her hard work in the parish over the years.

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

County and District Cllr Mocatta summarised points from his reports which is attached to these minutes:

- HCC is awarding grants to create Warm Hubs in communities during the winter months.
- Any issues with highways should be reported on-line, the link is in the attached report.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner is carrying out a survey to establish if people are happy to pay more council tax for more police on the beat.
- An issue raised concerning flooding under the bypass bridge by Weston, it would appear that this is due to a spring and water running from the Butser quarry. Cllr Mocatta agreed to report this to Highways England. It was also agreed to inform SDNPA Planning as an issue from the quarry site. **Action: Cllr Mocatta and Clerk.**

### Open Forum

- A parishioner asked when Hampshire Highways are likely to replace the oak bollard on the pinch point in Greenway Lane after it was damaged by a vehicle, the temporary sign has also disappeared. The bollards are also damaged outside the Five Bells. **Cllr Mocatta** agreed to chase these issues.
- A parishioner also said that a notice has been erected in Weston stating that the road to Ramsdean is to be closed. Cllr Mocatta nor the Parish Council have been informed of the closure which means that it is not for highway works.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### 7. Finance and Accounts

- **Summary of Reserves** – Cllrs noted the summary of reserves as at 1 November 2022.
- **Approval of receipts and payments up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 for the Parish Council** – Cllrs approved the following receipts: 5 totalling £13,931.08. Cllrs approved the following payments: 12 totalling £5,809.94 from the current account.
- **Approval of receipts and payments up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 for the Village Hall** – Cllrs approved the following receipts: 23 totalling £ 3,470.10. Cllrs approved the following payments: 28 totalling £ 2,492.88.
- **Budget against performance up to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022** – Cllr noted the budget against performance.
- **Approval of Budget and Precept for 2023/24** – Cllrs all approved the precept for 2023/2024 be £23,000. The Village Hall budget was being treated as a separate cost centre and any surplus (or deficit) will go into (or out of) the Village Hall reserves. **Action: Clerk** to submit precept.

### 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 Village Hall Manager reported that both September and October saw income exceed expenditure (by £1,870 in total).
- All servicing is up to date.
- School Licence – The current licence with HCC for the school is up for renewal on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. The school wish to continue with some amended hours and a RPI increase. Cllrs agreed to the proposals suggested by HCC and would like to explore having a RPI increase annually. They would also like to establish if the extra use of the hall by the school outside of the licence is covered by this or should the school be paying extra. **Action: Cllr Jones.**
- Refurbishment of hall – the front door is still not shutting properly and, although requested, Executive Windows have not yet provided estimates for installation of insulation in the roof or photographs of particular aspects of the recent works. **Action: Clerk** to chase again.
- Future projects for Village Hall - £50,000 has been awarded for further improvements from CIL by SDNPA. A request will be put in the parish magazine asking for any parishioners could help with the running of the project, including developing an ordered plan of potential next steps and subsequent project management. Cllrs agreed to try to find and apply for additional grants.
- The Hallmaster booking system is currently being trialled. People are needed to try and book the hall via the website. Cllr Stevens to contact Ali Martin for further clarification. **Action: Cllr Stevens.**
- Playground – Cllrs agreed to write to Sutcliffe Play, the original installers of the play equipment, informing them of the condition of the log climber. **Action: Cllr Jones.** It was decided to accept the quote to replace the goal post, including the 2 posts by the contractor for Petersfield Junior Football Club. **Action: Cllr Lloyd.**
- Basketball Backboard – Cllrs thanked Cllr Mocatta for the grant to enable the basketball backboard to be replaced. **Action: Clerk** to inform Cllr Mocatta when work completed.
- Table Tennis Table – Cllrs agreed to the proposal put forward by Buriton Tennis Club for the concrete table providing that the works needed to dig back the grass and re-profile the slope is carried out by the Club and that the delivery and installation is paid for by the Tennis Club. The Club must also agree that if the table is removed that the area is made good. It was also agreed to chase Sawscape for the wording for the insurers. **Actions: Clerk.**

### 9. Planning

Cllr Johnston summarised points from a report which is attached to these minutes:

- Greenway Lane Development – a close eye is being kept on the discharge of conditions in particular proposals for the substitution of hedging with close board fencing.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

- Butser Lime Works – the liaison group is promised in January 2023.
- Telecommunications Mast, Kiln Lane – the appeal decision is due any time soon.
- Recharge One Appeal – it was agreed that the Council should make a further submission before the deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022. It was also suggested that the matter be brought to the attention of the Five Bells and The Nest. Due to the implications for the Dark Skies Reserve it was decided to contact the Clanfield Observatory and draw the matter to their attention. It was also decided to raise issues relating to climate change in particular the additional flooding that has been occurring recently. **Action:** Cllr Jones.

### 10. Work for Lengthsman & Highway Issues

The Lengthsman is carrying out the regular work. The clerk to establish how much funding we have left for this financial year. **Action:** Clerk.

### 11. Rights of Way

The Chair informed Cllrs that:

HCC have contacted contractors working for Network Rail who have been parking under the railway bridge in South Lane blocking the right of way.

BOATS – SDNP are not doing anything further at the moment so it is important to keep a record of any issues with photos as evidence.

Winter Closure – the BOAT at Sunwood Farm has been closed for the winter. Although some BOATS are closed this is not necessarily for all users.

Christmas Tree – following a discussion Cllrs agreed to suggest that instead of buying a Christmas Tree that a suitable tree could be used in the churchyard. **Action:** Cllr Lloyd.

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

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

- Scarifying of the wild areas on the recreation ground is being carried out next week, the yellow rattle seeds will be sown soon after.
- Re-Naturing Call for Sites – a meeting is planned for the 5<sup>th</sup> December with Paul Bushell of SDNPA. Costs will be established for the wildflower plugs which could be part funded by this initiative.
- HCC Pollinator Project – a useful meeting was held between Buriton's Pollinator Team and Ashlea Walters of HCC.
- HCC Tree Initiative has agreed to plant three trees on highway land in Heatherfield in next year's planting season (Oct 2023 – March 2024).
- Trees for the Downs – the application has been successful. Cllr Johnston will establish the size of the trees that are being offered. Following a discussion Cllrs agreed to suggest where the trees might be planted:
  - Wayfarer - Petersfield Road where the cherry tree has died
  - Oak – Halls Hill triangle
  - Field Maple – Sumner Road/Glebe Road junction
  - Cherry – recreation ground
- Cllr Mocatta agreed to check with the Property Department if it is acceptable for the trees to be planted on EHDC land. **Action:** Cllr Mocatta
- It was suggested that the Pollinator Group could possibly plant the trees.
- A forthcoming 'Teams' meeting with Network Rail ecologists was noted – in case their line though the parish could be a valuable corridor for wildlife
- Swift Call Player – Cllrs agreed to a call player being installed at the village hall to encourage swifts to the nest boxes.
- Increasing interest from parishioners in having Thermal Imaging Camera Surveys undertaken was noted: with homes in virtually every part of the village signing up to be on the waiting list for the necessary cold weather conditions.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### 13. Correspondence

The list of correspondence received is attached to these minutes.

- The light pollution from the village hall was discussed at the Hall Committee and a letter sent to the appropriate hirers. **Action:** Clerk to reply to Mr Mitford.
- Removal of conifer trees Greenway Lane development – this is part of the planning approval.
- Potholes Pond car park to Monks Walk – once the building work has been completed the work to the pot holes will be more substantial.

**14. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting of Buriton Parish Council is on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**15. Approval of dates of meeting for 2023:** Cllrs agreed to the dates of the meetings for 2023: 30<sup>th</sup> January, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> May (including APM), 31<sup>st</sup> July, 25<sup>th</sup> September and 27<sup>th</sup> November.

At the conclusion of business the meeting ended at 9.25pm.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### EHDC Report

East Hampshire District Council and Eastleigh College have struck up a partnership to support a tree-planting campaign that will reduce carbon and increase biodiversity in the county. EHDC has pledged to see 120,000 new trees planted, one for every resident in its district. Now Eastleigh College has agreed to support the scheme with a £5 donation for every student that completes its new environmental sustainability course and a £30 donation for every EHDC officer that does so.

The 8-12 week course will train learners in important techniques to reduce environmental impact, looking at waste management, sustainable development and transport among other areas. EHDC and Eastleigh College both take environmental sustainability very seriously and are both doing whatever they can to improve their own performance and encourage the same in others. EHDC declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and aims to be carbon neutral by 2050, in line with national targets. As part of this project the council is working with the Woodland Trust, landowners, parish and town councils, schools and communities to plant 120,000 trees in East Hampshire.

### Green Team launch as EHDC marks COP26 East Hampshire

East Hampshire District Council has marked the anniversary of its COP26 climate change event by launching a 'Green Team' to accelerate the council's ambition to reach net zero. COP26 East Hampshire, held in Alton last October, was run by East Hampshire District Council and Damian Hinds MP, and saw hundreds of residents and campaigners gather to plan what East Hampshire could do to reduce the impact of climate change. It featured contributions from leading Government figures, including video messages from Lord Deben, the Chairman of the UK's Climate Change Committee, and Alok Sharma, the President of COP26, as well as local resident groups, schools, environmental experts and businesses.

Since that time East Hampshire District Council has been driving forward plans to improve its own environmental performance and to help others do the same. Chief among the new initiatives has been the launch of a Green Team to help the council, community and district be more sustainable. EHDC officers spread through the organisation will make up the Green Team, ensuring that responsibility for the response to the climate emergency is distributed throughout all the major departments, including planning, community, facilities management, property and placemaking. Alongside this, EHDC has also worked over the last 12 months to establish a range of major projects to cut carbon emissions and support local residents. Some of the big ideas we have been working on over the last year include:

- Launching our Green Team
- Moving to a new carbon-cutting HQ
- Helping households with energy-saving home improvements
- Developing our greenest ever Local Plan
- Announcing our own community farm

### *What's been done since COP26?*

- Green Team: Launching this week, the Green Team will work to make the council, the community and the district greener and more sustainable. Council officers will consider the impacts on the environment of the work they do on a day-to-day basis, embedding climate considerations into the culture of the council. Climate change training is already being rolled out across the council on issues such as housing standards, renewable and low carbon technology, carbon offsetting and going net-zero.
- A new HQ: EHDC's new premises in Bedford Road, Petersfield, will reduce the council's carbon footprint by 74 per cent. We already purchase renewable energy for our offices, but our office move will drive further reductions in our carbon footprint. The council intends to spend £500,000 to

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

improve the building's environmental performance. Solar PV and battery schemes will work alongside fabric first measures to improve the thermal performance. Staff will be encouraged to travel sustainably with green bike shelters and electric vehicle charging points.

- Energy saving home improvements: In the last year, 256 homes have been supported through domestic retrofit schemes ECO3 and COSY. Energy efficient measures that have been installed in properties across East Hampshire include smart thermostats, loft and cavity wall insulation, new and replacement boilers, solar panels and replacement windows and doors. The amount of funding in the last year totals £765,000, with over £2.9 million being spent on 1,856 local homes since the schemes began, reducing their carbon emissions and cutting their fuel bills.
- A new scheme has been launched, COSY East Hampshire, offering interest-free loans for energy-saving measures. To find out more go to [www.easthants.gov.uk/cosy](http://www.easthants.gov.uk/cosy)

### **More support proposed for residents struggling to pay their council tax**

More working-age households could be entitled to higher Council Tax Support payments from April 2023 if wide-reaching changes to the scheme proposed by East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) are approved. Consultation is underway now and will close on 20 November 2022. EHDC is consulting residents and partner organisations on the following proposals:

- Increasing the amount that low-earning households can earn, before affecting Council Tax Support from £20 - £25 to £70 per week for couples, lone parents, carers, those who would be entitled to disability premium, enhanced disability premium, disabled child premium, severe disability premium, in receipt of employment and support allowance component and those working as a part time fire fighter, auxiliary coast guard, part time lifeboat worker or a member of the Territorial Army or similar reserve force.
- Increasing the amount for single applicants' households can earn, before affecting Council Tax Support from £10 to £35 a week.
- Making it so that other adults living in a home do not affect the amount of support the Council Tax payer is entitled to.
- Increasing the amount of money in savings that applicants can hold before it affects their entitlement from £6,000 to £10,000.
- Allowing claims for support to be backdated to the beginning of the financial year (1 April) or six months if that is longer, provided there is a good reason why the claim wasn't made earlier.
- Ignoring certain payments made to a household in a crisis (for example the Energy Rebates) when making payments.
- Ignoring any emergency increases in national benefits (such as the Universal Credit uplift during the coronavirus pandemic). If approved, these changes would come into effect on 1 April 2023.

**Household glass collections re started on 3rd October:** Our service provider, Norse South East (NSE), has confirmed that they are able to reinstate household glass collections from Monday 3rd October. Ahead of the service restarting on Monday, crews have been out clearing excess glass from bottle bank sites around the district. The reinstatement of services is the result of a successful recruitment drive over the last two months, supported by EHDC. NSE now has enough directly employed drivers and loaders to reduce its reliance on agency staff and provide a more resilient service. The service will be reintroduced following existing glass collection patterns. If you don't have your calendar, please check our website. Where possible, crews will take any excess glass on the first collection, provided it is in a suitable container to be carried and emptied into the vehicle. Additional temporary bottle banks have been installed around the district which will remain in place while the service catches up. These can be found on our online map.

*We are sorry for the disruption to the service and thank you for your patience during the suspension*

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Hampshire County Councillor report

November 2022

#### County Deal update

Negotiations are poised to take place with central Government on plans for a Pan-Hampshire County Deal, with the aim of investing in Hampshire's economy and improving the lives of all residents and communities across the area - by bringing decisions and powers closer to people and places in the region.

Devolution proposals are now ready for formal negotiations with central Government, to secure the best possible deal for residents, businesses and communities across the whole Pan-Hampshire area, (covering Hampshire County Council, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils, the 11 district and borough councils within the County Council administrative area, Isle of Wight Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council).

The combined prospectus can be viewed at:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s100275/Pan-Hampshire%20Deal%20Prospectus%202022.pdf>

#### Support for warm winter hubs

Communities across Hampshire are being invited to apply to Hampshire County Council for support from the Leader's Community Grants Scheme in order to create a network of warm hubs this winter.

Voluntary and community organisations, including parish and town councils, can apply for a grant of up to £5,000 to develop and host warm hubs where people can gather together. This might be in the form of a regular coffee morning or the provision of a shared activity; creative ideas and concepts that will deliver support especially to our most vulnerable residents are particularly welcome. Information can be found at

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/leaders-community-grants>.

Additional funding is also available to community groups from the Adult Services 'Local Solutions Grant fund to support local people maintain their independence. This includes assistance to organisations offering finance and money management support to those unable to easily access existing services, as well as for groups undertaking projects to help vulnerable people by reducing social isolation and loneliness. Details can be found at

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/local-solutions-grants/local-solutions-grant>

Our library network offers warm space for anyone needing a place to spend some time, connect with others, to work or study. Libraries also provide support with the distribution of Warm Bags and Food Vouchers through the Household Support Fund

[www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/libraryfinder](http://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/libraryfinder)

Food and essentials Families struggling with the cost of essentials - such as food and fuel - are encouraged to visit the connect4communities website below. You may be eligible for a Council Tax reduction.

[www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities](http://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities)

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

We offer a range of grants to community organisations working with residents to support their physical and mental wellbeing including grants up to £5,000 to support communities, for example by setting up a Warm Space.

Further information is available here:

[www.hants.gov.uk/costofliving/community-support](http://www.hants.gov.uk/costofliving/community-support)

### Roads

Hampshire Highways' commitment to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate against the impact of climate change achieved national industry recognition last month. Its Carbon Strategy, which aligns with the County Council's ambition to be carbon neutral by 2050, won the Environmental Sustainability Award as well as the Special Merit Award in this year's Highways Industry Awards. The Special Merit Award is a particular achievement in that it is selected by its peers in the industry.

Last month 7,456 square metres of carriageway were resurfaced across the county, with 20,737 gullies and other drainage cleared, 6,535 potholes and other defects repaired and 5,489 square metres of footway repaired or resurfaced.

It is now prepared for the wetter and colder months ahead, with crews on standby 24/7, ready to salt the roads in snow and icy conditions, as well as deal with the impacts of high winds, heavy rain and flooding, such as those recently seen.

### Getting Winter Ready

You might have noticed some of these lorries around clearing drains and gullies locally.

Hampshire Highways are getting winter ready, with salting crews on standby, over 100,000 roadside gullies cleared, 13 major drainage schemes completed and more, to help keep the county moving in all weathers:

We face huge challenges with highway maintenance due to funding, but through innovation and dedication we can ensure we keep our roads clear and safe this winter.



[hants.gov.uk/News/20221027HantsHighwaysWinterReady](http://hants.gov.uk/News/20221027HantsHighwaysWinterReady)

### Street Lighting

As the clocks have now gone back,, the darker evenings mean that HCC streetlights will be coming on earlier than is needed during spring and summer.

If you notice a fault, please report using the link:

<https://www.lightsoninhampshire.co.uk/Public/Default.aspx>



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Initial first pages..... Sign & date final page as "approved" .....



## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Reporting Highway Problems

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes:

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

Tree/hedge problems:

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

Flooding/drainage issues:

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

Pavement problems:

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

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

### National Census

Data about the population in our local area can now be viewed readily on census maps published by the Office for National Statistics, search for details at

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps>.

### Police & Crime Commissioner

Donna Jones, Hampshire's Police and Crime Commissioner has launched her annual precept consultation on council tax contributions to policing. The survey is online and will run from 31 Oct to 4 Dec. This survey is to gather views on whether she should increase the level of council tax in support of policing, continuing investment in Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. The survey can be found at: <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/consultations/precept-consultation>

The Commissioner has also published her annual report for 2021/22, providing an overview of the Commissioner's activities and key successes from when she took post in May 2021. It covers the recruitment of nearly 600 new police officers, extra funding for the region to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB), domestic abuse and bespoke support for victims of sexual violence. It can be seen at <https://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Annual-Report-2022.pdf>

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Village Hall and Recreation Report for PC Meeting: 28 November 2022

This report provides updates on a number of matters since the last Parish Council meeting with some decisions needing to be made:

- A meeting of the Hall Committee has been held recently and it was noted that there are no bad debtors, that all servicing is up to date and that the Hall Manager reports that both September and October saw income exceeding expenditure (by £1,870 in total). The general level of bookings remains healthy.
- The Rangemaster cooker has been cleaned and regular servicing will be arranged, a replacement microwave oven is being purchased and the Hall Manager will arrange for the faulty curtains on one of the upper windows to be fixed in the closed position.
- The school will be asked about its staging stored in the storeroom and the Hall Manager will ensure that there is adequate (frost level) heating in the Changing Rooms throughout the winter.
- Following information received from NALC, the Hall Manager has checked our eligibility for any energy bill refunds from the Government. We have been advised by EDF that, as we are on a fixed price deal and at a low rate, we do not qualify for any relief.
- The County Council has reminded us that the current 5-year licence permitting the school's use of the village hall comes to an end on 31 December 2022. The school would like to continue using the hall and are requesting a new agreement with slightly amended hours to become (for both the Winter and Spring terms): Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 13:00 - 15:15; Summer term Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 13:00 - 15:15; Total use 6.75 hours per week for 39 weeks of the year. This includes an extra 15 minutes on each of their days compared with the current license. HCC currently pays £671.50 a quarter (£2,686pa). The current license cites £2,559pa but an RPI increase was applied in January 2020. HCC explain that generally it would be our job to draw up a licence/lease etc but they offer to draft it - and calculate the relevant RPI calculation (so as to save us time and costs). Once again they are proposing to link fee increases with RPI which may help reflect the increases in energy costs that we will encounter. Councillors are asked to consider this proposal (which could include an interim date for a further RPI increase (like last time) – perhaps January 2025) so that a response can be sent to HCC. The Hall Committee discussed this matter at its recent meeting and was minded to agree to HCC's proposals, but it was felt that it should be made clear that all extra use of the Hall (eg for Christmas events) have to be paid for in addition.
- Since completion of the project by Executive Windows (replacing windows, doors, soffits, gutters, cladding and the external stairs from the upper hall) a small number of issues have been raised with the company which have yet to be resolved: the main door often fails to shut properly allowing heat to leak out; cost estimates to install insulation in the roof had been requested; and photographs of the new damp-proof course installed and of the new insulation behind the new cladding are awaited. The new gutters had been overflowing in recent heavy rains and this was found to be due to autumn leaves. The Hall Manager is arranging regular clearance in future.
- Discussions about next steps at the village hall (roof insulation, a potential 12kw solar PV array [which could enable the provision of two fast-charge EV charging points], enhanced lighting controls, point-of-use hot water heaters and water efficiency measures etc) have been greatly assisted by Andy van den Broeke's suggestions and assistance and he has kindly provided details of a costed proposal for further help. Councillors recognise that the Parish Council will need expertise to help design and manage this next project(s) and so a request is being included in the Parish Magazine for any offers of advice, expertise and assistance to help the community undertake future work at the hall as efficiently as possible. The £50,000 CIL award from SDNPA will be held for 3 years after which time if the money has not been spent they can consider reallocating it to another project. It is suggested that the Council should continue to work with Andy (and others) to develop a more detailed, ordered plan of next steps (drawing

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

upon the Buildpass audit, the Project Solar report and the ARC infrared heating assessment) and apply for further grant funding if/as required.

- At present there are no plans to make any changes to the Changing Rooms until a potential use is identified. The CIL application included the potential to convert the building into some sort of 'Health & Wellbeing Hub' which could be available to a wide range of users as a base for physical and mental health activities.
- Following the successful transition to on-line banking the trial of an on-line booking system for the village hall has commenced with the Hallmaster system. Councillors have already agreed that, if the trial proves successful, this should be used thereafter (currently £199+vat pa). Ali Martin has been asked to provide assistance to merge the Hallmaster system into the community website.
- Observations suggest that general usage of the play equipment continues satisfactorily with regular inspections by Cllr Wheeler.
- Cllr Coates may be able to report about the idea of creating a 'Friends of the Playground' Group
- Other information about the role of the Recreation Ground in the community's Pollinator Project is included in the 'Climate and Nature' report elsewhere on the agenda.
- A very useful meeting has been held with Sawscapes considering, in particular, the climbing unit, the tower unit, the log climber, the skate ramp and the small goalposts. The climbing unit and the tower unit are both 18 years old (moved from our old play area) and the discussions about these two pieces of equipment led to the proposal that we only make important small repairs over the next couple of years and do not spend large amounts of money on either. They could be removed if they deteriorate markedly and the Council can aim to replace them (perhaps with one new piece of equivalent equipment) in about 18 months / 2 years. Fund-raising for this new equipment could start sooner rather than later and any CIL funding from the new houses on Greenway Lane could help (unless the CIL is needed for the village hall). Work to replace relevant parts of the net on the climbing tower and to address issues on the skate ramp have been agreed and the safety of the small goal-posts was improved, with quotes being sent for longer term actions. It was felt that the log climber was ok to be left for the time-being but that we might want to contact Sutcliffe Play to say that we feel that it should have lasted longer before needing the potential repairs. Councillors are asked to consider these proposals and any actions required relating to the small goalposts.
- The grant application to Cllr Mocatta for a replacement basketball backboard has been successful and, with the money having been received, Sawscapes have been asked to fulfil their quote and undertake the work.
- The visit by Sawscapes also examined the site for the potential table tennis table being provided by the Tennis Club. The inspection concluded that (1) the existing concrete base [the old cricket net area] looks sound and is plenty long enough; (2) the concrete may actually be slightly wider than the 2.4m currently measured as grass has grown over the edges (particularly down the slope from the tennis court side); (3) it would, however, still be narrower than the 3.5m recommended by Steep Parish Council and Sawscapes advised that all the grass and soil on the tennis club side of the concrete strip should be dug back so as to get the full width and then the slope should be re-profiled with a taper so that it doesn't creep back down again and create a trip hazard; (4) it was felt that we could find, after a year or two, that the width of the concrete strip was too narrow and so it may then be necessary to add about 1m onto the village hall side (creating level ground, laying concrete, moving the table across etc); (5) Sawscapes also advised that we should ensure that all the delivery and installation costs are being funded by the donors; (6) Sawscapes would be willing to send us a message that should be suitable to satisfy our insurers. Councillors are asked to consider next steps.

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## **BURITON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Planning Report 28th November 2022**

To be read in conjunction with the minutes of the Planning meeting of the 11th October 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/21/03220/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.  
An additional response was provided as a result of amended plans being submitted. These were re affirming that the Parish Councils original comments still stand. Decision Pending

SDNP/22/02272/LDC The Hopkiln, Weston Lane: Decision Pending

SDNP/22/03785/HOUS. Whistlers, South Lane, Buriton: Replacement Annex. Application in Progress

SDNP/22/04272/TCA and SDNP/22/04915/TCA Trees at the Five Bells. No Objection

SDNP/22/04300/TCA Trees at Karnten House. No Objection.

SDNP/22/04533/PNTEL Tower at Head Down. Application approved

SDNP/22/04251/HOUS Home office at Toads Alley Application in progress.

SDNP/22/03543/DCOND. Discharge of conditions for Greenway lane development. A close eye is being kept on the conditions here as Imperial Homes is attempting to make changes to areas such as the replacement of hedging with a fence....

SDNP/22/04352/DCOND: Discharge of Condition 28, Condition 30 and Condition 31 of Planning Approval SDNP/20/01535/FUL (Butser Hill Lime Works). Application in Progress.

#### **Items for discussion at this meeting:**

The Recharge 1 appeal.

SDNP/21/05482/PA16. Appeal for the Telecoms mast at Kiln Lane

#### **Items for future meeting:**

SDNP/22/05106/LIS. Old Stables North Lane Buriton Petersfield Hampshire GU31 5RT  
Incorporation of a small part of the next door dwelling to form a utility room

Maggie Johnston

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Climate and Nature initiatives:

Report to Parish Council meeting (November 2022)

### Pollinator and Nature Projects

Updates since the last meeting can be summarised as follows:

#### **BeeLines project on the Recreation Ground:**

- Due to the unusually mild conditions the “cut & collect + scarify” visit by Idverde has been postponed and should now take place early in December
- The Yellow Rattle seeds will then be sown soon thereafter
- Another ‘cut & collect’ mowing is planned for early in 2023 and would then become an annual operation at that time of year
- The plant surveys will be repeated in July, with a cut of the long grass in September, followed by our community hay-day (raking etc) again ...
- A separate payment from SDNPA may yet be forthcoming for interpretation signage after agreement of specification and placement. The intention would be to explain not only why the area looks different (to cater better for nature) but also to provide illustrations of the range of plants and creatures that people might observe: increasing awareness and encouraging families to do similar things in their own gardens to improve corridors for bees, pollinators and more.

#### **The ‘Re-Naturing Call for Sites’ initiative:**

- Paul Bushell, Western Downs Ranger for SDNPA, visited on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and has provided helpful ideas and assistance. He has also written to say that they would be willing to part contribute financially, towards wildflower plug plants and towards a gap in the existing hedge
- It was felt that some plug plants, added to the grass margins, could increase the diversity and also provide ‘some ‘quick wins’, mainly for public perception and educational understanding. This may help with the longer term aspirations with residents and visitors who will see a more instant result and gain a quicker ‘buy in’ to the longer term management aims
- Paul identified a 10-15m gap in the hedgerow in the ‘top’ corner of the recreation ground and suggests that some mixed native (locally UK sourced) hedgerow whips, maybe of a foraging type (eg. hazel, dog rose, blackthorn etc), could be planted within the coming winter with some sort of protection and also a layer of mulch to allow the whips to establish for a few years
- They may also be able to part contribute towards some of the cost of interpretation materials subject to involvement of the SDNPA Comms team
- Paul has recently arranged to visit again on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December (9.30am) and any Councillors would be very welcome to join the meeting.

#### **The HCC Pollinator Project:**

- HCC arranged a networking meeting with representatives from other communities which are also involved in this project in Buriton on 29<sup>th</sup> October. A number of Parish Councillors and other village residents attended.
- As a follow-up, our HCC contact rep, Ashlea Walters, visited on 11<sup>th</sup> November and met with members of Buriton’s pollinator / nature team in the Five Bells. As a result Ashlea will investigate a number of things to help us (eg. ‘easy-to-use’ on-line mapping programs so that we could illustrate a range of things on a map of the parish; HBIC data; availability and suitability of wildflower seeds from HCC sources; availability of HCC’s ‘cut & collect’ mowing machines; availability of trees / hedges from the woodland trust.
- As well as trying to create an interactive map of the parish, the meeting also suggested creating a local ‘calendar of events / activities’ for each year as a way of constantly having something to promote to residents etc. Potential events during 2023 could include: an occasional talk and/or film; a farm walk; a bird walk; the Coulter’s Dean Open day; the bluebell walk; a ‘new’ village show [nature and climate care]; and a ‘Gardens Open’ day (with the

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

emphasis on wildlife friendly gardening). In addition there could be a presence at other events including the Xmas Market (perhaps jointly with the church) and the Farm Fun Day (Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June) and relevant national initiatives (such as 'No Mow May', the RSPB's great garden bird count, other citizen science count days for butterflies etc) could be promoted. A physical calendar for 2024 (to sell to residents / others) could perhaps be produced – geared to actions / activities for each month / season (and identifying designated days such as: Dawn Chorus Day; World Habitat Day etc).

- This follow-up meeting also discussed working with the school and perhaps a local wildlife photo competition as well as noting that Hillier's may be able to help with supplies or prizes etc.
- It was concluded that the initiative could yet do more to: get residents involved via their gardens; get cutting regimes changed on roadside verges; get Network Rail on board; find out what farmers are already doing; and explore whether the Young Farmers help in any way.
- The idea of arranging a 'new' village show in 2023 (with a nature and climate focus) was also discussed.

### Tree initiatives:

- As noted at the last meeting, our application to HCC for new trees on highways land has been successful and they have agreed to plant three trees (a crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), a whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*) and a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) on the area in Heatherfield in next year's planting season (Oct 2023 – March 2024). HCC will also provide a cycle of watering / maintenance but anything additional would be of assistance and residents may be able to assist with watering, particularly during hot, dry weather.
- Our 'Trees for the Downs' application has also been successful: seeking a total of five trees for the Recreation Ground, Heatherfield and the ends of Glebe/Sumner roads (potentially: oak, cherry, silver birch, wayfaring and field maple). The T&C for this initiative put greater weight on the community and can be discussed at the PC Meeting.

### Progress with other nature initiatives

- Successful contact has been made with Network Rail to discuss how they help wildlife, pollinators etc as their track could be a valuable corridor through the parish. Thanks to Jack Wharton (Public Affairs Manager, Network Rail Southern) an introductory on-line Teams Meeting is scheduled for 12th December with two ecologists from NR's Southern Region: Aline Gomes and Leo Hughes. This could lead to a site visit thereafter.
- Tim Norriss of the Hampshire Swifts Charity visited the village on 17th November to confirm sites at 20-30 residential properties who had responded to our initiative to install Swift boxes under eaves around the village. Installation will take place in the spring and will include the four boxes at the village hall agreed at the last PC meeting. Tim feels that it would also be sensible to have a call player at the hall, too. This is a small amplifier that plugs into a mains socket with a timer (and volume control) and plays Swift calls to attract birds to the boxes. A thin speaker goes out through a window to a small speaker in one of the boxes. It would operate just from May to July and can then be turned off. Approval from the Council is sought for this idea.
- Approval was provided at the last PC meeting for a large 'bug hotel' on the Recreation Ground (using old logs which would need to be secured) but this initiative has not yet commenced.

### Climate Care

- As soon as cooler (and dry) weather arrives it will be possible to start work on the growing list of households wishing to have their homes surveyed using the Council's Thermal Imaging Camera. There are currently about 20 households interested in benefitting from this initiative, including homes in the High Street, Glebe Road, Sumner Road, Petersfield Road, North Lane, South Lane, Bones Lane, Heatherfield, Greenway Lane and New Barn Lane.
- A meeting of the teams involved in both the Climate Care and Nature initiatives is being held very soon to consider, amongst other things, ideas for a potential new form of village show.

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

### Correspondence

Date	Details	Sender
27.9.22	Closure of railway line between Haslemere and Havant between 22 to 30 October	Network Rail
27.9.22	Joining planning committee	Pam Wilson
29.9.22	Equestrian Development Technical Advice Note consultation	SDNPA
6.10.22	Some preventative parking measures will be installed at Halls Hill after damage to Dragons Teeth.	Adam Macey (QECP)
7.10.22	Name of new development Greenway Lane – South Downs View	Steve Brackley, EHDC
13.10.22	EHDC Tree Planting Project	EHDC
13.10.22	Copy of standard letter received from Imperial Homes re Greenway Lane	Charlotte Milligan
13.10.22	Filling in pot holes on track to Haven Barn	Helen Osgerby
17.10.22	Offering support from Buriton Estates to try to address problems on BOATs	Gemma Barnett
20.10.22	Copy of email to SDNPA re Greenway Lane Development	Charlotte Milligan
21.10.22	Requesting contact details for HCC Officers so as to report problems about BOATs caused by 4x4's and off-road bikes	Wendy Wolfe
25.10.22	Rangers have fitted gates at each end of the BOAT at Sunwood to help enforce a winter closure	Wendy Wolfe
31.10.22	Inconsiderate contractor parking North Lane	Parishioner
31.10.22	HCC has contacted Network Rail to remind them not to obstruct the bridleway under the bridge in South Lane	Hannah Johns (HCC RoW)
6.11.22	New 'Hampshire Outdoors' signs at Halls Hill paddock for Duke of Edinburgh visits / camping. For H&S the paddock has been better fenced off from the Hangers Way and new mixed native hedging will be planted around the edges. When camping does take place there will be a portaloo.	Tim Speller (QECP)
8.11.22	Consultation Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan	HCC
10.11.22	Email repairing potholes pond car park and Monks Walk & Haven Barn	Helen Osgerby
11.11.22	Removal of conifer trees on Greenway Lane development	Sam Rossiter
14.11.22	Reply from Imperial Homes about proposed fencing instead of hedges	Richard Paine
15.11.22	Overflowing gutters at Village Hall	Hilary Myers
15.11.22	Planning in Weston – thank you for informing of any planning applications	Nicky Harrison

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## BURITON PARISH COUNCIL

16.11.22	Visit to village to confirm locations for swift nesting boxes at 20+ households and Village Hall and some call players	Tim Norriss
22.11.22	Asking if anything further can be done to resist the Planning Appeal and prevent the ReCharge One proposals	A Timms
23.11.22	Reply from Network Rail agreeing to meet to discuss lineside ecology	Jack Wharton
24.11.22	Dark skies and light pollution from Village Hall	Tim Mitford

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