

Minutes of the Burford Town Council meeting held in the Council Chamber on 8 June 2011 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr J White. Mayor. Cllr J Tunnell-Westmacott. Deputy Mayor
Cllr N Mills. Cllr A Walker. Cllr S Lofthouse. Cllr A Temple-Bruce. Cllr J Couchman.
OCC. John Yeatman Treasurer. Maggie Andrews Town Clerk.

1. MINUTES

An amendment was noted. Cllrs Lofthouse & Bush did not attend the May Council meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 April be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

2. MATTERS ARISING

Covered under agenda items.

3. OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Library. OCC are proposing to cut the hours of the librarian by two thirds, relying on voluntary help. A meeting will be held at the Tolsey with interested parties and Friends of Burford Library, on 20 June at 7.00pm to discuss the matter.

The Queens Jubilee 4 June 2012. The Mayor suggested that committees throughout the town representing different groups could meet together to discuss ideas. Cllr White to action.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Cotterill, Brown & Cohen.

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared a personal interest because they represent the Council as a Chairman of the following committees:-

Cllr Walker Planning

Cllr Tunnell-Westmacott Environmental & Cemetery

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer circulated the following:-

Details of the annual return year ending 31 March 2011 main account.

The Thomas Collier Charity report, receipt and payments year ending 31 March 2011,

The Tolsey Charity report, receipt and payments for year ending 31 March 2011.

The accounts had been available for electors from 15 May 2011.

Audit notes had been circulated, and the VAT claim for the second half of 2010/11 has been completed. It was noted there were three queries on claims. The Treasurer will address these.

Invoices for payment:

Mrs M Andrews	728. 20
Inland Revenue	178. 80
Petty cash	60. 00
Mr & Mrs Dadge	91. 00

Jesterical (children's party, Festival)	225. 00
BCW artwork for parking sign	43. 92
A K Timms	119. 51
McCracken & Son 1 st & 2 nd cut to town	1857.60
RICOH Uk photocopier rent and copies	152. 58
WODC elections 2010	89. 67
HITSS 2 day chain saw course, Lengthman	629. 70
LCR (Local Council magazine annual subs)	15. 50
WODC waste collection	139. 88
Hickman Bros	91. 60
Mr & Mrs Dadge reimbursement for cleaning Materials.	25. 06
WODC Bedroom browser advertisement	178. 80
CAB donation	50. 00

The above were passed for payment

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported that his first Mayoral function was to attend a dinner at Dorchester Abbey at the invitation of the Bishop of Dorchester.

8. W.O.D.C. REPORT

Work to the proposed new toilets & VIC centre will commence 13 June, the opening is scheduled for early August.

The planning application for Affordable Housing on the Rural Exception Site at Cole's field has been submitted and a site visit is planned for Uplands Planning Committee to visit on 30 June. The application will be heard on 4 July.

An application to prune TPO sycamores at Burford Mews and the Recreation Ground was rejected because the drawings shown on the screen indicated that severe pruning of major boughs had been requested. The matters have been referred back to officers for clarification.

9. O.C.C. REPORT.

Cllr Couchman reported that small sums of extra money had been forthcoming from Central Government, notably for Highways.

With regard to the Library, Cllr Couchman is trying to arrange for a senior representative to attend the meeting on 20 June, likely to be Councillor Judy Heathcoat, Cabinet member and John Jackson, Director for Social & Community Services.

He commented on the Repatriation of fallen servicemen being transferred from RAF Lyneham to RAF Brize Norton in September and the impact of the courtege route through Burford and NE Carterton, though not through Burford.

10. COUNCIL VACANCY

There is a vacancy on the Council and a volunteer is considering the position.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Mr G Elliot wrote concerning access and weight restrictions for lorries delivering oil to Orchard Close. Mr Elliot will be advised that the oil company would need to talk to Oxfordshire County Council Highways for clarification.
2. CAB request for donation. It was agreed to send £50.

3. Family Mediation request for donation. This matter will be deferred for more information.

4. David Neudegg WODC. The Council decided to request a meeting with Mr Neudegg. The Clerk to action.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning.

The following plans were discussed:-

W11/0729. 216 The Hill. Erection of a new two storey accommodation block.

Council objected on the grounds 1). this is not in keeping with the surroundings. 2) there is sufficient hotel accommodation in Burford already.

W11/0737. Cottsway Phase II. New development.

- 1) BTC accepts that there is a need for more affordable housing in Burford.
- 2) However, BTC objects to the proposals contained in the applications on the following grounds:-
 - a) Frethern Close cannot cope with the extra traffic which would be generated by 15/20 more dwellings. It can hardly cope at present there is much driving on pavements to avoid parked vehicles and delivery lorries are frequently blocked. An alternative means of access must be found.
 - b) The existing infrastructure particularly foul sewerage and primary schooling, cannot take any more. Foul sewerage is substantially over capacity already and Burford Primary School is full with demand increasing.
 - c) The mix of accommodation should be changed to reflect the actual need. One bedroom flats are of no use to families with children.

W11/0739. 53-59 High Street. Installation of awnings.No objection.

W11/0772. Land adjacent to Frethern Close. Cottsway development. Erection of fifteen dwellings with associated parking and access. See above comments on W11/0727.

W11/0762. 22 Windrush Close. Installation of wood burning stove and flue.

No objection.

W11/198 The Hill. Erection of two storey and single storey side and rear extensions, replacement of porch.No objection.

W11/0799. Westfarthing Cottage. 1 Lawrence lane. Internal alterations.No Objection.

Recreation Ground

Comments were received regarding the playground equipment which was felt in some cases not to be child friendly. The rubber swing seats leave black marks on children's clothes; the high rocker swing is too high for anyone under 16 to reach. Often broken bottles and cans are littered in the area and in comparison with other local play areas, it was poor. Cllr Brown will be asked to consider ways of improving the play area.

Cllr Brown reported that the rope ladder for the climbing frame has been ordered.

Permission has been granted from WODC to remove the diseased chestnut tree near the pavilion. A walnut tree will replace it.

A Gym on the Rec is scheduled for 15 June 5-7pm.

The Burford FC who requested a pitch in Burford have now found another pitch with facilities. Ducklington FC has been helpful during the difficult exchange of correspondence with Burford FC.

At the end of term senior school students left a great deal of litter on the Recreation ground. The matter will be pursued with Mrs Haig, headteacher.

Council agreed that Erica Henson, Youth worker can use the Recreation ground & pavilion for two open days June 26th and 17th July.

Broken cement round a drain cover near the toilets needs repairing. Action David Buckland.

Environment & Cemetery

Potholes are still causing problems. OCC are working their way through those reported.

It was noted that the grass verge by the laundry in Witney Street is being damaged by vehicles believed to belong to Premier Homes.

Cemetery. David Buckland is renewing the fillet at the base of the chapel.

Additional gravel is required for some graves.

A working party will be scheduled soon.

BEAP. Nothing to report.

Rural Housing Exception Scheme.

Mr & Mrs David Palmer attended the meeting at this point. Planning applications W11/0737, 0772 and 0773 were discussed.

After much discussion Council agreed that in principle affordable housing is needed but if the scheme is accepted, good access will be required.

Council will object on the grounds of access. A site inspection will be carried out on 30 June. Further comprehensive comments are under Planning above.

Traffic. The damaged post at the junction Swan Lane/The Hill will be replaced.

Cllr Councnam said that OCC are not giving way on the matter of skip licenses because they feel this will set a precedent.

The drain on the A40 is still causing problems. This will be reported again for immediate action from OCC.

Warwick Hall. After a recent presentation, Council agreed to the proposed development in principle but we will make our views known in writing. These include our concerns that the largest room may not be big enough, that the terrace be incorporated into the main build, some types of proposed materials questionable, proposed cedar roof not in keeping, and to extend the mezzanine all the way across the main hall.

Cllr Mills suggested the Falkland Hall could be used for Council office space. He has written formally to the Falkland Hall Trust.

Review of committee members. After discussion several Councillors agreed to stand on various committees. A new list for 2011 will be circulated to members and posted on the notice board under the Tolsey.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Food Waste disposal. Agrivert are holding an open day on 23 June 2011. Interested parties to contact direct Paul Mocroft, Communications Officer, Oxfordshire Waste Partnership. 01295 221961.

All Councillors were asked to help with setting up the children's and Mayor's events on 16 June. The Clerk will circulate details.

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Council website. A meeting will be held on 20 June to discuss updating the site.
Cllr Bush reported that OCC have been clearing all drains in Burford.
It was noted that a metal drain cover outside Budgens could not be raised for inspection.
Apparently a bad odour is coming from it. The Clerk to alert Thames Water.
A metal bollard has been knocked down in Lower High Street. The Clerk will report to this to OCC.
It was noted that the cycle way sign has been bent at the junction of Guildenford/Witney Street. This will be reported to Highways.
Cllr Brown is pursuing the matter of obtaining black sand bags that will not degrade.

15. CHARITY MATTERS

None.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

