

BURSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & General-Purpose Committee meeting of Tuesday 12th December 2023
held at the Centenary Hall, Smallfield

OPEN FORUM: No members of the public attended

Attendance: Chairman Bob Locke, Vice Chairman Ashleigh Bolton, Cllrs Andrew Gilbert, Debbie Hale, Eddie Lord, Linda Herwig and Nick Bush.

1. Apologies received from Cllr John Carney for reasons accepted by Committee.
2. Declarations of interest –None and no dispensations required.
3. The minutes of Tuesday 10th October 2023 were signed as a true record of the meeting. Mr Alan Jones was added to the list of apologies.
4. No Matters arising from the minutes.
5. See GatCom report from Mr Jones. Mr Jones highlighted his concerns that increasing capacity at Gatwick Airport would increase traffic movements on surrounding roads. That not only the major roads such as the M23 and M25 would see significant increase in traffic volume, but also the smaller networks in, around and through the Parish. The Airport has said they will improve road junctions in the immediate vicinity but wouldn't be extending this beyond the Hookwood roundabout. As the Airport is in Sussex, we do not gain any commercial benefit despite experiencing the negatives.
Mr Jones informed Committee that from 2024 GACT would begin using electronic grant form applications. The closing date for applications will be 31/3/2024.
6. Neighbourhood Plan update – Mr Bond is away and there is no update from the TDC officer reviewing our Plan.
7. Budget 2024/25 – The Clerk provided all with a draft budget. The Chairman requested Councillors review, ask questions and submit recommendations in advance of the meeting in January 2024 when the Precept will need to be set. Cllr Lord suggested that Council considers drafting a 'Vision' Plan, with a view to forward planning expenditure over a number of years to ensure the required funding is in place. All considered this to be a good idea.
8. Account Signatories – Cllr Locke informed Committee that the existing signatories now can add and delete names from the account mandate. Cllr Bolton is to be added to the online signatories and Council agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman should always be named on the Council bank accounts.

9 Snakky Vending – Committee agreed that as the machine is not covering its costs and the VAT cannot be reclaimed, the unit should return to Scoobie McIntosh. The Clerk will check if the coffee vending machine can also be cancelled.

10 – No urgent matters

Members of the Press and Public were then asked to leave the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Signed..... Dated.....

CONFIDENTIAL

11

[REDACTED]

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm. The next scheduled F & GP meeting is due to take place at 7pm on Tuesday 13th February 2024.

Signed..... Dated.....