

BURSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Properties & Projects Committee meeting of Tuesday 25th March 2025 held at the Centenary Hall, Smallfield

OPEN FORUM:

Attendance: Cllr Cat Dodman, Cllrs Bob Locke, Ashleigh Bolton, Alison Lewis, Debbie Hale, Donna Morris and Linda Herwig. Cllr Bush attended via Zoom

- 1 Apologies received from Cllrs Locke and Gilbert, for reasons accepted by Committee.
- 2 Declarations of interest – either personal or prejudicial on any agenda item: None
- 3 Dispensation: None required
- 4 The minutes of Tuesday 25th February were signed as a true record of the meeting
- 5 Matters arising from the minutes – The Clerk has contacted all who expressed an interest in adopting a planter and all, bar 1, have been taken. Cllr Lewis offered to adopt the firths one and this was agreed.
- 6 Men's Shed – Cllr Bush reported that he and Cllr Gilbert carried out a visit to the Groombridge Men's Shed. As this has opened relatively recently, 2022, it was very helpful. The Groombridge Shed is 9 x 5 metres but the advice from the group was that Burstow should go as large as possible to future-proof. They wish they had gone bigger. It cost £100,000 to set up their shed and they received financial support from the Big Lottery Community Fund and Wealden District Council.
- 7 VE Day update – Cllr Herwig reported the event is now 6-Sundays away. Cllr Morris has received the banners and these are now up. Cllr Hale and the Clerk have ordered 4000 raffle tickets and Cllr Devlin from Outwood Parish Council has created a site plan for the day. Cllr Herwig has agreed she will speak at the APM on Monday 14th April and she will be requesting tombola donations from residents. Cllr Devlin will provide netting to separate off the gym area. The event is scheduled to run from noon until 6pm on Sunday 4th May. The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Angela Schwarz about the crochet display and Angela will put the display up the week before the event. The meeting room will be used to display memorabilia people have loaned for the day. The room will have a volunteer in with the objects all day. The Clerk asked for the working party to let her know what electrical cables they will need for the day.
- 8 Social Media report – Cllr Bush requested this item be moved to the more general 'Councillor areas of Responsibility' going forward. He aims to post 3 x weekly and will begin promoting the Annual Parish Meeting this week.
- 9 The Committee discussed a request from a resident that the Parish Council support an application for a Traffic Regulation Order to restrict HGV vehicles from 'passing though' the centre of Smallfield. The Committee discussed the matter. Concern was raised about possible unintended consequences that would shift the problem to the smaller lanes in the Parish. Vehicles with business in the centre would not be restricted. The Committee felt that this was a decision that the full Council should decide upon and the Clerk was asked to list it for the next full council meeting.

- 10** Update from Councillor areas of responsibility
Cllr Bolton – Centenary Hall: All ok. The Clerk explained that she was still trying to find a way to disassemble the climbing frame at the front of the hall and she assured the Committee it would be gone before the VE Day event. Cllr Bolton has not yet visited the Keepers Corner nature garden
Cllr Locke –Not present
Cllr Gilbert & Cllr Hale – Playgrounds: Cllr Hale reported the trees have now been planted at the QE2 Field by Tandridge DC contractors. Apparently there is a 2-year contract in place whereby the contractor waters regularly and maintains/replaces as needed.
Cllr Herwig – Hall gardens – Cllr Herwig had her first gardening session last week and lots of bulbs are starting to make an appearance. Mrs Lodge also did some gardening in the Community Garden area. The Caretaker is helping but, self-acknowledged not a gardener, and needs clear instructions.
All Councillors – new equipment: - None
Cllr Dodman – Dowlands Field – All ok
Cllr Morris – School liaison: The Trust want to close the swimming pool as it will cost over 3100,000 to get it fit for use. A minimum of £50,000 is required just to make is barely function and so a decision has been taken to not open it this year.
Cllr Boltin – Keepers Corner nature area. She has not visited as yet but some clearing is required. A decision will be made regarding how extensive the clearing/cutting back will be and then costs obtained for the work.

- 11** Items of an urgent nature – None

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND; IF THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING
RENDERS IT NECESSARY THE COUNCIL MAY BY RESOLUTION ASK MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
AND PRESS TO WITHDRAW.

Signed Dated

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- 12** To Discuss and consider the Council’s current list of Assets of Community Value and decide if there are any structures that Council wishes to add or remove.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm. The next scheduled meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday April 2025.

Signed Dated