

BURSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Finance & General Purpose Committee** meeting of Tuesday 10th December 2019 held at the Centenary Hall, Smallfield

OPEN FORUM: Mr Warner address the Committee. He stated he had attended a Community Flood Group meeting and that it was well attended. Mr Pooley spoke to the group about ditch maintenance and capacity. Mr Warner stated that, in his opinion, the capacity of the ditch bordering Hathersham Close and the M23 has been significantly reduced, he believes the pipe to be around 450mm in diameter. He also can see no evidence that indicates they will be removing the pipe and reinstating the culvert. Mr Warner mentioned that the Community Flood Group would be holding a meeting with SCC Highways, Environment Agency and other bodies. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council had not been made aware of any meetings but that the Clerk would ask for Parish Council representation at meetings.

Attendance: Chairman Ian Wates, Cllrs Fern Warwick-Ching, Andrew Gilbert and Ray Holdsworth. Mr Alan Jones

- 1 **Apologies for absence:** None
- 2 **Declarations of interest – either personal or prejudicial on any agenda item:** None
- 3 **The minutes of Tuesday 8th October 2019 were signed as a true and accurate record.**
- 4 **Matters arising from the minutes:** The Clerk was quoted an initial fee of £125 for the first hour and £62.50 for each 30 minutes thereafter to have the drainage pipes in and around the Hall jet washed. Committee asked her to schedule the work
- 5 **Chairman's Announcements –** Cllr Wates reported the Christmas Fair was well received. Unfortunately, the date clashed with a fair at Horne and it has been suggested we communicate with the Church to try and avoid a clash in future years. The Clerk and Chairman attended the Local Plan hearing on several days and made representation to the Inspector. Serious concerns were expressed on multiple occasions questioning the robustness of the plan, particularly in relation to proposals for Smallfield. The Chairman reminded all about the Christmas Social on Thursday night.
- 6 **GatCom update -** see attached documents
In addition, Mr Jones mentioned that recently the Government stated even if Heathrow's third runway goes ahead, that other airports should make full use of existing structures. This opens the possibility of Gatwick using the emergency runway as a regular runway.
- 7 **Christmas Fair –** The Chairman thanked all those involved for their help at the Fair, in particular Cllr Gilbert for his splendid Father Christmas, Cllr Herwig as his helper and Cllrs Bolton and Hale not only for all the organisation but also for their hard work on the day. It was agreed to hold a Christmas fair 2020 meeting at some point in February to get a head start on planning.
- 8 **Victory in Europe event** Council agreed to hold a VE Day event. A working party comprising of Cllrs Wates, Gilbert, Herwig and Warwick-Ching would meet to plan what might take place.
- 9 **DBS Checks – At the request of Cllr Gilbert this item was withdrawn**
- 10 **Budget 2020/21 –** Committee requested that the budget be recirculated in advance of the Full Council meeting in January so that the current and proposed budgets were available to view on one document.
- 11 **Finance**
 - i) Payments ratified £
 - Payments authorised £
 - Direct debits £

Unanimously accepted by Committee, cheques to be signed at the end of the meeting by Cllrs

ii)Grant Applications – Committee unanimously awarded a grant of £500 to the Forget Me Not's in support of their Christmas social and meal

12 Items of an urgent nature brought to Committee's attention for inclusion on a future agenda
None

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm. The next scheduled meeting is at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14th January 2020.

Signed

Dated