

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting for Burstow Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th September 2021
Open Forum: Two members of the public attended, Mr Bob Warner and Mrs Cat Dodman

Mr Warner asked the Parish Council to have two parcels of land close to his home designated as not suitable for development. Mr Warner was advised that the parish council does not have the authority to do that.

Attendance: Cllrs Bolton, Hale, Gilbert and Herwig. Mr Alan Jones. Parish Clerk

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Cllr Bolton chaired the meeting

53 Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Wates, Locke, Lord, Warwick-Ching, Carney and Holdsworth, County Councillor Steeds and District Cllrs Bourne, White and Gillman

54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – All members are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter: any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at the meeting and/or other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at the meeting. Anyone with a DPI must, unless a dispensation has been granted, withdraw from the meeting during consideration of the relevant item of business. **NONE**

55 Dispensations (if required) None required

56 The minutes of the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 13th July were signed as a true record of the meeting.

57 No matters arising from the minutes

58 Chairman's Announcements – Cllr Bolton welcomed all to the meeting and hoped all had a nice summer recess.

Standing Orders suspended

59 Gatcom update from Mr Jones - attached

60 Update from Speed watch and Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Bolton reported the following statistics from the SpeedWatch group— Figures to date = Ticker 7804, vrn's 502, abuse 32, letters 357 with 22 sessions carried out. Entered an updated Ad in the Parish news advertising last years figures and trying to drum up more volunteers.

Cllr Hale reported on behalf of the 'Neighbourhood Watch. She mentioned the following: Motorbike with 3 youths in balaclavas caught on ring doorbell, but Police wouldn't come out.

There was a masked intruder on Canada estate luckily they were scared off by the old residents son who happened to be staying at the time.

Youths with flatbed van were hanging around Woodside crescent asking odd questions, they didn't seem to be all they were cracked up to be.

61 Letters received - **NONE**

62 The Planning minutes of 11 & 25 May, and 8 & 22 June were received by Council

- 63 Car Park update – The Clerk reported that there has been no real progress with reaching agreement on the lease. As part of the planning consent from Tandridge, an ecology survey needs to be completed before any construction can begin. There is a set timeframe within the year when the study must take place and it has to run for at least two weeks. The end date for commencing the study in this calendar year is has now passed and so no work can take place until next spring/summer. Planning consent expires in October 2022. The DfE has come back again with yet more requests asking for detailed drawings and full costing of the scheme before a lease can be signed. They are also requesting an Equality Impact Study to be carried out. Presumably to ensure there is no discrimination contained within the proposal. The Chairman and Clerk have made clear to the DfE, SCC and Burstow School that the council cannot commit to any more expenditure before there is a legally binding agreement in place, ensuring that a lease, acceptable to all parties, will be offered. Letters have been sent to the MP, County Councillor and district councillors explaining the situation and requesting assistance to try and move the project on. There would be no point in creating a lease, approved by the DfE, if MHCLG then refuse to accept it and do not allow the parish council to borrow the funds to build the car park. It has also been made very clear to all parties that if no significant progress is made, then the council will have no choice but to withdraw from the scheme. Legal costs have escalated due to the protracted discussions and demands of the DfE and SCC legal officers and the failure of SCC to appoint a project lead to work on behalf of Burstow School. Councillors agreed that the parish council cannot continue to spend public money on a project that is showing less and less sign of being successful.
- 64 Website – The Clerk reported that the website is ready to go live next week. A decision was taken to allow any future proof reading to be done by members of the public rather than continue to try and make everything perfect before the launch
- 65 Update on Centenary Hall – The new floor in the assembly hall is finished and the badminton court marked out. Hall users are very pleased to be back. Apple & Cor's use of the kitchen has been scaled back to Fri, Sat and Sundayss. They will also be trialling a Monday lunchtime opening for the month of September. There has been a significant increase in enquiries for 'one off' bookings. It's taking a little extra time to explain to hall users that they will not be able to access the kitchen as part of their hire and the alternative ways they can cater for their events. The Clerk will continue to monitor the bookings and should there be a reduction in hire because the kitchen is not available then she will report back to ~Council for further discussion.
- 66 Finance –
- I) Ratify hall flooring expenditure – Proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded by Cllr Bolton and carried unanimously
 - II) To receive Schedule of Payments to be ratified and authorised, list as laid before all Councillors – No banking will be carried out this week due to difficulties accessing accounts
 - III) Banking – Council and Nursery. The Council's current account has now moved to Unity Trust and their online banking system is very user friendly. Lloyds have cut off all online access to the other three council accounts which is causing significant cash flow problems. As a temporary measure, nursery expenditure is being paid from the Council account. This will all have to be stripped out of the accounts and re- allocated before the end of the financial year. Once access is fixed the Clerk will begin moving the other accounts from Lloyds
 - III) Budget report. Attached
- 67 Matters brought to Councils attention for inclusion on a future agenda
- None

Cllr Bolton thanked everyone for attending. The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday 9th November 2021 at 7.00pm

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