

BURNHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Burnham Without Parish Council was held in Watchfield Village Hall, Watchfield on Monday, 28th September 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

Present:- A. Gordon (Chairman), R. Bowring, S. Lester and Mrs M. Phillips with the Clerk, R. Young and District Councillor R.D. Filmer.

Apology for absence received from M. Dimascio and M. Johnson.

43. Disclosures of Interests

Members had no interests to disclose.

44. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th July 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

45. Planning Matters

The following planning applications were considered:-

12/15/00011 – Erection of agricultural building, White House Farm, Burnham Moor Lane, Edithmead – J. Witherall – recommend permission;

12/15/00012 – Erection of side extension and conversion of part of dwelling to form annexe accommodation, 142 Worston Road, Highbridge – J. Prideaux – confirm recommendation of permission;

12/15/00013 – Prior Approval for change of use from agricultural building to dwelling, north west of Wisteria Cottage, Mark Road, Watchfield – Mr & Mrs R. Squire – recommend permission;

There were no new planning decisions by the District Council. District Councillor Filmer reminded Members of forthcoming training sessions on planning matters and undertook to ascertain the situation regarding completion of the highway infrastructure at the Persimmon Homes site.

46. Vacancy of Parish Councillor (Brue Ward)

It was **AGREED** to defer consideration of the co-option of a person to fill the above vacancy until the next Meeting. Members **AGREED** to give consideration to identifying a suitable person in the meantime

47. Financial Matters

The following payments were authorised:-

100252 – Grant Thornton	audit fee	£120.00
DD – Sedgemoor District Council	dog waste bin emptying (6 months)	£167.23.

It was noted that the External Auditors had completed the audit for 2014/15 and had concluded on the basis of their review, in their opinion the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. The internal auditor also had no issues to raise with Members.

Mrs Phillips reported that the Watchfield Village Hall Management Committee were preparing a major refurbishment of the fabric of the Hall. The views of local residents were being sought and grant applications were being submitted to the District Council and Viridor Credits. The Parish Council were likely to be requested to assist by acting as Third Party Funder in respect of the Viridor grant application. It was **AGREED** to consider this matter at the next Meeting when further information would be known.

48. Highway Issues

It was noted that the County Council had confirmed a traffic order to introduce no waiting restrictions around the Worston Road junction but implementation was still awaited. It was **AGREED** to ascertain the reason for

the delay which was prolonging the highway safety issues at this location. Mrs Phillips reported that a problem along the Crooked Lane footpath had been rectified and she would also clarify an issue of barbed wire on a gate at Queens Drive. It was **AGREED** to continue to monitor a problem of litter along the A38, Edithmead and at Stoddens Lane. The Chairman reported that he was in contact with the County Council's Traffic Engineer regarding the possibility of the Parish Council taking over the administration of the Speed Indicator Devices. It was **AGREED** to contact landowners/County Highways regarding visibility issues caused by overgrown hedges in the Burnham Moor Lane area and to arrange for brambles over hanging the footpath along the A38 to be cut back. Members were also requested to inform the Clerk of any comments on proposals for the 2015 Carnival Temporary Road Closures by the deadline of 16th October.

49. Burnham & Highbridge Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman updated Members on the current position regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. Several of the NP related papers had already been circulated. He **AGREED** to continue to circulate minutes to all Members, when available, for information.

50. Meetings

Members had not attended any other Meetings since 28th July 2015.

51. Parish Web-site/ New Notice Board

Grant aid was now available through NALC towards the cost of the development of a parish web-site and associated costs. A quotation of £450 had been received from Intouchcrm of Weston-super-Mare for building a web-site which would be straightforward to populate and update. It was agreed to accept this quotation and to submit a grant application towards the costs involved. Councillors would be trained on how to add content and the proposed subject headings had been agreed at previous meetings.

The new notice board had been erected at Wallace Wells Road and Mrs Phillips undertook to arrange for a sign to be displayed to make it clear that it was a Burnham Without Parish Council notice board.

52. Watchfield Inn

The Chairman reported that the District Council had listed the Watchfield Inn and car park (but not the caravan site) as an asset of community value. He outlined the next steps which included a public meeting on 4th November in the Village Hall to explore options for the way forward.

53. Rosewood Green Playing Field

The Chairman **AGREED** to contact Teresa Harvey to explore the possibility of the Parish Council taking over the responsibility of maintaining this playing field from the District Council in return for a commuted sum.

54. Local Energy Use Audit/Survey

During a public session, Tessa Munt outlined her ideas and plans to carry out a local energy use audit/survey and expressed an interest in including households in Burnham Without Parish in the survey. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would support such survey being carried out and would help support and publicise the exercise. Tessa Munt undertook to share the questions and any analysis of the results with the Parish Council.

55. Date of Next Meeting

It was **AGREED** that the next scheduled Council meeting be held on Monday 23rd November 2015.

The Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

signed Chairman

