

**Minutes of the meeting of Burghill Parish Council held on 10th March 2010
7.30pm in the Simpson Hall**

Chair: Ian Watkins

Present: David Bishop, Pat Groves, Roger Davies, Dilys Price, Alister Walshe, Antoinette Powell, Rosemary Lloyd, Catherine Lloyd, Glen Davies, Alan Stokes, Mary Reynolds

In attendance: Ward Councillor Sally Robertson, Clerk Melanie Preedy, 7 parishioners

Before the start of the meeting I Watkins explained that a letter of resignation had been received from the Chairman, M Reynolds. Thanks were expressed for the time and effort given by M Reynolds to the Parish Council. Councillors voted to elect I Watkins as Chairman until the next meeting. The Declaration of Office form was duly signed.

1. To accept apologies for absence –Bernie Green, Sue Lunn, Mark Howells

2. To receive declarations of interest –none declared

3. To receive verbal reports from:

a) PC Epton/D Wall – absent

4. To receive presentation from Hayley Crane, Herefordshire Council re. forthcoming Housing Needs Survey. H Crane explained that Herefordshire Council are obliged to carry out Housing Needs Surveys every 3-4 years. Burghill had a survey conducted in November 2006 where a small housing need was identified. The survey is likely to go out in June/July and results may be ready in September. A possible site has been identified for the development of around 5-6 units, however the area is protected open space under the Unitary Development Plan. Other possible locations for the development of a small number of affordable housing units are welcomed. The number of units developed is contingent of the amount of housing need identified in the survey. An overview of what affordable housing is and the likely mix was given. It was felt that a consultation event before the Housing Needs Survey may give parishioners a better understanding of what affordable housing is. **Resolved:** the clerk to liaise with H Crane over possible dates for consultation event.

The following item was brought forward so any questions could be directed at H Crane

6. Public participation session – the following points were raised:

- The possibility of developing Lion Farm for affordable housing
- M Doughty has kindly offered to repair some of the notice boards for the Parish Council. Permission was given for him to remove two boards for repairs.

5. To receive verbal report from Ward Councillor Sally Robertson.

Councillor Robertson began her report by highlighting the current problem of over a dozen portcabins placed on agricultural land near St. Marys Park, which breaches planning permission. The portcabins are clearly visible from the A4110 and houses in St. Marys Park. Enforcement officers have been involved and a letter has been sent giving the land owner 14 days to remove the portcabins. A compliance visit is scheduled for this weekend and if they are still there, the next stage will be an enforcement notice. The portcabins belong to Herefordshire Council who are having them refurbished by a contractor for use in schools. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Head of Planning and Transportation and the Head of Asset Management and Property Services stating that this situation is unacceptable. **Resolved:** clerk to write letter.

The Copse - the transfer of the lease of the Copse playing field is progressing slowly. The Copse Leisure Trust have identified a patron, who will help with fundraising. A business plan is currently being developed for the new Pavilion at the Copse, now planning permission has been granted. Highways - several claims have been made on a dangerous pothole on Tillington Road, Councillor Robertson has been pushing to get it filled as soon as possible. Grit bins have been delivered by

Amey, though one at Tillington Common needs re-positioning. Speed of vehicles is currently being monitored at Portway to assess the successfulness of the 30mph. speed limit. Red 30mph speed limit markings on the road may be possible. It was requested that the effectiveness of the 50mph speed limit at lower Portway also be assessed. The fence at Burlton crossroads which was obscuring visibility has now been cut back. Councillor Robertson will soon be conducting a parish walk with Michelle Morgan, Amey Customer Services manager, to highlight all the outstanding highway defects. A meeting is trying to be arranged between Amey, Herefordshire Council, the Tillington pathway organisers and representatives from the Parish Council to discuss the future of the pathway. Place shaping consultation – Councillor Robertson carried out 5 successful consultations throughout the parish to seek the views of residents on the proposed plans.

Emergency Co-ordinator – unfortunately advice given to Councillor Robertson prohibits her from becoming the Emergency Co-ordinator for the parish.

Complaints – Councillor Robertson explained that she had received two complaints regarding the decision made by the Parish Council over the access lane on Tillington Common. Councillor Robertson has asked the complainants to write to the Parish Council.

7. Minutes

a) **Resolved:** minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2010 were approved and signed by the chairman with the following amendment ‘20 drivers were given advice on exceeding the speed limit’ on Minute No. 4/2010 p36.

b) **Resolved:** minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2009 were approved and re-signed by the chairman.

8. Planning

a) **Resolved:** planning sheet noted.

b) **Resolved:** working group 1 Antoinette Powell was appointed.

c) the chairman reminded councillors to return their place shaping questionnaires to the clerk to compile a summary response from the Parish Council.

9. Highways and Footpaths

a) the following defects were reported to the clerk:

- Potholes on Badnage lane
- Road breaking up outside the Bell Inn
- Potholes on Junction of Hermitage Lane, Bell Inn to Canon Pyon Rd
- Large pothole on Concertina Hill Tillington Road

b) **Resolved:** councillors decided to re-apply for the P3 grant to pay for works on the Public Rights of Way.

c) the Parish Council have been approved for the lengthsman scheme and a contractor can be appointed at the next meeting. **Resolved:** lengthsman working group of D Bishop, G Davies, C Lloyd and the clerk to discuss and recommend a contractor at the next meeting.

d) the possibility of introducing village gates or fence sections was discussed as a traffic calming measure, as suggested by a parishioner. Councillor Robertson explained that the next stage would be for the Parish Council to identify the exact location of where these sections were to be positioned for Highways to carry out a risk assessment. **Resolved:** the following four sites were identified; near the Portway signs on both sides of Portway, at the Tillington sign near Tillington Common and at the Golf Club before entering the village. The clerk to seek advice about the effectiveness of these sections on traffic speed, insurance cover and possible funding.

10. Commons

a) the report received from J Ross on the trees at Tillington Common was discussed by the Commons working group. **Resolved:** Commons working group recommend waiting to see the condition of the new leaves in the spring and what work is carried out by Eon.

b) **Resolved:** it was agreed to advertise the haycrop on Tillington Common in the local magazines.

c) Eon had contacted the clerk to ask for approval to fell one tree on Tillington Common and prune one other. **Resolved:** all required work approved.

11. Finance

a) the following invoices were approved:

Payee	Particulars	Amount
M. Preedy	Expenses, office rent Holiday pay	£319.77
Simpson Hall Management Committee	Hire of hall – November & January	£28.00
Herefordshire Council	Rent for the Copse	£5.00
M Howells	P3 scheme	£810.00

b) **Resolved:** receipts and payments sheet noted.

c) **Resolved:** year-end budget was noted.

12. Correspondence

a) **Resolved:** clerks update/correspondence sheet was noted. A letter from the Scrutiny Committee review regarding the impact of the winter weather on Herefordshire Council services was read out. It was agreed that it was beneficial that the grit bins were re-filled and Tillington Road was gritted, but it was felt that the bus route through Burghill village should be gritted as well as the route to Stretton Nursing home. It was also felt that the rubbish could have been collected on some days when there was no service.

13. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 12th May 2010 - Annual Parish meeting at 7.00pm, followed by the Annual meeting of the Parish Council

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date