

**Minutes of the meeting of Burghill Parish Council held on 11th November 2009
7.30pm in the Simpson Hall**

Chair: Ian Watkins

Present: David Bishop, Bernie Green, Pat Groves, Roger Davies, Sue Lunn, Dilys Price, Glen Davies, Alan Stokes, Alister Walshe

In attendance: Ward Councillor Sally Robertson, Clerk Melanie Preedy, 2 parishioners

1. To accept apologies for absence –Mary Reynolds, Antoinette Powell, Rosemary Lloyd, Catherine Lloyd, Mark Howells

2. To receive declarations of interest –none declared

3. To receive verbal reports from:

a) PC Epton/D Wall – a brief update provided by CSO Wall was read out in their absence. The following email address may be of use to the farming community; www.herefordshire-community-messaging.org

4. To receive verbal report from Ward Councillor Sally Robertson. The Burghill Youth Club presented their film to members of the public on the weekend and thanked the Parish Council for their support for the film making work shop. A further film making idea is now being considered. Thanks were also given to Ray Wilson, from Burghill CAP who has made progress on the Parish Council's website using his own time. Councillor Robertson has now received the lease for the Copse playing field and the Copse Leisure Trust will be signing it shortly. A Playbuilder funding bid is being compiled to apply for a playground at the Copse. There have been some complaints about the state of the land behind Pyefinch Farm, Councillor Robertson is pursuing the matter. Councillor Robertson explained that she had spoken to Highways regarding the idea raised to use fence/gate/welcome signs as a method of traffic calming, and while they have no set policy on their use they would look at any specific site identified. Councillor Robertson attended a meeting with Highways at Burlton crossroads regarding the section of fence along the roadside, an enforcement notice was issued but their were some legal issues involving deeds. Subsequently a car has knocked into the fence. There is soon to be a planning consultation regarding to new Local Development Framework which maps out the vision for the county for the next several years. Cllr. Robertson offered to invite a planning officer to come to the next meeting to talk this over. The Parish Council agreed and asked Councillor Robertson to arrange. Finally, Highways have visited the permissive pathway between the Bell Inn and the shop and unfortunately have some grave concerns over the access points onto the Highway. A public meeting is soon to be held where parishioners and officers from Herefordshire Council can discuss the pathway.

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

- Concern was expressed over the speed of vehicles going through Portway. Suggestions were made to improve the signage, possibly by using high visibility yellow backing, and using painted 30 mph signs on the road. Councillor Robertson had received some comments that speed and noise had been reduced through Portway. Councillors reported there had been several incidents of dangerous driving and recently a road traffic accident. The signs for the speed limit at lower Portway had also been moved reducing the 50mph limit. Councillor Robertson would investigate why the signs had been repositioned.

Resolved: Parish Council to write to Herefordshire Council requesting improved signage and road surface painting on the A4110 through Portway.

6. Minutes of the meeting held on September 9th 2009 - accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

7. Resolved: the budget was approved (see appendix a) and precept set at £10,970 for the year 2010/2011.

8. Planning

a) **Resolved:** the new arrangements for Herefordshire Council planning committee were noted.

b) Councillors considered whether applications should be discussed at meeting. The clerk advised that this was best practise but Councillors felt there was not enough time absorb information from plans during the meeting. **Resolved:** Parish Council to continue with current system. The Council will review this decision when changes are made by Herefordshire Council, for example if applications are received electronically.

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

d) **Resolved:** working group 2 Roger Davies was appointed.

9. Highways and Footpaths

a) no new defects were reported to the clerk, though there had been a problem with the previous defects getting lost during the Amey change over. Thanks were given to Councillor Robertson who has been instrumental in getting the gulleys emptied at Portway.

b) It was thought that having welcome signs/fence sections where the 30mph speed limit starts in Portway may help slow traffic and it was noted that it seems to be effective in other areas. **Resolved:** Councillor Robertson to pursue matter.

c) The hedge near Manorfields has already been cut back.

d) The Clerk explained that Steve Thompson was looking into whose responsibility it was to empty the bin at Portway, if it could be emptied more frequently then a further bin would not be needed. **Resolved:** report back at next meeting.

10. Commons

a) Councillors discussed the Horse Chestnut trees on Tillington Common and which company to undertake a professional tree survey. **Resolved:** Jerry Ross, consultant, to undertake work.

b) The email sent to Councillor Robertson regarding speeding on the access lane was discussed and it was felt that the Parish Council could not enforce any speed restrictions/signs on the access lane. **Resolved:** clerk to write to family explaining the views of the Parish Council. Access across the Common to Don's field was discussed and it was felt that the issue had gone on for too long and should be resolved once and for all. **Resolved:** clerk to write to the owners, allowing them vehicular access to the field for any purpose but request that they notify the Parish Council if a large event is to be held and request permission to park on the Common, as they have done previously.

c) **Resolved:** Mark Howells to have a look at the post on Tillington Common

11. Parish freighter.

Unfortunately the clerk had received a letter from Councillor Jarvis explaining that the cost of hiring a parish freighter had gone from £40 per visit to £300. **Resolved:** Parish Council not to hire freighter as cost was too excessive.

12. Finance

a) the following invoices were approved:

Payee	Particulars	Amount
M. Preedy	Expenses, office rent	£54.36
Richard Mills	To cut Tillington Common	£207.00
Mark Howells	P3 expenses	£255.00
Simpson Hall Management Committee	Donation	£50.00
Burghill CAP	Donation	£125.00 LGA 1972, s.137
1 st Burghill Scout Group	Donation	£75.00 LGA 1972, s.137
Burghill PCC	Donation – Parish Magazine and churchyard	£425.00
Paintpots	Donation	£75.00
The British Legion – Burghill branch	Poppy wreath	£18.75 LGA 1972, s.137
Herefordshire Council	Planning application for the Copse Pavilion	£670.00
Simpson Hall Management Committee	Hire of hall – July & September	£28.00

b) **Resolved:** Parish Council to purchase Charles Arnold Baker, Local Council Administration at £56.40c) **Resolved:** The National pay award was approved**13. Correspondence**a) **Resolved:** clerks update/correspondence sheet was noted**14. Date of next meeting** – Wednesday 13th January 2010*Meeting closed at 9.10pm*

Signed:

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Chairman.....
Date