

Burwash Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held on the 3rd November 2015, at 3.00pm in Burwash Common Pavilion

Chair – Cllr Cook, Vice-Chair – Cllr Vereker, Cllr Banks, Cllr Caulkin, Cllr Crabtree, Cllr Elmslie, Cllr Jenner, Cllr McBride, Cllr Moore, Cllr Nash, Cllr Pope and Cllr Rowlinson

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence, the reason for which had been lodged with the Clerk, were received from Cllr Durrant.

2. Disclosures of Interest

Example: Cllr Crabtree declared a personal interest in any item discussing the precept as she is Chairman of the Bonfire Society who organise the Burwash Bonfire Event.

3. Discussion of Strategic Plan Options items to consider for Plan

The following items were discussed and either resolved to include or exclude in the Strategic plan 2016/17 and 2017/18.

a. Traffic and Speedwatch

Councillors resolved to spend around £400 to do a traffic review by the Transport Monitoring Team and to include the expenditure for the Speed Watch gun after the successful run of the pilot. **RESOLVED to include.**

b. Community Warden

Councillors considered sharing the cost of a Community Warden and rejected the idea as the wardens would not be able to have any powers of enforcement around speeding or parking. **RESOLVED to exclude.**

c. Optimising use of Parish Hut

Councillors looked at a proposal to maximise the usage of the Parish Hut. A grant would be available for a feasibility study to the potential range of services/clubs etc. which could be provided. **RESOLVED to include.** Cllr Nash, Cllr Crabtree, Cllr Elmslie and Cllr Caulkin will be the working group to look at proposals to bring to full council.

d. Neighbourhood Plan

A proposal was put forward outlining that a Neighbourhood Plan would only cost £10,000. This is largely due to Councillors themselves doing the large part of writing the plan. £8,000 would be provided. **RESOLVED to only spend £2,000 over a two year period on a Neighbourhood Plan the rest to be covered by grants. This does not include initial consultation to public on whether they want a neighbourhood plan which will fall into 2015/16 budget.**

e. Links with the National Trust

After a meeting with the National Trust Councillors considered two items:

i. Brown Signs

To install new tourist signs on the A265 at the East and West entrances of the village.

ii. Kipling Trail

To develop a Kipling trail with links in the village with the erection of two new fingerposts and produce a 'Kipling Trail' map.

National Trust has agreed to match fund. **RESOLVED to spend up to £2,500 with rest being match funded by National Trust.**

f. Love Burwash

Councillors reflected on the success of Love Burwash day in October 2015. Building on this success the proposal was to continue with a Spring and Autumn Love Burwash clear up day to coincide with SLR meetings to raise concerns and issues with the Highways Team. Additional areas to review will be:

- i. Survey all pavements and drains
- ii. Review condition of properties

RESOLVED to continue and expand the Love Burwash programme.

g. Repair of War Memorial

Continue with the application which will incur no cost. Investigations into the cost of repairs are being sourced. It is predicted that no costs will incur in 2016/17 but £1,000 is set aside for 2017/18 to meet repair costs. **RESOLVED to continue working on the application to upgrade the war memorial to grade one and to make repairs likely to take place 2017/18 at a cost of around £1,000.**

h. New Dog Bins

Two include two new bins one at Shrub Lane and One at Burwash Weald and common. **RESOLVED to introduce two new bins as soon as possible.**

i. High Street Pavements

There is growing concern over the future of the High Street pavements. Councillors to look at the process and possibility to list the pavements. **RESOLVED to research into listing the pavements and obtain potential costing.**

j. Upgrade facilities in Burwash Car Park

Councillors agreed that this would be covered within the feasibility study outlined in point 3.c.

4. Discussion of Current Financial Position

- a. Current money in the bank in the bank is £58,285.75.
- b. Likely end of year position 31/03/15
 - i. Forecast spend £10,596.82,
 - ii. Unpaid cheques £11,096.25
 - iii. Earmarked funds for Internet Room grant £519.53
 - iv. Required underspend £5,269.58This would leave a total of £36,073.18
- c. Councillors were asked to adopt £20,444 for the general reserves and £5,000 earmarked reserves to cover by-election costs.
- d. When taking in account of all potential costs and reserves this will leave an additional £10,629.18.

5. Spending Plan 2016/17

- a. A proposed budget for 2016/17 showed an additional spend outside of precept of around £10,000. Councillors reviewed each line and £2,500 was identified in additional savings. Clerk to write up a new budget 2016/17 inputting councillors suggestions.
- b. It is noted that precept for 2015/16 would not need to increase at all due to the £10,629.18 in reserves to cover any additional spend 2016/17.
- c. Strategic plan and budget will be promoted to the community once a final version and budget has been agreed.