

Burwash Parish Council

Community and Communications Working Party

These are the draft minutes for the Community and Communications Working Party meeting
which took place on Tuesday 7th June 9.00

Present: Cllr Fiona Hosein, Cllr Keith Lloyd, Cllr Brian Newman (Chair), Cllr Dominie Stemp
Cllr Berry Wraight, Sylvie Franklin, Halina Keep

1. Apologies for Absence

none

2. Disclosures of Interest

None

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

Agreed at the May Full Council Meeting

4. Updates:

A: Queen's Jubilee Plans

What the Parish Council (PC) did well:

The proactive nature of the display at the PC tent was a success

The Bus Service between the Village and Common was well used and appreciated

The plantings beneath the Lime Trees, which was partly funded by the PC Village enhanced the Village, and appreciation to the Horticultural Society was expressed

What the PC has learnt from the event:

Ensure there is an element of fun at the PC stand, such as a Treasure Hunt

Support the Parish Clerk more in the work leading up to the Jubilee

Engage with other groups more fully and meet with them more regularly

Use the Bus Service as much for Swan Meadow events as Burwash Common and to have signage about the service at the Bus Stops.

Have a programme of Lime Tree Planting for special occasions and extend this to other areas in the Parish, such as the Triangle in Burwash Weald.

Produce a Burwash banner showing the whole Parish, which can be used at functions, in order to emphasise the unity of the parish.

Action: Keith to invite members of the BCWRA to consider being a part of a 'Brighter Burwash'

Action: A letter to be sent by Emma to the Horticultural Society in appreciation of its work

Resolution: Funding for special events to be included in the 5 year Management Plan

Resolution: Funding to produce a Burwash Parish Banner, possibly in the same style as the Burwash Map and Guide.

B: Parish Assembly

What we have learnt from the event:

Formalise the Q/A session, with a chair and a panel to answer questions. The chair (not necessarily the Council Chairman) should ensure that questions and comments from the audience are audible to all those attending, either by a roving microphone or by repeating the question aloud.

Ensure that those who have received grants in the previous year have provided a written

report, or have a presence at the Assembly.

5: How The Council Presents Itself

Keith led this part of the meeting. There had been 40 responses to the questionnaire of whom 97.5 % rated the Council's communications satisfactory or better

70% had signed up to the e-bulletin

55% rated the Council's digital communications as good or excellent and 27.5% satisfactory

64% preferred their information to be sent digitally

The top priorities for the PC came under the categories of

Planning

Comments related to issues of Housing, meeting local needs and protection environment (AONB), representing resident's views in planning applications

Environment

Comments related to AONB, litter control, improving links between communities, appearance of the village, allotments, community environment projects such as planting fruit trees

Traffic, Road Safety, Parking

Comments related to parking and car park use, road maintenance, cycle paths, traffic calming,

Toilets

Comments related to the opening up of the public toilets

Parish Council

Comments related to nature of public involvement in council meetings, promotion of the Village to visitors, community support for the lonely, view the parish as a whole and not centred on the village, limit precept to 3%, publicise access to the individual Councillors, watch costs such as paper for printing, improve the website and many responses were very appreciative of the work of the Parish Clerk.

Other

Comments related to facilities for young people, maintenance of Playing Field facilities, provision of a generator, in the event of an emergency.

The results will be forwarded to the relevant Working Parties for their responses. It was accepted that many, if not most, of the comments were already recognised by the PC and incorporated into their plans and actions.

In general, it was felt that a more regular 'Newsletter' would be a good way of communicating what the PC was doing and how it was responding to the needs and wishes of the community. The frequency, costs and means of delivery of this would need to be discussed.

Resolution: *The PC to agree funding a regular Newsletter delivered to all households. As a guide, the Post Office has in the past, charged £120 for the delivery and then there would then be printing costs. In response to one of the questionnaire responses, printing on recycled paper should be considered.*

Action: Keith to circulate to all Working Parties the responses relating to their field of activity.

AOB Support for Young People

As we have now no Councillor to take on the role of leading this work, we discussed exploring the possibility of hiring a Youth Worker to meet with the PC and discuss what we might do.

Action: Brian to look into what might be available to the PC for leading in this area.

School need for reading resources in Ukrainian/English

Fiona advised that the school had a need for reading material in Ukrainian/English

Action: Brian to look into what is available and liaise with the school over what is appropriate.

Resolution: The PC should consider funding this resource from money set aside for Ukrainian support.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th July