

## **Burwash Parish Council**

### **Community and Communications Working Party**

---

Draft Minutes for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm.

Attended by:

Cllrs: Scott Chambers, Natalie Crabtree, Sylvie Franklin, Peter Hills, Keith Lloyd, Brian Newman (chair)

---

- 1 Apologies for Absence  
Halina Keep.
- 2 Minutes from the previous meeting  
Accepted at previous full council meeting.
- 3 Review of Parish Communications

#### **Burwash Parish website ([burwashparish.org](http://burwashparish.org))**

The website presents the community as friendly and welcoming. Parish Council Business is up to date with meetings, agendas, minutes and supporting documents easily available.

Keith offered to review other pages on the site, to see if there were any that needed updating and others were invited to check pages themselves and feed back to Keith. It was noted for example that the calendar, whilst up to date with Council business, does not have any community entries, and some of the other pages haven't been updated for some time. We need to discuss what is important on the site and what can be left out, given the other outlets for news and publicity.

Peter will chat to Emma about the site and how it might be developed.

It was felt that the website may not be widely used, and Scott agreed to report back on statistics relating to usage.

#### **e-bulletin**

This was considered to be an essential part of the Council's communications and it was noted that there were 617 subscribers (618 after we started discussing this!). The number of adverts was raised, but it was agreed that because these are all located at the end of the bulletin, they did not interrupt the flow of information, and were a way of supporting local businesses. It was agreed that greater focus should be placed on the e-bulletin, and alternative methods of accessing be explored. Peter will follow this up.

#### **Parish Matters**

This is a useful document. Natalie offered to help when Brian was unable to meet the deadline for the publishers.

#### **New residents' introductory letter**

Two councillors advised that they had not received letters. Brian will look into this.

#### **Burwash Business Directory**

This is currently being updated and should be ready for distribution in February/March. It was considered to be an important document.

Decision needed: Funding needs to be set aside for an update every three years, and this needs to be identified in the budget.

#### **Burwash Community Groups Directory**

This was produced last year and is mainly sent out to new residents. It was agreed that ultimately, it is for each group to publicise their meetings and recruit new members.

### **Community Noticeboards**

Scott's work on getting the new notice board in place was appreciated. There was a discussion about having further notice boards in key sites in the parish. There was concern in case they were vandalised, but Councillors could keep an eye on them. Possible locations included the Parish Church, the bus shelter opposite the Wheel Pub, the corner of Shrub Lane and Hornbeam.

Decision needed: To allocate funding in future years for additional community noticeboards, maybe using CIL money.

### **6 monthly Newsletter**

There was some discussion about the frequency of the Newsletter. If it is used to advertise the Annual Parish Meeting, it needed to be distributed at the beginning of May, (if the meeting is on same date as last year). This would require a deadline for publication of 15<sup>th</sup> April. There would need to be some suggestions as to that the Newsletter should contain.

Decision needed: When should the next Newsletter be distributed?

It was accepted that the questionnaire in the autumn edition was not a success and much more work would be needed when the parishioners were next invited to offer their views on Council projects.

### **Community Facebook Page**

The means of accessing the page on behalf of the Parish was discussed. Peter agreed to look into this to see if there were better options.

The Parish Council Facebook Page was also discussed to see if it was being used. The figures showed that it did have a following.

## **4 Kipling Festival:**

It was suggested that we hold a festival over a fortnight, to include the end of the school term possibly July 22<sup>nd</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The National Trust (Batemans) and the Kipling Society to be approached so that we can work collaboratively with them.

The following activities were suggested:

Geo cache hunt, related to Jungle Book characters (we would need someone with experience to help set this up)

*what about a quotation treasure hunt around the village for both adults and children. There are lots of ways this could be done, but I was thinking of a geocache approach. Potentially this is something which could become a permanent feature for visitors to the village to enjoy. (DKW)*

Competition for painting of a Jungle Book character

Kipling Trail from the Bear to Batemans with a number of points along the route for various activities

An evening of readings from Kipling books and poetry - perhaps SADS could help with this?

Also, I think there are a few people in the village who have written records of life when the Kiplings lived here, including stories of meeting them, working for them etc. I can't think at the moment who those people are, but can find out. My thought was whether there is enough material to make a display somewhere. (DKW)

Film events, including My Son Jack and Jungle Book, possible outdoors at pavilion. Peter has access to a projector and a screen. We would need to look at licensing issues.

**Decisions Needed:**

Agree dates July 22<sup>nd</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Letters to National Trust and Kipling Society outlining our initial thoughts and inviting them to work with us jointly.

Approach the school to see if they can become involved.

Invite others to join a 'Kipling Day' organising team.

**5 D Day 80:**

6<sup>th</sup> June marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary the D Day landings. [www.dday80beacons.co.uk](http://www.dday80beacons.co.uk)

This would be discussed more fully at the next meeting. This may need to be discussed with the BPFA (*not sure why this was brought up!!!!*)

**Date of next meeting:**

29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (tbc)