

**MINUTES of the COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING of BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held via a remote meeting platform on
MONDAY 15th February 2021 at 7:30pm**



Present: Councillor Chris Turner (Chairman)
Councillor Duncan Ault (Vice Chairman)
Councillor Vicky Evans
Councillor Bob Felstead
Councillor Jan Lepley (Ex-Officio)
Terry O'Connor, Burley House Field (Co-opted member)
Peter Riley, Burley Wildlife Group (Co-opted member)
David Asher, Walkers are Welcome (Co-opted member)

Clerk: Clare Smith

CE106/2021 Item 1 – Chairman's Remarks

Councillor Turner welcomed those present to the meeting.

CE0107/2021 Item 2 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Debbie Cox and Pete Burnell, Allotments Representative (Co-opted member).

CE108/2021 Item 3 – To receive any disclosures of interest

None

CE109/2021 Item 4 – To consider written requests for a dispensation on any matter to be discussed.

None requested.

CE110/2021 Item 5 – Public Participation

Nothing to report under this item.

CE111/2021 Item 6 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Councillor Duncan Ault

Seconded by Councillor Vicky Evans

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

CE112/2021 Item 7 – Matters Arising from Minutes

Nothing to report.

CE113/2021 Item 8 – Burley House Field

Terry O'Connor reported the Working Group had taken the decision to suspend activity due to the current Covid-19 national lockdown. The orchard now needed pruning and this will be done before the spring. The bench in the container needs to be re-sited and the picnic table relocated. The Council's contractor will assist with this.

CE114/2021 Item 9 – Burley Village Wildlife Group

Peter Riley reported the Working Group had taken the decision to suspend activity due to the current Covid-19 national lockdown. The Wildlife Group has offered to pay a 50% contribution towards the cost of a new bench for the nature reserve with the outstanding balance of the costs being met by the Community Trust.

Incommunities have visited the land at Manse Crescent and carried out the grass cutting. They are unable to take away the cuttings.

CE115/2021 Item 10 – Walkers are Welcome

David Asher reported that Walkers are Welcome have been in touch with the owners of Greenholme Mills regarding the woodland to the west of the site and the possibility of improving the footpaths to improve accessibility. Discussions were ongoing and also included the Anglers Association who were the owners of the eastern section of woodland.

CE116/2021 Item 11 – Allotments

The Clerk reported that rent payments were continuing to be paid. The Clerk has also contacted the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations for advice regarding the very poor state of some of the privately owned allotments on the East End Allotments site. The YLCA advice stated that the council has no power to or right to take any action with regards to non-cultivation of allotment plots on the site in question. In addition to the above, as these are privately owned allotment sites, administration and management thereof is not governed by legislation (i.e. Allotments and Small Holdings Act 1908 or Allotments Act 1922 and 1950) as a statutory allotment (as Principal Authority or Local Council run site would be).

The council could however:

- Press the Allotment Association to adhere to its constitution/governing document, specifically clause 13
- Offer to buy the allotment site from the Association/freeholders to enable Burley in Wharfedale Parish Council to expand its allotment provision and provide security for those who were keen to prevent development on the site.
- Depending on how unsightly the land is, report issues to Environmental Health Department at Bradford Council

The East End Allotments Society constitution clause 13 states that plots should be kept in good order. It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee will invite a representative of the East End Allotment society to a future meeting to discuss how improvements could be made.

CE117/2021 Item 12 – Tree Management & Tree Planting

The Clerk reported that a resident has been in touch to offer a 50% contribution (£250) to the cost of reducing some Leylandii trees which are on the embankment but border the resident's rear garden. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would offer to contribute £200 to the overall cost of the work. It was also agreed that this resolution does not set a precedent for any other tree work and that each request would be dealt with on an individual basis by this Committee and any work carried out would need to be budgeted for in due course.

CE118/2021 Item 13 – Wildflower Planting

It was agreed that the Tree Planting working group would take this project on and would begin to look at potential planting sites.

CE119/2021 Item 14 – Grange Park

The zip wire was partially complete and further drainage work as underway. The new play equipment was installed and was almost ready to open.

CE120/2021 Item 15 – Recreation Ground

A proposal to plant trees along the boundary of the Recreation Ground in between Iron Row and York Road with the potential to create a footpath at a later date was put on hold. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground needed to be looked at as a larger project involving the Trojans FC and Bradford Council. This matter would be taken forward by Full Council.

CE121/2021 Item 16 – Village Green & Victoria Park

The Village Green working party had taken place recently and continues to carry out some very valuable work. The Committee would like to invite Sylvia Tilford, who currently leads the working party, to the next meeting for an update on the work that is required at the Village Green and also to ensure that the working party is supported appropriately by the Committee.

CE105/2021 Item 17 – Date of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will take place on Monday 22nd March at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 8:40pm

Signed (Chairman): _____ Date: _____