

MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT, MAINTENANCE AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING of BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Queens Hall on Monday 4th July 2022 at 7:30pm



Present: Councillor Chris Turner (Chairman)
Councillor Bob Felstead
Councillor Jan Lepley
Sylvia Tilford, Village Green Working Party (Co-opted member)
Peter Riley, Burley Wildlife Group (Co-opted member)

Clerk: Clare Smith

EM021/2223 Item 1 – Chair’s Welcome

Councillor Chris Turner welcomed those present to the meeting.

EM022/2223 Item 2 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Councillor Duncan Ault, Councillor Katherine Howard, Councillor Steve Goodwill, David Asher, Pete Burnell and Terry O’Connor.

EM023/2223 Item 3 – To receive any disclosures of interest

None.

EM024/2223 Item 4 – To consider written requests for a dispensation on any matter to be discussed.

None requested.

EM025/2223 Item 5 – Public Participation

No members of the public present.

EM026/2223 Item 6 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Councillor Bob Felstead

Seconded by Councillor Jan Lepley

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th May 2022 be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

EM027/2223 Item 7 – Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

EM028/2223 Item 8 – Parks, Open Spaces and Allotments Budget

The Clerk reported that this will now be a substantive agenda item each meeting to allow the Committee to receive an overview of the budget and to be more involved in the budget setting process going forward. Unfortunately, due to a technical problem with the Clerk’s laptop, the budget information was currently unavailable and shall be circulated by email at a later date.

EM029/2223 Item 9 – Walkers are Welcome (WaW)

David Asher sent the following report to the Clerk in his absence:

Walkers are Welcome coordinated a joint Himalayan balsam pulling working party with Wharfedale Wombles on Saturday 18 June. Fourteen volunteers attended and pulled a large area of balsam (with landowner consent) adjoining the new Peak and Northern FPS funded bridge between Burley and Menston. Thanks to Peter Riley for briefing the volunteers. WaW have a follow up working party planned with Wharfedale Wombles on Saturday 9 July, when they plan to complete clearance of the first site and hopefully start on the large area of balsam

adjoining the Wharfedale Greenway near to Heather Rise (the triangular patch of woodland between the old and the existing railway line).

A working party has been organised for Friday 5 August to clear bramble and undergrowth from the riverside footpath between Greenholme Mills and the water meadow adjacent to the by-pass. This will be the third year this has been done. They also have a working party on Friday 12 August for the annual bracken and undergrowth clearance from the footpath network between Dog Kennel Farm on Stead Lane and Moor Road. They will also clear back vegetation from the Moor Road footpath near to Robin Hole. Trained volunteers will be borrowing BMDC strimmers as usual.

WaW will be contributing 13 walks this year to the Burley Summer Festival. Unfortunately, our popular gardens walk from last year had to be withdrawn late in the day following the withdrawal of one of the gardens which made the walk unviable. However, after talking to some of the gardeners potentially involved, they are considering holding a one-off whole day event in May 2023 with tours of a number of gardens and allotments around the village, hopefully to include the community gardens in Grange Park and the Village Green. This was felt to be a more appropriate time of the year in any case.

EM030/2223 Item 10 – Burley House Field

It has been noticed that some properties that back on to Burley House Field have been spraying weedkiller. A leaflet will be delivered to all properties that have a rear boundary with Burley House Field to politely remind them not to spray.

EM031/2223 Item 11 – Burley Village Wildlife Group

No working party meetings take place over the summer months apart from path clearance and strimming work.

Peter Riley reported that the first cut on the bypass will take place during the first week of August.

EM032/2223 Item 12 – Litter Management

A representative from Wharfedale Wombles (litter picking group) has contacted the Clerk to ask for support with some problem areas. One of these areas is outside the Queens Head public house where cigarette ends are often left. Cigarette ends are particularly difficult to pick up and create a time-consuming job for the volunteers. There is currently no cigarette bin or ashtray at the Queens Head and the Committee **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should contact the Queens Head to request that they provide an ashtray. The Clerk will also provide the Wharfedale Wombles with contact at Bradford Street Cleansing Department.

EM033/2223 Item 13 – Allotments

The Clerk reported that several allotment tenants will now be given a Final Warning following no improvement since a First Written Warning was issued.

A complaint has been received by one tenant regarding the First Written Warning. The tenant does not believe that his plot is not being cultivated and has provided a detailed explanation of the work that he has carried out. The Committee agreed to monitor the plot for progress but **REOLVED** to keep the written warning on file.

EM034/2223 Item 14 – Recreation Ground, Village Green and other Open Spaces

Now that the new compost bins are in place, the old compost bins need to be removed. It was agreed that we should offer them to the allotment tenants. No other matters to report.

The Clerk has received a request for a memorial tree to be planted on the Village Green. Unfortunately, it was **RESOLVED** that this request cannot be approved as it is the Council's policy to not accept any more memorial trees or benches in its Parks and Open Spaces.

EM035/2223 Item 15 – Grange Park and Playground Equipment

It was reported that the trampoline had been badly vandalised. The matter has been reported to the police and an insurance claim had been lodged to pay for the damage.

The Committee noted how wonderful the park flower beds were looking and asked the Clerk to contact the Gardeners to thank them for their hard work.

EM036/2223 Item 16 – Footpaths

Nothing to report.

EM037/2223 Item 17 – Tree Management & Tree Planting

The tree work in Grange Park has started. There are several trees which are overhanging the play area in Grange Park which belong to Salem Church and require pruning. Salem have agreed to carry out this work.

EM038/2223 Item 18 – Date of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will take place on Monday 19th September at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm

Signed (Chairman): _____ Date: _____