

**MINUTES of the ENVIRONMENT, MAINTENANCE  
AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING of  
BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL held at the Queens Hall  
on Monday 5th June 2023 at 7:30pm**



**Present:**

Councillor Duncan Ault  
Councillor Vicky Evans  
Councillor Steve Goodwill  
Councillor Jan Lepley  
Peter Burnell (Co-opted Member)  
Peter Riley (Co-opted Member)  
Sylvia Tilford (Co-opted Member)

**Also present:**

6 Members of the Public

**EM001/2324**

**Item 1 – Chairman 2023/2024**

Proposed by Councillor Vicky Evans  
Seconded by Councillor Duncan Ault

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Jan Lepley be elected as the Chair of the Environment, Maintenance and Allotments Committee for 2023/2024.

**EM002/2324**

**Item 2 – Vice Chairman 2023/2024**

Proposed by Councillor Jan Lepley  
Seconded by Councillor Vicky Evans

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Duncan Ault be elected as the Vice Chairman of the Environment, Maintenance and Allotments Committee for 2023/2024.

**EM003/2324**

**Item 3 – Co-opted Members 2023/2024**

**RESOLVED** that the following be elected to serve as non-Councillor co-opted members of the Environment, Maintenance and Allotments Committee:

David Asher (Walkers are Welcome)  
Peter Burnell (Allotments Representative)  
Sylvia Tilford (Village Green Working Party & Burley House Field)  
Terry O'Connor (Burley House Field)  
Peter Riley (Burley Village Wildlife Group)

**EM004/2324**

**Item 4 - Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Terry O'Connor.

**EM005/2324**

**Item 5 – To receive any disclosures of interest**

None.

**EM006/2324**

**Item 6 – To consider written requests for a dispensation on any matter to be discussed.**

None requested.

**EM007/2324**

**Item 7 – Public Participation**

A member of the public spoke of their concerns over the use of herbicide at various locations around the village.

A member of the public requested that the Council consider the installation of a Pétanque pitch in Grange Park. It was suggested that they email the Clerk with a formal proposal and that this will be taken to the next Council meeting.

**EM008/2324**

**Item 8 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Councillor Steve Goodwill

Seconded by Councillor Jan Lepley

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**EM009/2324**

**Item 9 – Matters Arising from Minutes**

David Asher raised his concerns over the Committee's decision to turn the Christmas Lights off early in Grange Park as many people walking in the winter find that the additional lighting makes the area feel much safer. It was agreed that this would be looked at again at the October Committee meeting.

It was noted that a temporary diversion of the public right of way at Hag Farm had been put in place but no formal application for this diversion had been made to the Rights of Way Department.

**EM010/2324**

**Item 10 – Walkers are Welcome (WaW)**

Walkers are Welcome reported that a Working Party is planned for a fortnight's time and that will focus on handrails in Eastfield Lane and the replacement of the gate with a self-closing gate. Balsam pulling will also take place in June in Stead and along the riverside path if required. Walkers are Welcome are also in the process of producing an Accessible Walks Guide in partnership with Open Country.

**EM011/2324**

**Item 11 – Burley House Field**

Terry O'Connor provided the following report by email (as he was absent from the meeting):

Working Parties have concentrated on the 'summer jobs' of keeping paths and ha-ha free from rampant vegetation and clearing Himalayan Balsam from the beck. There has been little sign of balsam so far, though June's WP may find a lot more has germinated. Otherwise, the Field seems to be in good order, with a good show of blossom in the orchard. The 'hay' areas were growing very well up to late May. It remains to be seen what effect the prolonged cool drought will have.

Two incidents of vandalism need attention. Immediately behind one of the Sandholme Drive houses that back onto BHF, an area of ground has been sprayed with weedkiller, presumably to kill off the nettles and other rough vegetation that grow along that edge. Although the damage is limited in extent, this is an obvious breach of the policy regarding weedkillers, and a 'reminder' sent to houses along that adjoining part of Sandholme Drive may be appropriate. **RESOLVED** that a letter be sent to all houses whose rear gardens adjoin the field to request that weedkiller not be used on Parish Council land.

The other incident is more serious. As reported by Loraine Hughes, at some point during w/b 29th May, somebody took bolt-cutters to the chain that keeps the picnic table by the Langford Lane gate in place and moved the table further into BHF. This was obviously pre-meditated.

**RESOLVED** that the contractor be asked to replace the table in its original position and that the graffiti be removed from the bench. The Clerk also reported

that the container will be painted with anti-climb paint.

**EM012/2324**

**Item 12 – Burley Village Wildlife Group**

Peter Riley reported that Bradford Council has confirmed that the bypass will be cut on 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> August which is disappointing as it needs to be cut slightly earlier than this. Peter will get back in touch with them to request it be brought forward but he is not hopeful that this will be possible.

**EM013/2324**

**Item 13 – Allotments**

Peter Burnell circulated information about the new 'Share your Spare' scheme which allows people to share their excess produce free of charge.

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Evans and Peter Burnell work together to establish how this scheme can be implemented.

**EM014/2324**

**Item 14 – Parks and Open Spaces**

**14.1 Budget Report & Grange Park Gardeners Request**

The budget for 2023/24 was circulated.

**RESOLVED** to increase the Gardener's contribution to £2400 each.

**14.2 Recreation Ground**

Dog fouling was still an issue and new signs are required. The Clerk will look into this.

**14.3 Village Green**

Sylvia Tilford reported that the May working party coincided with the bank holiday weekend which seemed to impact attendance.

**RESOLVED** that a short article be put in the next newsletter to remind people that compost bins are for village green use only and that compost bins can be sourced from Bradford Council if they require their own. New volunteers are also required and this would also be included in the newsletter along with a social media post. DofE students would also be welcome to volunteer. The Clerk will inform the DofE Manager.

**14.4 Grange Park**

The Green Flag Award judges attended on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and a decision will be received by July.

**14.5 Other Green Spaces**

**RESOLVED** that a plan of all green spaces be produced with 'no mow' areas clearly marked. This can then be given to the contractor each year.

**EM015/2324**

**Item 15 – Weedkiller**

The Clerk reported that several members of the public had complained about the use of herbicide at various locations around the village.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will contact Bradford Council to request that this is not carried out again.

**EM016/2324**

**Item 16 – Riverside**

Nothing to report at present.

**EM017/2324**

**Item 17 – Footpaths**

Cllr Ault reported that the Anglers' wall had still not been repaired despite contact

from Building Control requesting that action be taken. The Clerk will chase this u  
with Building Control and Rights of Way.

**EM018/2324**

**Item 18 – Tree Management and Planting**

A tree has been removed in Grange Park. The Clerk confirmed that this was  
within the ownership of Salem Church. The church will be contacted to establish  
if they have any plans to replace the tree.

A tree has been removed on Southfield Road. The Clerk will ty to find out more  
information about the reasons for the removal of the tree.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm at The Queens Hall**

Signed (Chairman): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 17/07/2023