

**MINUTES of the COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING of BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Queens Hall on Monday 14th February 2022 at
7:30pm**



Present: Councillor Chris Turner (Chairman)
Councillor Bob Felstead
Councillor Steve Goodwill
Councillor Katherine Howard
Councillor Jan Lepley
David Asher, Walkers are Welcome (Co-opted member)
Pete Burnell, Allotments Rep (Co-opted member)
Terry O'Connor, Burley House Field (Co-opted member)
Peter Riley, Burley Wildlife Group (Co-opted member)
Sylvia Tilford, Village Green Working Party (Co-opted member)

Clerk: Clare Smith

CE091/2122 Item 1 – Chairman's Welcome
Cllr Chris Turner welcomed those present to the meeting.

CE092/2122 Item 2 – Apologies for Absence
Apologies received from Councillor Duncan Ault.

CE093/2122 Item 3 – To receive any disclosures of interest
None.

CE094/2122 Item 4 – To consider written requests for a dispensation on any matter to be discussed.
None requested.

CE095/2122 Item 5 – Public Participation
No members of the public present.

CE096/2122 Item 6 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Proposed by Councillor Jan Lepley
Seconded by Councillor Katherine Howard
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th November 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

The Committee also accepted the notes of the Informal Advisory meeting held remotely due to the prevalence of the Omicron variant on 17th January 2022. The Clerk's actions under delegated authority were also noted.

CE097/2122 Item 7 – Matters Arising from Minutes
Nothing to report.

CE098/2122 Item 8 – Committee Terms of Reference 2022/23
Cllr Lepley made a proposal that the remit of the Committee be reviewed and that the 'Community' element of the Committee's work be absorbed by Full Council leaving this Committee with more time to focus on Environmental matters. The Committee was originally called the Environment, Maintenance and Allotments (EMA) Committee and it was suggested that this should be reinstated.

RECOMMENDED that the Council review the Terms of Reference for the Community & Environment Committee and adopt new Terms of Reference (to be drafted by the Clerk). The Committee is to be renamed Environment, Maintenance and Allotments Committee.

CE099/2122 Item 9 – Walkers are Welcome (WaW)

David Asher reported that a new 'Mini Walks' project had started and participants could be referred through the Social Prescriber at the GP's practice. The project aims to provide one-to-one support to access walking locally.

A proposal has been made to divert the footpath at Hag Farm. This has been discussed at Full Council on Thursday 9th February. The owners are going to come up with some alternative proposals as the original suggestion is not appropriate. Once the owners have done this, a meeting will be arranged between interested parties.

Walkers are Welcome have two working parties planned with Open Country. Open Country is a Yorkshire-based charity enabling people with disabilities to access and enjoy the countryside. Work will be carried out to improve the surface of footpaths at Hag Farm and Eastfield Lane.

The Burley Bridge Association is launching the Yorkshire Heritage Way (a 40-mile walking route between Bradford Cathedral and Ripon Cathedral passing through Burley) on Friday 29th April at Bradford Cathedral. This will include the publication of a 60 page route guide and the start of a 4 day walk of the route. This will culminate on Monday 2 May and form part of the 1350th anniversary of the founding of Ripon Cathedral.

CE100/2122 Item 10 – Burley House Field

The January working party tackled two tasks: clearing encroaching vegetation from the beck side path to make the hardcore surface more easily usable, and winter pruning of apples and pears in the community orchard. It had been intended to re-lay the hardcore on the particularly troublesome stretch of path at the Prospect Road end of Burley House Field. However, this party was postponed due to the forecast of prolonged rain, which would have made laying hardcore onto saturated soil particularly difficult and ineffective. Instead, some of the worst muddy puddles in the path from the Langford Lane gate to the bridge have been patched. Several passers-by expressed their thanks.

CE101/2122 Item 11 – Burley Village Wildlife Group

Peter Riley reported that he had had a telephone conversation with a contractor working on behalf of David Wilson Homes regarding wildflower seeds. The contractor also agreed that the route of the Greenway should follow the southern boundary of the David Wilson Homes site as currently proposed.

CE102/2122 Item 12 – Allotments

The clerk reported that discussions were ongoing with David Wilson homes regarding a new allotment site on their housing development.

Two gates had been ordered to replace the gates which were damaged in the recent bad weather.

Tenancy Agreements and invoices had now been sent out.

CE103/2122 Item 13 – Recreation Ground, Village Green and other Open Spaces

Recreation Ground – The Clerk reported that Burley Trojans had now submitted a planning application to build changing facilities. This would be considered by the Planning Committee in due course.

Village Green – Sylvia Tilford reported that a large tree branch had fallen and unfortunately damaged her car at the last working party. Bradford MDC have stated that they are not able to assist with an insurance claim. Cllr Felstead will look into this.

The wall near to Hopps Barn is in need of repair. It was thought that a nearby resident had agreed to repair this wall some time ago. This will be checked and if the resident is no longer going to make the repair a quote will be sought for the work.

CE104/2122 Item 14 – Grange Park and Playground Equipment

The item regarding the Green Flag award was deferred.

CE105/2122 Item 15 – Footpaths

Cllr Felstead reported that he had spoken with the Rights of Way officer at Bradford MDC regarding the request to install 'No Cycling' signs at the Holme Grove footpath. The Rights of Way Officer was not willing to progress this request because these signs are generally ineffective.

CE106/2122 Item 16 – Tree Management & Tree Planting

The Clerk reported that David Wilson Homes had notified the Parish Council that various activities will be taking place on the Sun Lane site over the coming weeks and months. These works comprise of further survey work, plus tree removal works which are in line with the outline planning permission. The reason for doing this now is to carry out works prior to the 2022 bird nesting season. Any pruning works will be undertaken in accordance with any relevant planning conditions and if/where necessary with the consent of the local planning authority (LPA) in place. There will also be other works such as those associated with archaeology which can only be carried out upon confirmation of certain conditions attached to the outline planning permission being discharged by the LPA. Those works which don't require any prior consent from the LPA, may begin in the forthcoming weeks, with other work taking place over the next couple of months. None of these early preliminary works constitute commencement of development, nor do they involve physical construction.

The Clerk also reported that the 3 trees which are to be felled in Grange Park are still in need of removal. The Tree Officer has been in touch to say that the reason the work has not yet gone ahead is due to the ground being very soft. The machinery which is required is very heavy and will cause significant damage to the grass.

RESOLVED to ask the Tree Officer if the work can be carried out as soon as possible and that the contractor be asked to limit the damage wherever possible.

CE090/2122 Item 17 – Date of next meeting

The next Committee meeting will take place on Monday 21st March at 7:30pm at the Queens Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:35pm

Signed (Chairman): _____ Date: _____