

BPC Objectives 2019-2023

Continue to improve the village environment and Amenities

- We need to respond to the villager's requests, liaise with local authorities and the Forestry Commission, and seek to acquire land for Parish purposes, when and if it becomes available and can be financed.
- We need to continue with our successful Lengthsman Scheme, which is supported by Hampshire County Council and enables us to respond quickly, and cost effectively to maintenance issues including drainage, verges pavements, vegetation clearance and a degree of litter collection around the village.
- The War Memorial Fund which villagers have kindly donated to in the past is administered by the Parish Council and is used to maintain and repair the War Memorial. A new appeal to top up the funds will be made soon.
- As part of our vision for the future, a working party with local businesses will be established to look at the presentation of the village centre.
- We will continue to strive for the provision of a 'Play Area' which is a popular objective in the village. We have identified appropriate finance and companies to provide safe play equipment, we continue to seek an appropriate piece of land.

Roads and Roads Safety

We liaise with Hampshire County Council and the New Forest District Council to ensure that the roads in and around Burley are maintained in a safe manner, with minimum congestion, for the benefit of both residents and visitors. Speeding by motorists causes suffering to animals and is a danger to people and other road users on the minor roads and in the village centre. We are working with organisations to improve signage and campaigns to limit accidents. The reduction of the speed limit in the village to 20mph remains a key objective.

Future of Burley Heritage

Burley village is rich in heritage and steps are being taken to preserve this important aspect of village life. A joint Working Group with interested individuals and representatives from the Parish Council will consider what needs to be done. Several potential sites for a village 'Heritage Centre' are being investigated. Planning permission has been granted by the New Forest National Park Authority, for a 'new-build' barn like structure adjacent to the main village car park. Discussions and the future development of this key project for the village are ongoing.

Superfast Broadband

This is an important facility which the life of the village needs urgently, both for communication by individuals as well as rural businesses. We continue to work with the various authorities to ensure they are working together to achieve superfast Broad band in our village.

Emergency Plan

We continue to build on the draft plan produced by our emergency Coordinator to achieve a priority register for those people who will need help should there be an emergency in the village.

Affordable housing

The village has a continuing need for affordable Housing with about 25 eligible persons with a connection with the village on the waiting list. Land has been acquired adjacent to the car park in the centre of the village, and with the help of the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA), it is anticipated two three-bedroomed houses will be built in the next few years for rent, with the NFNPA as the designated landlord.

Planning

The Parish Council will continue to work to protect the village from unsuitable planning proposals whilst not opposing sensible schemes which do not infringe on conservation or other NFNPA policies. The Council has had influence on the monitoring and future strategy of the 'Wetland Strategy Group', looking at the future. We will continue to monitor plans by the Higher-Level Stewardship organisations who are responsible for the new Wetland Strategy.

Financial

The Parish Council will continue to be prudent managers of the village precept whilst seeking to support as many worthwhile village activities as possible. This however is against a background of a reduction in the Central Government grant. We have managed to supplement the precept with grants from Hampshire County Council and the New Forest District Council. The Central Government grant which used to contribute about 5% of the Parish Council income has ceased, but despite this, we have continued to support deserving causes in the village. Special projects will need extra finance in the form of grants from other sources.