

BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Present Cllr P Daubeney (Chairman), Cllr R Clarke, Cllr P Egerton, Cllr N Martin,
In attendance S Gale (The Clerk), Bruce Rothnie (Deputy Surveyor, Forestry England)
Also present 16 members of the public
Date Wednesday 12th February 2020
Opened at 6.30pm Closed at 9.05pm
Subject Burley Parish Council Monthly meeting

1 Public Participation John Cook thanked BPC on behalf of Burley Charities for the previous and continued support.

Response to Forestry England's proposal for Felling of Scots Pine trees in Slap Bottom wood: Cllr Clarke gave a brief history: In December 2017 Verderers approved felling in Slap Bottom Wood to restore wet lawn. No local public consultation was evident subsequently although the Verderers Consultation Meeting minutes of 3/03/17 had noted that these proposals should be discussed with local residents. An application for a felling license was notified by Forestry England on 1st October 2019 to remove 50% of non-native Scots Pine (225) at the edge of mire and wet lawn area across 2.2 hectares. Following second on-site discussions with FE's DS, 3 alternative possible options were identified: -

- i) To implement FE's revised felling proposal (reduced to 44 + 75 remaining trees in total), supported by conditions including a requirement for site monitoring to scientific standards; OR
- ii) Instead, to in-fill the man-made drains adjacent to the Scots Pine woodland to see if the wet lawn habitat improves before considering further felling or
- iii) To do nothing until Natural England have had the opportunity to re-visit the site and provided scientific evidence to support further tree felling in the current circumstances.

Currently there is a 'Pause' order on the felling; this was made by the DEFRA Secretary of State following intervention by local MP Sir Desmond Swayne at the request of neighbours & BPC.

Several members of the public gave presentations against the felling. An elector pointed out that there seems to be some confusion between stakeholders on the aims of the tree felling works i.e. heathland or wet land. She said the Biodiversity action plan being followed was written in 2006, however this is now outdated in the light of the changing climate. A further elector said she has asked about the effect of felling on wildlife on this unique and vibrant area of woodland. Mr Bruce Rothnie responded to electors saying that FE are seeking to restore habitats that were previously in place to increase biodiversity. The legislation driving this management is relatively recent i.e.1980s. The revised and reduced felling has taken into account the recent meetings on site with local electors. The Chairman asked if Natural England has been to the site and assessed the site in detail; this was not confirmed by the DS. Cllr Clarke said scientific reasoning to support this felling work has been requested and nothing has been forthcoming.

In conclusion: BR asked BPC to write to him with the preferred option (see above) for his consideration and to copy this to the Secretary of State (RC). Cllrs. subsequently agreed that, in tune with the villagers feelings, FE should be asked to do no further felling while Natural England have the opportunity to re-visit the site, and provide scientific evidence to support the need for, and value of, undertaking the work of felling Scots Pine felling in the current widely-supported global climate change emergency. (RC).

Dragon's Teeth in Pound Lane: A member of the public spoke about dragon's teeth being installed in Pound Lane. He said as a resident there was no consultation on this. He raised issues of road safety. Jane Awbry FE. Cllr Martin said he has spoken to FE and that BPC did not see a proposal before the dragon's teeth were put in place in Pound Lane. He said there has been damage to verges in Pound Lane due to parking and that residents require a license to use Forest areas for residential parking purposes. The dragon's tooth has been removed to allow time for the appropriate applications to be made. (NM)

Policing: The Chairman said there have been 2 recent incidents of criminal activity at Shappen Stores and a general increase in crime in the area. A representative from Burley Business Association said she had met with PC Caffyn and Cllr Martin to discuss the increase in criminal activity: there has been an increase in crime (September-December 2019) however this is not unique to Burley. Methods of how to increase security were discussed and a public drop-in forum in March with police present was suggested. A Neighbourhood watch scheme and CCTV will be investigated (NM). The importance of reporting any crime via 101 was also

discussed.

2 Apologies Cllr P Russell, Cllr V Johnstone

3 Declarations of Interest None

4 Approval of Minutes of the full BPC meeting held on 8th January 2019 Resolved – that the Minutes and Clerk’s report for the last meeting, having been previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5 Matters Arising and Clerk’s Report. As shown in the Clerk’s report the balance of the current account on 31st January was £9,011.31. The online payments detailed in the Clerk’s report were approved and the cheques signed. The bank statements were checked and signed by Cllr Egerton.

Additional payments **agreed**: £900 HCC Legal Fees for BVHT. £44.98 to S Gale for new printer

Cllr Martin reported thanks to John Topp for providing a tractor and raised platform during the repair of the village clock.

McDonalds: NM has made contact with the Environment Management – they will be working together to liaise on litter picks.

6 Annual review of Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Asset Register Having been previously circulated, the financial risk assessment and the model Financial Regulations (July 2019) - unchanged since last year, were approved and accepted. The updated Asset Register was also accepted as correct. War Memorial insurance value will be double checked. (NM/SG).

7 Correspondence Hanging Baskets will be kept by BBA from last year, to be refilled this summer.

An elector asked for a contact number for general village enquiries - BPC Councillors telephone numbers will be put in the village magazine (SG).

Cllr Egerton reported a resident of Garden Road intends to organise erecting a fence to narrow one end of the private road.

8 Fireworks in Burley Councillor Egerton is awaiting feedback from HCC/NFDC (PE).

9 Tree Planting – climate change mitigation Agreed: to promote the planting of native trees in householder and landowner private property to help mitigate the climate change emergency. Grant funding information will be investigated; some trees are available from the Woodland Trust.

10 Maintenance of Deer Hall BPC is awaiting the surveyors report.

11 BPC Noticeboards Agreed: to add a lock to the top BPC noticeboard at Shappen Stores (NM).

12 Legislation, licensing and law TENs have been circulated to Councillors by the Clerk as they are received.

13 BPC Emergency Plan None

14 Roads and Traffic Report inc. Cycling Events Cllr Martin reported on:

- A complaint a resident about speeding traffic at the top end of Pound Lane - NM has responded.
- Correspondence regarding the visibility at Pinch Points at Ringwood Road, Pound Lane and foliage trimming – NM has responded
- Pound Lane dragon’s teeth: both positive and negative has been received. FE will visit the site.
- Pound Lane flooding and ditches continues to be an issue and residents are responsible for keeping their ditches clear. NM will check the 1949 Forest Act to check whether culvert responsibility lies with FE in this area (NM)
- A complaint from a resident in Meadow Close regarding vehicles parking on the pavement – this was discussed with local police. It is believed that the culprits are residents or visitors
- The installation of a path along Chapel Lane to Church Lane has not been supported by HCC. BPC does not accept this result, and steps are being taken to find an alternative solution. Quotations for a hoggin path have been sought and an estimate of £63/metre has been received. The next step will be to obtain the necessary permissions from the Verderers and other interested parties, which will be investigated by NM.

15 Burley Heritage Report None

16 Provision of Affordable Housing None

17 Lengthsman scheme: monthly update None

18 Planning Decisions communicated by NFNPA since BPC Meeting on 8th January 2020

Application No. & Date	Address	Proposal	BPC Recommendation	NFNPA Decision
19/00840 10.12.19	Old Park, Burley Lawn	Two storey & one storey extensions	R5 – NPOs to decide	Withdrawn 03.02.20
19/00884 11.12.19	Fernlea, Coach Hill Lane	Replacement stables	R5 – NPOs to decide	Granted 03.02.20
19/00924 12.12.19	Ashen Wood House, Castle Hill Lane	3 storey extn.; 1 st floor extn.; single storey extn.; 3 no. dormers; new chimney; roof; alterations to fenestration; render	R5 – NPOs to decide (subject to receipt of further information)	Refused 06.02.20

There were no new applications to consider on this occasion

19 Enforcement Matters The enforcement list has been previously circulated.

20 Forestry England projects update See Public Participation.

21 Reports Cllr Martin reported that at a recent NFALC meeting one of the recommendations was that, in order to achieve carbon neutral status by 2030, an increase in tree cover is required. He also circulated a document on Poisonous plants for dogs by the Dogs Trust.

22 Urgent Business Cllr Clarke requested that the Burley Village Magazine editor be requested to retain the headings of the columns on the planning table for publication purposes in order to facilitate readers' understanding of this part of the report and so assist any further enquires they wished to pursue on individual applications with NFNPA planners. (SG)

The meeting closed at 9.05pm Next full meeting of BPC: Wednesday 11th March at 6.30pm in Myrtle Hall.