



BURLEY PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

Welcome everyone. A few opening remarks

We have to say goodbye and thanks to our Parish Clerk, Tom Brindley who has taken up the position of Parish Clerk for Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council. We wish him well in his new post.

As you will know there are District and Town/Parish Council elections on May 4th. However, as there were six nominations for six seats on the parish council, there will be no vote. The vote for the District Council will take place.

We are sorry that Cllr Lucy Bramley has decided that she will not stand again for Burley Parish; we thank her for her contribution to the Council and wish her well. She is not leaving Burley so we will still see her around. All the other Burley Parish Council (BPC) councillors were nominated unopposed and will form the new council, along with Cllr John Vincent, who we welcome and who moves up from his non-councillor member role to be a full member from 9th May.

Remember, when you vote in person for the District Council you will need to provide some ID.

Now my Chairman's Report on activities of your Council in the last year and reporting on the Objectives set in 2019 when this present Council was elected.

OBJECTIVE: TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES

TREE PLANTING

Following the Verderers refusal for planting 12 trees to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee, BPC has planted one Commemorative tree near the cricket pitch on land recommended by Forestry England. Permission was granted for replacement of Pound Lane trees, and these have been guarded and are flourishing. This means the Parish Council has planted 15 saplings since 2017 but we continue to be concerned about the lack of tree regeneration in the ancient woodlands around the village. We continue to press Natural England, Forestry England and the Verderers. It seems obvious to us that replanted trees will need guarding in what is termed the Open Forest i.e. outside the Forestry England operational inclosures.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENING

Climate Change is expected to impact on the Village. There are a number of actions that can be taken to ameliorate to a degree the impact from changed weather patterns in the village and to improve sustainability. For example, there is concern over the increase in flooding in Ringwood Road near the surgery and discussions have started with Hampshire Highways as to a project to improve drainage. Householders have also been reminded of their responsibility to maintain their ditches. A Greening project has started to improve recycling and measure heat loss from properties.

LITTLE DEERS DAY NURSERY

LDDN is an important amenity for the village and surrounding areas. Its land and building are owned by Burley PC and we are working with HCC Education Dept to replace the ageing wooden structure with a permanent building. Progress has been slower than originally envisaged by HCC but is back on track now.

LENGTHSMAN SCHEME/OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL WORK

The decision by HCC to continue part funding of this scheme is welcome, the remaining 25% of the cost is funded by the Village tax (the precept). In addition Burley PC organises two litter picks each year, encourages MacDonalds to continue to litter pick its area at Picket post, maintains the milestones and the War memorial and the defibrillators. We are exploring further ways in which to enable the village is kept as free of litter by more frequent picks.



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OBJECTIVE: TO LIAISE WITH HAMPSHIRE HIGHWAYS TO REPAIR VERGES, POTHoles AND DRAINAGE

The aftermath of the new Holmsley bridge has left our verges and side roads in poor condition and BPC continues to pressurise HH to do something about the problems on our roads. BPC continues to lobby for a speed limit of 20mph though the village.

OBJECTIVE: TO HELP NFNPA PROVIDE TWO AFFORDABLE HOMES

This has been a strategic objective for some years now and progress is painfully slow. BPC works with the responsible authority, The National Park and have been assured that building work will commence in 2023.

OBJECTIVE: TO MAINTAIN AN EMERGENCY PLAN TOGETHER WITH BURLEY GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The plan is kept up to date and worked very well during the Covid Pandemic.

CRIME

Burley PC has been active in working with the Police over the increase in crime in the village. We have a good relationship with the Police. We welcomed the recent increase in Police activity in Bransgore following a series of violent incidents.

BROADBAND

Burley PC led the co-ordinated liaison with Open Reach and HCC and the project progresses around the village although several delays have been caused by changes in Central Government policy.

OBJECTIVE: TO CARRY OUT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO RECOMMEND DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO THE NPA

Burley PC continues to support villagers to bring forward planning applications which do not infringe conservation or other NPA policies. In the last year we have dealt with over 50 applications.

Sometimes we feel it is necessary to go against the NPA Planning Officers recommendations as we did recently in the case of a cottage extension in Church Lane when the Planning Committee of the NPA agreed with our concerns.

FINANCE

Burley PC has sought to be a prudent local authority and for some years had been able to hold the precept at previous levels. However the last two years we have increased the precept to provide for inflation and the likely end to HCC's funding of the lengthsman scheme in the near future. (The village precept is only about £20 for a band D property)

IN CONCLUSION

Following elections in May 2023 the new council will set strategic objectives. The new council will probably want to continue the major planks of the 2019 objectives. Villagers will be consulted as to their priorities in setting new objectives.

**Councillor Philip Daubeney,
Chairman Burley Parish Council
April 2023**