

BURTON ON THE WOLDS, COTES AND PRESTWOLD PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

6th October 2020

Minutes of a meeting of Burton on the Wolds, Cotes and Prestwold Parish Council held virtually on 6th October 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr A Carr (Chairman), Cllr R Shields (Vice Chairman), Cllr W Best, Cllr L Cooper, Cllr A Lawrence, Cllr E Wardle, Cllr M Windsor.

Apologies: Cllr K Hibbins.

In attendance: County Cllr Shepherd, Borough Councillor Bokor, Mr Richard Bennett (Charnwood Borough Council), Mrs S Massey (Clerk), 1 member of the public.

084/20 To receive apologies for absence.

Resolved: To accept the apologies of Cllr Hibbins.

085/20 Disclosures of interests, disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests or personal interests that could lead to bias, by Parish Councillors to items on the agenda.

Cllr Wardle declared a DPI in item 091/20(d), she is a friend of the applicant.

Cllr Windsor declared a DPI in items 096/20 (f), (g), (h), (i), he is a neighbour of the correspondents.

086/20 To approve the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting.

Resolved: To approve and sign.

087/20 Mr Richard Bennett, Head of Planning and Regeneration, Charnwood Borough Council.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Bennett (RB) to the meeting. RB was asked about several issues including:

P/20/1171/2 Hawker Business Park – RB confirmed that the decision ‘prior approval not required’ was made due to current legislation originally intended to respond to issues in larger urban areas, such as London and Manchester, whereby redundant office space was seen as an opportunity to provide additional housing.

P/19/0041/2 Melton Road, Burton on the Wolds – RB confirmed that this application was made over 2 years ago and that CBC is still waiting for information from the developer. The statutory consultation period for an application of this size is 13 weeks.

AC asked for an explanation regarding inconsistent planning decisions. One example was the fence erected on the corner of Somerset Close/Brook Street which enforcement instructed was taken down in height compared to the fence erected on top of a historical wall on Melton Road which completely changed the street scene and led to noise issues for residents opposite with the removal of the existing trees. AC asked why precedent set was not taken into account when making decisions and that the Parish Council had great sympathy with the owner of the fence on Somerset

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Close. RB confirmed that each application is judged on their individual merits taking into consideration all material planning considerations, precedents and comments from consultees.

P/19/0888/2 17 Hall Drive - AC asked about the reasons for permission being granted for the change of working hours to the site. RB confirmed that this was updated during COVID to increase the hours available to enable workers to socially distance. RS stated that this legislation specifically mentioned that additional hours would not be allowed where this would cause nuisance to neighbouring properties. RB stated that the officer did consider the impact but that made the judgment that the impact would be acceptable in light of the need to assist the construction sector particularly in these difficult times.

AC asked why enforcement cases are taking an extraordinary amount of time to resolve. RB confirmed that planning enforcement is not a quick fix due to the planning act that is geared in favour of the applicant and not geared towards residents. It must be established if a breach is harmful and if it is, action must be taken to regularise or remove the risk.

AC asked for comment regarding the conduct of the Plans Committee on 22nd August 2020 related to *P/19/0888/2 17 Hall Drive*. RB confirmed that all members of the Plans Committee are trained and that, in his opinion, they generally make the correct decisions.

088/20 Questions/comments from the floor (limited to 15 minutes).
None.

089/20 Borough Councillor's report

Cllr Bokor reported on recent training undertaken on the new white paper 'Planning for the future'. Cllr Bokor reported that planning decision making will be streamlined and enforcement powers will be strengthened to include additional sanctions. A map will be produced based on the local plan with all land categorised as either (a) areas for growth (b) areas for potential development and (c) areas that are no-go areas.

In addition, Cllr Bokor reported that CBC will need to produce a new local plan by the end of 2022, the 5 year supply will be abolished together with the duty to cooperate with neighbouring authorities and tests of soundness. There will be a single statutory sustainable development test so a development will either be sustainable or not.

Cllr Cooper asked why Cllr Bokor implied that our parish would be included in area (c). Cllr Bokor stated that some of the parish and surrounding is a protected area. Furthermore, neighbourhood plans are to be given more weight. Cllr Shields stated that the white paper has not been accepted by Parliament yet.

Cllr Carr asked if there was anything that CBC could do to help with a dangerous parking situation on Brickwood Place refers minute refs 096/20 (f), (g), (h), (i). Cllr

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Bokor said that traffic wardens can sticker poorly parked vehicles.

090/20 County Councillor's report

Cllr Shields asked why 10 years ago, LCC gave the Parish Council a licence to cultivate on the corner of Brickwood Place and are now indicating that this area belongs to No. 1 Brickwood Place.

Resolved: That the clerk will contact LCC with evidence of the licence to cultivate and ask how this was agreed if the land does not belong to LCC, cc Cllr Shepherd

Regarding the Wild Flower Verge Scheme 2021-22, the clerk confirmed that the wild flower verges must be maintained by volunteers from the Parish. Without a committed group of volunteers, the Parish Council are unable to take this further.

Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Bokor left the meeting 20.42

091/20 Police Report

None.

092/20 To make observations and agree any action on the following planning applications:

a) P/20/1572/2 35 Hubbard Rd, Burton on the Wolds LE12 5AX

Resolved: Not to comment.

b) P/20/1171/2 Hawker Business Park, Melton Road, Burton on the Wolds LE12 (change of use from Class B1a Offices to Class C3 Residential) – prior approval not required.

c) Update P/19/0041/2 Land off Melton Rd, Burton on the Wolds LE12 5AL (Re-consultation)

This was discussed under minute reference 087/20.

d) Update E/18/0253 Hill View, Burton on the Wolds. Change of use (HGV/lorry park) info only.

This was discussed under minute reference 087/20.

e) Update Burton on the Wolds Van Sales, Melton Rd, Burton on the Wolds

This was discussed under minute reference 087/20.

093/20 To receive the Clerk's report including the playground safety checks reports.

The Clerk reported that the application to Awards for All for the lottery funded sports clubs at Burton on the Wolds Primary School has been applied for and rejected twice on the grounds that it does not support their current criteria. Finding Fitness has been informed.

The Clerk reported that the application to the Highways Parish and Communities Fund for the cutting back of the footpath from Prestwold to Cotes has been unsuccessful.

The assessment was undertaken and found that the cost of the work is way beyond

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what could be afforded with our allocation of £5,000.

Resolved: The clerk will contact LCC to ask how much can be done for £5,000. Could the most impassable areas be targeted?

094/20 To receive reports from councillors

a) Plantation Management Committee

Cllr Best reported that 9 volunteers attended the Plantation volunteer day on 4th October, this included 3 new volunteers, the bridges were completely reinstated and chippings were spread. The next volunteer day will take place on Sunday 1st November followed by a log sale from 1 p.m. The next Plantation Management Committee meeting will take place virtually at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday 17th November 2020.

b) Playing Field Association

Cllr Shields reported that the AGM will take place later in October, date to be confirmed. Work to the concrete slab should begin this week weather permitting.

c) Other Councillors' Reports – for information only.

Cllr Cooper confirmed that she is attending a biodiversity course later this month.

Cllr Hibbins sent the following report: On 29th September she suffered her fourth dog attack whilst riding along Moat Hill. The estate gamekeeper is aware.

095/20 Business

a) To receive Cllr Lawrence's draft social media policy for consideration prior to forwarding to LRALC to ensure compliance with current guidelines.

Discussion followed regarding the use of social media for the promotion of the Parish Council.

Resolved: That the Parish Council will not become involved directly in social media at this time however a community social media account headed by Cllr Lawrence in his capacity as a resident could post relevant parish council documents.

Resolved: That the Clerk will distribute a draft social media policy using existing templates.

b) To consider and, if appropriate, formulate a response to the Government White Paper 'Planning for the future'.

Resolved: That Cllr Cooper will draft a response and circulate for approval.

c) To review a renewed initiative to challenge the HGV route through Burton on the Wolds (deferred September 2020).

Resolved: This item will be deferred to the next meeting.

d) To receive the schedule from Prestwold Park as is required by their premises licence PREM142098.

Resolved: To note the contents of this schedule.

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e) To receive the draft Plantation Management Committee meeting minutes of 15th September 2020.

Resolved: To note receipt of this document.

f) To approve expenditure of up to £390.00 for weeding, jet washing and re-sanding of the block paving at the Village Hall.

The Clerk confirmed that this quotation is specifically for the block paving at the front of the village hall which is paid for by the Parish Council. The Village Hall Management Committee will obtain a quotation for the 'one off' cleaning of the block paving at the rear of the building, exclusively used by Playgroup, following the work on the water pipes.

Resolved: To approve this expenditure.

g) To complete the National Highways and Transport (NHT) Public Satisfaction survey.

Resolved: That the clerk will complete this survey.

h) To approve the grounds maintenance schedule of works for the forthcoming tender process.

Resolved: To approve this schedule for 2021 (Feb) - 2024 (Jan).

i) To approve expenditure of up to £425.00 for the replacement of the water heater at the Pavilion.

Resolved: To approve this expenditure.

j) To approve expenditure of up to £150 for the purchase of lamp post poppies and to consider the offer to install from residents of Burton on the Wolds.

Resolved: That the current supply of poppies will be sufficient. The Clerk will contact the residents who have offered to install and take down the lamppost poppies, the residents to liaise with Cllr Carr direct.

k) To approve the Clerk's appraisal and annual pay review.

Resolved: To defer this item to the November meeting.

096/20 Finance

a) Financial update:

Account balance @	31/09/2020
Current	1000.00
Reserve/General	23,534.73
Reserve/Bonus	5,616.83
Loughborough B/Society	46,098.81
TOTAL	76,250.37

Balance includes:	
Plantation funds	3714.56
Neighbourhood Plan	792.91
Lottery/Finding Fitness	0.00
Hubbard Rd Land Management	37,304.03

The Clerk confirmed that the Hubbard Road commuted sum will be further reduced by budgeted spend of £7,000 for the replacement of the safety surface at the play

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area by year end. In addition, it is highly likely that the current monthly cost will increase following the new grounds maintenance contract in February 2021 and that additional grounds maintenance will be required on this area depleting this sum further.

- b) To approve the schedule of payments totalling £5,381.33.

Burton on the Wolds, Cotes and Prestwold Parish Council - Schedule of Receipts and Payments						
Payments		Oct-20			Month 7	
	PAYEE	FOR	INVOICE NO.	AMOUNT	Type	COST CENTRE
1	M&BG Ltd	Grounds maintenance	Invoice	£495.00	Chq	Split
2	WaterPlus	07/07/2020 failed direct debit	Credit	-£17.73	n/a	Burial Ground
3	Roythornes Solicitors	Detailed objection to P/20/1171/2	Invoice	£2,280.00	Direct	Contingency
4	WaterPlus	Water supply	Invoice	£18.21	Direct	Burial Ground
5	R Shields	Autumn planting	Receipts	£54.96	Direct	Village amenities
6	Viking	Stationery	Invoice	£135.56	Direct	Gen admin
7	Burton on the Wolds PFA	First 2/2 grant	Budget	£1,812.50	Chq	PFA (S137)
8	Burton on the Wolds PFA	Solar infeed contribution	Copy receipt	£123.28	Chq	PFA
9	Burton on the Wolds Village Hall	Solar infeed contribution	Copy receipt	£123.28	Chq	Village Hall
10	LRALC	Website accessibility training	Invoice	£20.00	Direct	Training
11	Sutcliffe Play	Underpayment of invoice (Folio 57)	Invoice	£1.91	Folio57	Hubbard Road
12	S Massey	Expenses (inc. Zoom & laser printer)	Receipts	£334.36	Direct	Gen admin
	TOTAL			£5,381.33		

Resolved: To approve this expenditure.

097/20 Correspondence for discussion

- a) Advance notice of a TTRO on Melton Road/Loughborough Road, Burton on the Wolds.
The Clerk has added this notice to the website for scheduled upload.

Resolved: To note the contents of this TTRO.

- b) Joint Soar Valley Liaison Group regarding restart of meetings via Zoom.

Resolved: Not to send representation at this time.

- c) Email from a resident regarding cows on the public footpath from Burton on the Wolds to Walton.

The Clerk has contacted the farmer to inform them of this issue and relayed all information back to the resident.

Resolved: No further action is required.

- d) Email from a resident regarding an organised shoot on the Prestwold Estate.

Prestwold Estate made the following statement:

Please be assured that we take the safety of public very seriously and have undertaken, with external consultants, a very rigorous and thorough health and safety protocol for all shoot days. Anyone shooting on the Estate is required to have the necessary licences and experience in place to undertake the activity.

Organised shooting has been happening on the Estate since the 1850's, although you may notice a slight change in how it is being organised this year. I appreciate that the activity is not necessarily supported by the entire community but it is a regular event in the countryside and on the Estate and has been so for many years. We are not

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required to publish the dates of shooting to the Parish Council and have never done so in the past. We have to respect the privacy of our shooting guests.

When we are shooting adjacent, or in the proximity to a public footpath adequate temporary signage is in place to advise the public of the same. I personally attended yesterday to ensure that the day was being run in accordance with the strict protocols that we have put in place. We have identified that the signage is not large enough or prominent enough and will be rectifying that before our next shoot date.

Resolved: Prestwold Estate has responded direct to the resident.

e) Email from a resident regarding Shoby Poultry.

Resolved: That the Clerk will respond that no other reports have been received during this period and that the resident should contact Bev Green, Environmental Health, Charnwood Borough Council to report this issue.

f) Email from a resident regarding parking & emergency vehicle issues on Brickwood Place. (1)

g) Email from a resident regarding parking & emergency vehicle issues on Brickwood Place. (2)

h) Email from a resident regarding parking & emergency vehicle issues on Brickwood Place. (3)

i) Email from a resident regarding parking & emergency vehicle issues on Brickwood Place. (4)

Items 096/20f), g) ,h) and i) relate to the same incident regarding parked vehicles blocking the path of a fire engine.

Resolved: The Clerk will contact LCC and ask that they consider installation of double yellow lines.

j) Email from a resident regarding cows on the Prestwold Estate.

The clerk suggested that the resident also raise these concerns direct with the estate. The estate responded and the resident is happy with this reply. Included in this response was the following for the benefit of the Parish Council:

Under the Countryside Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 we are entitled to keep young dairy cows on land which is accessed by a CROW. We take advice from our health and safety consultants and note the guidance provided by the Health and Safety Executive. The cattle are on the Estate as part of our business as landowners and they provide an important income and agronomical service for the health of the soil and grassland. The cattle will be on the land until later in the year when the grassland has been suitably managed. The specific date depends on the weather and grass growth rates.

We trust that the local residents will act sensibly when accessing the Estate and

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respect that it is also a working farm. I have myself today walked across the specific footpath with my dogs and saw no signs of violence or aggression from the cattle. I have of course recorded the concerns raised and will consider how to manage them.

Resolved: That the resident is happy with the response of the estate. No further action required.

098/20 To agree items for inclusion in the press release
P/20/1171/2, Richard Bennett, Inconsiderate parking.

099/20 The next Parish Council meeting will take place virtually on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at 7.30 p.m. unless advised otherwise preceded by the Village Hall Management meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

These minutes are a true and accurate record _____ Date _____
Cllr A Carr, Chairman.