

Burwell Parish Council

Minutes of the Community, Leisure, Health, and Sport Meeting of 21.11.23 at 7.30 pm

Held at the Gardiner Memorial Hall

Present: Michael Swift (Chair), Chris O'Neill, Liz Swift, Geraldine Tate, Charlie Milner, Jim Perry, Helen McMenam-Smith, Jenny Moss, and Paul Webb.

CLH&S/211123/01 Apologies for absences and declarations of interests

Apologies for absence had been received from Sara Phipps and Ian Woodrooffe.

CLH&S/211123/02 Approval of the minutes of the 19.9.23

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 20223 were approved and signed as a true record.

Proposed by Liz Swift and seconded by Jenny Moss.

CLH&S/211123/03 Action Sheet Updates on the following and from the previous meeting of items not included on the agenda

The following updates were noted:

PROJECT	UPDATE
Recreation Ground and Margaret Field Football Provision and liaison with the Football Club.	A meeting is to be held with the Football Club in January. Currently applying to the Football Association for a grant to support the Maintenance of both sites. Katie Kritchley (Cambs FA) to ask their advisor to look at the dead grass on Margaret Field and to look at what ground maintenance is required at both sites. It is thought that the grass on Margaret Field may have been affected by weed killer being split. Michael Geary is also going to look at the dead grass on Margaret Field. Weeds are beginning to grow through, but no grass yet. Wayne Hardy thinks that it will grow if seeded in the spring. Mr Groundsman is currently carrying out work to the total value of £2000 on the Recreation Ground and Margaret Field. A grant application has also been submitted towards the cost of ball nets at the Recreation Ground.
Spring Close Management Group	A Management Group meeting is due to take place in January. Some clearance work has been carried out over the past 2 months. The accessible gate is being fitted on Wednesday 22 nd November 2023.
Pauline's Swamp	Meeting held between some of the Trustees and the ECDC Planning Manager and one of the Enforcement Officers to discuss the unplanted buffer zone. ECDC reluctant to address. Jenny Moss has written to ECDC and MP with a report from the meeting. Meeting to take place with potential purchaser of property on Swaffham Road, the land of which shares a boundary with Pauline's Swamp. The quotation for the guttering has been received. Paul Hawes has asked Carl Turner to cut back the reeds.
BAFY	Liz Swift reported that attempts are being made to get the Youth Bus to visit the village on a regular basis for a year. This will be dependent on some grant funding, which cannot be applied for until the BAFY bank account has been sorted out, wither closed and a new one opened, or signatories changed. There are some youth issues at the moment. A walk around the village one evening with members of the Community Safety Partnership is to be planned for early next year.
Community Orchard	A question had been raised as to who planted the orchard and who is responsible for the maintenance. UEA donated the trees, and it is down to the Parish Council to maintain. Helen Richardson waters the trees during dry spells. It was thought that members of the group could easily maintain the trees, with a morning of tree pruning to be organised. The work needs to be done just before spring. Wild Burwell or Burwell Allotment and Garden Society may be able to help.

Community Garden	A bit more work still needs to be done. The sleepers still need to be put in place and some more wildflowers set. Some more trees are due to be purchased. The bulbs are in the planters, but there is room for more. The Maintenance Officer has built a compost bin for the garden and the Rawlinson's have provided a water container. The garden is already looking good. Someone has offered to make a sign for the garden. Jim Perry reminded the group that he has offered to pay for one of the benches for the garden. It was agreed that he could have a plaque on the bench.
Liaison with Sports Centre	Improvements to the centre are in the process of being made. There are some issues, but generally all is going well. Charlie Milner to contact Andy Wilkinson (Mulhall Leisure Consultancy) re the proposed Newmarket Road Sports Hub to arrange a meeting. Paul Webb would like to attend the meeting. Charlie Milner reported that the Sports Centre would like the Council to consider allocating an area of land within the hub so that a bigger sports centre could be accommodated. Paul Webb advised that a letter with this request should be sent to Council. Charlie Milner is also concerned that the survey/need assessment did not fully appreciate the sporting needs of the groups currently operating from the Sports Centre.
Climate Change Policy	Lea Dodds is working on reviewing the policy. Jenny Moss commented that she is surprised that the forum has now agreed to meet every other month and not every month. The group needs some more projects and aims.
A to B1102 Group	See later in minutes.
Westhorpe Play Area	The Community Group is still raising funds for the Westhorpe Play Area with the Christmas Fair being held on 2 nd December 2023. Feedback is that the those living in the area are very pleased with the new play area.
Repair Café	The September Café had been good, and the next Café will be held on 10 th December 2023. The Café organisers hope to be able to run a Swish Event in the new year. The posters and leaflets for the 10 th of December still need to be distributed. Several members of the group offered to help with the Café.
Paddle the Lode	No further update. Paul Webb believes that the group intend to hold a fund-raising event in the spring.
Newmarket Road Sports Hub	Charlie Milner asked if he could attend the next Taskforce meeting when it is held. Members of the group suggested that he should contact Craig Mulhall who is organising the meeting.

CLH&S/211123/04 Carols around the Tree 22.12.23 6 pm for 6.30 pm at the Gardiner Memorial Hall

Paul Webb reported that some people had indicated that they felt that the event should continue to be held on Pound Hill. The Clerk explained the difficulties in having to alter the arrangements at short notice if the weather was unsuitable and that Pound Hill is often muddy or snowy and therefore unsuitable for people to climb onto. She also pointed out that for safety reasons if people were on the road in front of the Post Office, a road closure notice would probably need to be applied for. It was agreed that Helen McMenamain-Smith should be allowed to collect donations for MAGPAS at the event.

CLH&S/211123/05 Donation Applications:

The following requests for donations were considered:

A to B1102

Liz Swift explained that the group, for which she is the Burwell Parish Council representative, is working to improve transport links along the B1102 between Fordham and Quy. The No.11 bus route no longer goes through Bottisham, and although this has made the journey quicker, residents living in the parishes along the B1102 are now unable to access facilities, such as the doctor's surgery and secondary school situated in Burwell. There are several tranches that the group are working on, including changes to the bus service to enable those working shifts to be able to use public transport to get to work. Buses for those attending Post 16 Education in Cambridge is also poor and without an improved service, more people will have no option but to use cars for their journeys. Charlie Milner expressed that buses going to train stations and the Park and Rides would help. Liz Swift reported that the group are looking into local bus hubs. The Group are also carrying out a survey aimed at gaining information on travel from the local communities. The surveys are available online, at the Jubilee Reading Room and various other locations in the village. Chris O'Neill offered to hand some surveys out to those using the buses.

Liz Swift continued to explain that the group is applying to all of the parish councils involved for a grant to help support the work that they are carrying out. They now have a constitution and are in the process of setting up a bank account.

Michael Swift proposed, seconded by Helen McMenamin-Smith that the Council gives the group a grant of £500.00 once the group's bank account has been set up. All in favour.

The Community, Leisure, Health, and Sports Group recommends a grant is made to the A to B1102 Group in the sum of £500 to support the work that they are doing. Payment to be made once the Group's bank account has been set up.

MAGPAS Air Ambulance

As in previous years it was agreed that Helen McMenamin-Smith could collect for MAGPAS at Carols Around the Tree.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

It was agreed that the following recommendation is made to Full Council.

The Community, Leisure, Health, and Sports Group recommends to Full Council that an additional £71.25 is made to the Royal British Legion to make this year's donation up to £100, the same as in previous years.

CLH&S/211123/06 Any other business

Mountain bikes using the skate park

An email had been received regarding the use of the skate park by individuals on mountain bikes. There is concern that the bikes will bring mud onto the park creating a safety hazard.

Burwell Carnival – Request for permission to use the Recreation Ground on 29th June 2024

The Group agreed to allow use of the Recreation Ground for the Carnival on the 27th of June 2024 (setting up), 28th June 2024 (evening event), 29th June 2024 for the Carnival and the 30th of June for clearing up.

The toilets will be collected on the Monday. There will be no security on site on the Sunday evening.

Complaint about Dog Fouling

An email about dog fouling in the village was noted. The Clerk reported that signs saying dogs are not allowed on Margaret Field needed to be removed as with both dogs on lead allowed signs and others saying no dogs is confusing.

Armed Forces Covenant

An opportunity to sign an Armed Forces Covenant was noted.

Trees in the Avenue

Jenny Moss reported that she had previously been in touch with Kevin Drain (Tree Officer ECDC0 and Bob Rossiter (Local Highways Officer CCC). Kevin Drane had advised on the types of trees that could be planted along the verges in the Avenue and that she had obtained quotations for the trees required. Bob Rossiter had informed her that the County Council would pay for the trees and would plant them.

Residents in the Avenue had been contacted and many had offered to water the trees once planted.

Unfortunately, Bob Rossiter has now moved to a new post and although Jenny Moss has written to his successor, James Broder, no response has been received. Jenny Moss reported that she had also sent a copy of the email to Emily Bolton (CCC). Liz Swift to write to James Broder.

Helen McMenemy-Smith informed the group that the annual leaf clearance of the Causeway is due to be carried out on Saturday 25th November 2024

Clarification was given to Geraldine Tate regarding attending an event at the museum in place of Sara Phipps and if she would be seen as representing the Parish Council if she did so. It was confirmed that as the Parish Council had not been invited, she would need to go as a supporter of the museum and not as a parish councillor.

CLH&S/211123/07 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 20th February 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed

Dated