

## Parish Council News

Interested in becoming a Parish Councillor? We currently have a vacancy. If you are interested please contact the Clerk ([burwellpc@btconnect.com](mailto:burwellpc@btconnect.com) or 01638 743142) for an application form. All applications must be received by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Criteria for applicants can be found on the Parish Council Website [www.burwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.burwellparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The Parish Council would like to thank Sean Manchett and his team for their continued support in moving concrete blocks to prevent illegal encampments on Margaret Field. The cost to evict the travellers from Margaret Field last year was in the region of £4000, so any help in preventing illegal encampments in the first place is much appreciated.

A further option has been discussed with the County Council Highways Department to provide a safer crossing place for pedestrians on Ness Road. We know that a zebra crossing is the preferred option of residents and we are pleased to confirm that the new proposal is for a zebra crossing. However as previously explained to us by Highways, situating the zebra crossing close to the entrance to the roundabout is not safe. Therefore the location of the zebra crossing is likely to be situated nearer to Old School Close. The proposal is still in its early stages, with a further safety audit being required and more detailed costings. A recent survey carried out has proved that the level of vehicle/pedestrian traffic using Ness Road is well beyond the level required to make a zebra crossing viable. The cost of a zebra crossing will come in higher than the original proposal for the Give-Way features, but the Parish Council has agreed in principle to make further funding available. The Parish Council will be having a stand at Burwell at Large on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March, where residents will be able to look at the plans in detail and comment on the proposal.

The Parish Council annually has an opportunity to apply for funding through the Local Highways Improvement Initiative run by Cambridgeshire County Council. With a village the size of Burwell, many areas could benefit from improvement. We would be grateful if you would take the time to complete our Traffic Survey. This will give us the information required to work out which areas in the village we should concentrate on. The survey is also available on line <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39F7PL>.

We regularly carry out checks on the safety of memorial stones in the Cemetery. If a memorial stone is found to be unsafe, it will be laid down flat by our handyman. Unfortunately we do not hold information on family members of the deceased, so are unable to make contact. If you are responsible for a stone that has been laid flat and you want them erected again, please contact a stone mason who should be able to help you.

The Council was approached in late November by Aura Power, who is proposing to build an Energy Battery Storage Facility in Weirs Drove. The Company met with members of the Council and many questions, particularly in light of the many concerns raised by residents regarding the gas powered generators proposed for

Reach Road, were raised by the members. A copy of the questions raised and the responses from Aura Power can be found on the Parish Council Website along with details of the Parish Council's consultee response to ECDC regarding the application.

If you live in the conservation areas within the village or have a tree requiring work that has a Tree Preservation Order placed on it, please do remember that it is necessary to apply to East Cambs District Council to obtain permission to carry out the work.

In order to comply with the Council's Lone Worker Policy, the Council Office at the Jubilee Reading Room is now only open to the public 10am to 12 noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. At other times if you wish to contact the Office please either email (email address below) or telephone, leaving a message on the answer phone if necessary.

This year the Annual Parish Meeting for Burwell will be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May and will start at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at the Mandeville Hall. Please make a note of the date in your diary. Results of the Traffic Survey should be available at this meeting.

Please contact the Clerk on [burwellpc@btconnect.com](mailto:burwellpc@btconnect.com) or 01638 742142 during office hours should you wish to discuss any item in this report. Unfortunately we are unable to respond to comments of Facebook directly.

This report can also be found on the Parish Council Website [www.burwellparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.burwellparishcouncil.gov.uk).