

Buerton Parish Council

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Minutes for the Meeting of Buerton Parish Council held remotely at 1915hrs on Thursday 18 March 2021

Present: Cllr E Lancaster, Cllr I Shaw, Cllr M Hope, Cllr D Mansell, Cllr A Baddley

1928 Apologies for absence

Received from Cllr N Bonell

1929 Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting of 3 December 2020 were agreed and signed as correct records.

1930 Disclosure of interests

None disclosed

1931 Public Forum

Mrs Louise Evans thanked the Parish Council for the opportunity to speak and requested that the Parish Council consider asking Audlem Online to publish agendas in a more prominent place.

Mrs Evans then asked if the Parish Council would consider making a representation on behalf of Parishioners regarding the closure of Longhill Lane by United Utilities without notification on 11 January 2021. As Mrs Evans had previously contacted the Clerk regarding this matter, the Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had asked her to make the representation to United Utilities and that this had prompted an internal investigation. United Utilities had now contacted the Clerk to express their apologies to Parishioners but that the matter that had prompted the road closure had been deemed an emergency as it involved water quality to one household and that such a road closure was able to take place without notification to either residents or to Cheshire East. They confirmed that the investigation had now been completed and that the matter was now closed. Mrs Evans confirmed that some of the information that she had received was contrary to that received by the Parish Council but she thanked the Parish Council for their efforts.

1932 Business matters

1932/1 **Playground**

Cllr Mansell reported that there will hopefully be a solution in the near future to the goals and that he will have an update at the next meeting.

The reappointment of Tony Seabridge to maintain the playing field was unanimously approved.

The Annual Inspection of the playing field was discussed and the following items were highlighted as needing action:

- Screws protruding from the goal posts
Cllr Mansell to arrange for these to be removed
- Playground equipment including the tunnel and swing to be cleaned of algae and debris.
Clerk to arrange a quotation
- Flooded Adventure Trail
Warning signage to be placed – clerk to arrange a quotation

1932/2 **Highways**

The Clerk reported that no reply had been received from the two letters sent to the landowner regarding the damaged fence on Woore Road. It was unanimously decided that ownership of the fence had to be established if there was to be a way forward.

Clerk to investigate with the Land Registry

1932/3 **Social Media & Newsletter**

The Clerk reported that she had investigated the cost of the circulation of a newsletter with the Post Office and that it was prohibitively expensive. It was unanimously agreed that a newsletter could be produced in the spring, placed on the notice board and on Audlem Online and that it could be sent by email to Parishioners if they wished.

Cllr Baddley agreed to start work on the first issue.

It was also agreed that the Clerk should investigate the possibility of having the Parish Council link on Audlem Online look a little more “user friendly”.

Clerk to contact Audlem Online to investigate possibilities

1932/4 **Woore Road Layby**

Cllr Healey’s proposal to place “do not litter” signs was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that quotations should be obtained for signs for both laybys.

Clerk to obtain quotations

1932/5 **Parking at Festival Avenue**

Cllr Shaw reported that Cllr Bailey had made a site visit with a member of the Highways team to investigate the ongoing parking problems on Festival Avenue. Cllr Bailey had requested Cllr Shaw to provide her with photos of the parking issues at the weekend and Cllr Shaw had done this. Cllr Bailey had promised to follow this up.

1932/6 **Replacement of Playground Gate**

It was unanimously agreed to accept the quotation from Suddenstrike Fencing.

1932/7 **Planting of Christmas Tree in the Playground**

The quotation from Heathwood Nurseries was discussed and it was decided that Cllr Lancaster and Cllr Shaw would accept their invitation to visit to see exactly what kind of tree was being suggested. The possibility of instead having a cut tree each year was also discussed but this would depend on the cost and that as Audlem had a cut tree, they might be able to provide some information about this.

Cllrs Lancaster and Shaw to arrange a visit to Heathwood Nurseries and Clerk to investigate the potential cost of a cut tree

1932/8 **Community Speed Watch**

The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with PC Jarvis regarding the Speed Watch and that it had been suspended over the winter months due to poor weather and volunteers being unable due to COVID restrictions. He confirmed that he had every intention of resuming activity in the Spring
Clerk to keep in touch with PC Jarvis and monitor

1932/9 **Tree Planting Initiative**

It was agreed that this could form part of the first newsletter.

1933 Financial matters

1933/1 The following payments have been made by BACS transfer following approval from Cllrs Baddley and Shaw and are listed here for formal record:

Clerk salary December 2020	£ 231.66
H.R, S.L & O.D Bonell (works to Parish Land)	£2793.75
Hankelow Church Hall	£90.00
Clerk salary January 2021	£231.66
Clerk expenses Dec 2020 / Jan 2021	£ 36.52
Tony Seabridge Playground Maintenance	£576.00
Morrall Play Services	£150.00
Clerk Salary February 2021	£231.66
SPS	£41.40
Zoom Upgrade	£143.88

1933/2 The draft budget for 2021/2022 was approved.

1934 Planning and Development

21/0537N Yew Tree Farm – no comments or objections
21/2038N The Ash Barn – no comments or objections

1935 Any other business

1935/1 Cllr Baddley requested that the Parish Council's appreciation to the two gentlemen whose names are unknown but who have been picking up litter from the hedgerows and the laybys and pruning trees be placed here for the record.

1935/2 Cllr Baddley raised the issue of dog walkers who had cut a hole in stock proof fencing next to a stile so that their dog could pass through. She stated that this was unacceptable behaviour at any time of the year but especially at this time when sheep and their lambs are likely to be in the field and could become caught in the hole. It was unanimously agreed that a reminder of the Country Code should appear in the first issue of the newsletter and that the footpath volunteers would resume as soon as the state of the ground had improved.

1936 Reports of meetings attended

Cllrs Lancaster and Baddley attended a meeting with Carole Dobson and other residents of Maltkilm Farm on 29 December 2020 to discuss the planning application 20/5398N. Both Cllrs reported that they had advised the residents to post their own objections to the application and that the Parish Council would do the same based on the Neighbourhood Plan and this had been done.

1937 Dates for future meetings.

To be held in accordance with Government guidelines on COVID-19 restrictions on the following dates subject to change. Meetings to commence at 1915hrs:

Thursday 1 April 2021
Thursday 3 June 2021
Thursday 5 August 2021
Thursday 7 October 2021
Thursday 2 December 2021