

## **BUERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**5<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Commenced: 7.15 pm**

**Terminated: 8.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillor A Baddley (Chair)  
Councillors N Bonell, D Mansell, K Mort and I Shaw

**Apologies for  
Absence:** Councillor G Farrealey

**Also in attendance were 17 Members of the Public.**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Farrealey.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received from Members of the Parish Council.

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **4. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS**

Members received applications and presentations from four applicants for two vacant seats on the Parish Council.

### **RESOLVED**

**That Mr Russell Black and Ms Tracy Myers be coopted onto the Membership of Buerton Parish Council, and the Chair extended a warm welcome.**

### **5. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Councillor Baddley reported on the following matters:-

#### **(i) Statutory public consultation for the Cheshire East Council Parking Review**

A Parking Review document had been circulated by Cheshire East Council, which had a particular impact on Audlem Parish Council and would also impact on Buerton Parish Council.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the Parish Council objects to this proposal and that the Chair be given delegated authority to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.**

#### **(ii) Footpath 7 - 2nd stile from Windmill Lane Bridge**

The Chair was looking to improve access on this footpath by replacing the existing stile with a gate and was awaiting a response from the landowner.

### **RESOLVED**

**That the report be noted.**

#### **(iii) Standing Orders**

Councillor Baddley reported on proposed changes to the Standing Orders that had been circulated with the Agenda.

**RESOLVED**

That the proposed changes be approved, and the Clerk to redraft the Standing Orders to incorporate these amendments.

**(iv) SSAFA**

The Chair reported on a donation request from SSAFA, the armed forces charity.

**RESOLVED**

That further consideration be given to this matter in the next financial year.

**6. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs Wendy Lucas and Mrs Margaret Scott reported that they were retiring from their voluntary roles in planting planters for the Parish.

**RESOLVED**

That the Parish Council extends its thanks to Mrs Lucas and Mrs Scott for giving their time generously by contributing to the village scene within the Parish.

**7. FINANCES AND BUDGET 2023-2024****RESOLVED**

That the Budget Expenditure detailed below, at the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be received:-

<b>Budget Head</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>BUDGET ALLOCATED</b>
Salary	£1,184.00	£2,850.00
Administration including Payroll	£338.71	£600.00
Training	£30.00	£100.00
Expenses	£173.74	£100.00
Internal Audit	£120.00	£100.00
Insurance	£546.42	£530.00
Room Hire	£25.00	£180.00
Audlem OnLine	£115.20	£115.00
Field Caretaker	£560.00	£1,100.00
Field Maintenance	£576.00	£3,760.00
Annual Playground Inspection	£162.00	£175.00
Asset Inspection	£0.00	£50.00
Subscriptions	£161.32	£173.00
Donations	£0.00	£375.00
Coronation Crown	£95.00	£100.00
Flowers	£111.81	£200.00
Proposed Projects	£920.00	£2,500.00

**(i) Reimbursement of Expenses:-****RESOLVED**

That reimbursement of the Expenses as detailed below, be approved:-

<b>Clerk</b>	<b>Travel expenses for purchase of laptop and Special Meeting</b>	<b>£24.66</b>
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Bridgemere Garden Centre</b>	<b>£22.01</b>
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Westholme Nurseries</b>	<b>£11.90</b>
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Argos Printer Inks</b>	<b>£54.08</b>

**(ii) Increase in Expenses Budget**

The Clerk reported that the funding allocation in the Expenses budget was insufficient, and proposed a transfer of £200 be taken from the Administration Budget and reallocated to the Expenses Budget.

**RESOLVED**

**That the reallocation of £200 from the Administration Budget to the Expenses Budget be approved.**

**(iii) Bank Reconciliation**

**RESOLVED**

**That, the bank reconciliation at the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023, as detailed below, be received (including expenses not yet approved detailed in Item 7(ii)):**

<b><u>Bank Reconciliation 27th September 2023</u></b>		
<b>BUERTON PARISH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Financial year ending 31 March 2024</b>		
	£	£
Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO		
Balance per bank statements as at 27th September 2023		
Current Account		<b>£15,751.28</b>
Less: any unpresented cheques	£0.00	
Add: any unbanked cash	£0.00	
<b>Net bank balances as at 27th September 2023</b>		<b>£15,751.28</b>
<b>The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows</b>		
<b><u>CASH BOOK</u></b>		
Main @ 01.04.2023		
Opening Balance		£12,332.47
Add: Receipts in the year	£8,538.01	
Less: Payments in the year	£5,119.20	
<b>Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above</b>		<b>£15,751.28</b>

**(iv) 2024-2025 Precept**

The Chair reported on the proposed expenditure and projects for 2024-2025, and highlighted the need for early consideration regarding the next year's Precept requirement.

**RESOLVED**

**That this matter be further considered and the Precept agreed at the next meeting of this Parish Council.**

- (v) **2024-2025 Contracts for the Parish Council Website and Grounds Maintenance.**

**RESOLVED**

1. **That the Chair be delegated to obtain three quotes for the Grounds Maintenance within the Parish for 2024-2025;**
2. **That the Parish Council website continues to be amalgamated with Audlem-on-Line, as this represents best value.**

**8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Councillor Baddley provided planning updates on the following:

- **New Planning Applications**

- (i) Application No: 23/3196N Badgers Cottage, Woore Road, Buerton, CW3 0DG. Porch, Rear Extension. The Parish Council's response to Cheshire East Planning on this application had been submitted.
- (ii) Application No: 23/3431N – Badgers Cottage, Buerton Hall Farm, Woore Road, Buerton, CW3 0DG. Proposed detached 'double garage' and change of use of land to facilitate site access.
- (iii) Application No: 23/3425T – Works to English Oak (veteran tree) – Buerton Old School, Woore Road, Buerton. CW3 0DD

- **Ongoing Planning Applications**

- (iv) Manor Farm, Hankins Heys Lane, Buerton, CW3 0DH - Demolition of agricultural sheds and erection of replacement agricultural building. An appeal had been submitted against the Refusal.

**RESOLVED**

**That the planning applications be noted.**

**9. BUERTON WORKING PARTY**

Councillors Shaw and Mort, reported that an initial meeting with interested parties had been held.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) **That the Terms of Reference for a general Working Party be drafted by the Clerk;**
- (ii) **That the Membership and the Responsibilities of the Fund Raising/Improvement Working Party be drafted by the Clerk.**

**10. USE OF BUERTON PLAYING FIELD**

The Chair reported that the historical use of the playing field for individual casual use, had now evolved into the hire of the playing field for official events and unfortunately, some conflict had arisen..

Discussions ensued regarding their concerns over statements published on social media, and the Chair reported that following this discussion, she looked forward to resuming positive working relationships with all interested parties.

**RESOLVED**

**That the report be noted.**

**11. FEEDBACK FROM ADDITIONAL PARISH MEETINGS**

It was noted that there had been no additional Parish Meetings on which to provide feedback.

**12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Consideration was given to items for inclusion on the next Agenda.

**RESOLVED**

**That the following items be discussed at the next meeting:**

**Precept;**

**Oak Tree Update;**

**Crowd Funding.**

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.15 pm at Hankelow Church Hall, 11 Old School Lane, Hankelow, Crewe, CW3 0JN

**14. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no items of Business which the Chair was of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.