



Draft Minutes of the Online Meeting of Bury Parish Council (BPC) held on Monday 11th May 2020 commencing at 6.30pm

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Those in attendance: Councillors Karen Davis (Chair), John Labarte (Vice Chair), Ed Rowsell, Chris Daykin, Katka Marconi, John Rudd, Paul Whyles, Chris Daykin and Richard Champness

Also in attendance: Clerk- Mike Simpson and one member of the public

2. Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to five minutes at the discretion of the Chair)

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

3. To Receive Declarations of Interest, Notification of Changes to Members' Interests and consider any requests for a dispensation

There were none.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th March 2020

The minutes to the Council meeting on 16th March 2020 were circulated in advance and it was **AGREED** to approve them as a fair and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising from the meeting 16th March (For information only)

There were none

6. Committees

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to form an Environment and Planning Committee consisting of Councillors Rowsell, Daykin, Whyles, Champness and Rudd. It was also **AGREED** that Councillors Davis, Marconi, Labarte and Whyles would form the Village Hall Working Group and it was **AGREED** that Councillors Davis, Champness and Labarte would form the Staff Working Group.

7. County Councillor reports

Councillor David Bradford provided the following written report

It's a great shame we cannot meet in person, but we all know why! Not many of us are untouched – my stepdaughter and her partner have both contracted the virus but as they are Senior Nurses, the NHS paid them a visit, tested fully and now they are back at work.

West Sussex has had 299 deaths from the virus regrettably.

But currently we have enough PPE, I am told. The great team at the Fire Service have been doing the deliveries where needed.

I am still working hard on all sorts of WSCC matters, the latest being to try and save some of the jobs at Gatwick Airport. Hundreds of families depend on the strength of our local economy. We are lobbying hard.

The County Council will not let me use zoom to communicate with you; they think it is not secure enough(!). So I will contact you all directly. With Boris's announcement of last night, we seem to have moved from 'crystal clear' to 'fuzzy'.

The main group of County Councillors meet 'virtually' via Skype every Monday morning without fail. Then in the afternoon I often meet on matters such as Pensions; (we run a £4.2Billion fund which has done well under the circumstances; we are usually in the top 3 Councils in the UK).

We discuss all relevant matters. Remember that lots of answers to your problems can be found on the WSCC website. But the situation is 'fluid' and constantly changing and we are not miracle workers. For example, most PPE issues are not down to us.

The Government had to go through a sharp learning curve on Care Homes! But we did help 46 homes last week. Most homes are privately run BUT it is US who have to step in when 'things go wrong'.

I am told that regulations on Garden Centres are easing so traders are unlikely to be prosecuted for transgressions. Enforcement is being moved from Trading Standards to Environmental Services.

We are in touch with all vulnerable children.

I am pretty sanguine about the 'tracing app'. Seems too much like Big Brother to me.

WASTE SITES should be reopening on w/c 11th May but I would avoid them at the beginning – it could be chaos if too many descend on the sites. Remember we have to cope with 7,500 visits per day normally. And there will be lots of limitations eg you must black bag everything I am told so probably no cardboard. I feel sorry for the contractors on site.

But as far as I can see the local guys who collect from your front door have done a magnificent job.

Covid has cost us maybe £85 Million so far in West Sussex and we are only part funded for this (and by law we have to balance our books; we are not going to turn into some kind of South American banana republic!)

If you are a small business, see if the new 'Bounce Back' scheme can help

Councillors noted the report

8. District Councillor reports

Councillor Alan Sutton joined the meeting and provided the following update: Chichester District Council had issued most of the grants for small businesses to help them through the Coronavirus pandemic and the Council's Full Recovery Plan had started to help businesses recover. The Council had also succeeded in helping the homeless off the street and into temporary accommodation. Councillor Sutton advised that bin collection was running a normal schedule and that tips had reopened. He mentioned that the Parish Council Newsletter had been well received and praised the Council for its content.

Councillors thanked him for attending and providing the update.

9. Chair's announcements

The Chair advised that, overall, businesses in the area were still open and receiving trade and that the new Council website was progressing well. The next meeting to discuss the Council's business plan will be arranged soon. The Chair also advised that she had investigated the cost of circulating a leaflet to all residents with information about coronavirus. However, it turned out to be too expensive.

10. Update on Coronavirus

There was no update

11. Planning Applications

SDNP/20/01479/HOUS White Webbs Cottage Church Lane Bury Pulborough West Sussex RH20 1PB
Proposal: Erection of outbuilding to provide home office and glazed link.

The Council **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application subject to a planning condition being imposed to ensure the outbuilding remains ancillary to the main building

SDNP/20/00500/FUL The Barn Land East of Kymber House Hale Hill West Burton RH20 1HE Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building and associated works to form 1 no. residential dwelling house. The Council **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application

SDNP/20/01631/TCA Rose Cottage West Burton Road West Burton Pulborough West Sussex RH20 1HD Proposal: Notification of intention to fell group of 4 no. Leyland and Lawson Cypress trees. The Council **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application

12. Payments and bank reconciliation

The Clerk presented the schedule of payments made since the last meeting as well as bank reconciliations and bank statements from March and April which the Council **RESOLVED** to approve

13. Variance Report

The Clerk presented the report outlining the variance between the Council's actual spend against their budget which Councillors **AGREED** to approve.

14. Grounds Maintenance

Councillor Whyles updated the Council on the cost of replacing broken fencing at the Recreation Ground. The quote received was for circa £2,000 which the Council agreed was expensive. Councillors **AGREED** to acquire two more quotes and approach the cricket club to contribute as primary users of the Recreation Ground. Councillor Daykin informed the Council that he will be meeting contractors to get quotes for work at Pill Pond and would also approach South Downs National Park Authority to see if there were any grants.

15. Bury Cricket Club licence

The Clerk presented the revised licence for Bury Cricket Club regarding the use of the Recreation Ground which included only two small amendments which Councillors **AGREED** to approve. A discussion ensued following a request from the Cricket Club to cull rabbits at the Recreation Ground. The clerk advised that the rabbits had been burrowing which posed a potential risk to residents whereupon Councillors **AGREED** to insert an amendment to the licence allowing the Cricket Club to carry out culls but only if the Council was informed first and the necessary safety measures and insurance were in place.

16. Triathlon event at Bury Wharf

Following a request to use Bury Wharf as a starting point for a triathlon event, Councillors agreed that they were happy with the idea in principle but were concerned about cars and parking. It was decided that more information was required before making any decision and that the clerk feed this back to the event organiser.

17. Village Hall

There was no update

18. Apple Day

Councillor Daykin advised the Council that he had secured a press and grinder and was hoping for a September event. However, this was subject to any lockdown restrictions.

Meeting ended at 8.37pm