



**Minutes of the Environment & Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of Bury Parish Council (BPC) held on
Wednesday 1st September 2021**

Mike Simpson, Clerk to Bury Parish Council, Bury Village Hall, The Street, Bury, West Sussex, RH20 1PA
Email – clerkburyparishcouncil@gmail.com

1. Election of Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Daykin as Chairman.

1. Election of Vice Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Councillor Paul Whyles as Vice Chairman.

2. Terms of reference

Councillors **RESOLVED** to adopt the draft terms of reference.

3. Attendance and apologies for absence

In attendance: Councillors Daykin (Chair), Whyles (Vice Chair), Champness and Rudd

Also in attendance: Mike Simpson (clerk) and three members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Morrison

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

There were none

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

One member of the public wished to speak about a proposal from the Wild Trout Trust, which was recently adopted by the Council, to turn Pill Pond into a natural stream and offline pond. He believed that trout would not be able to reach the pond and therefore it was not appropriate for the WTT to advise the council. He suggested the WTT proposal was just an outline and there were issues facing its success and therefore required proper design. He also believed the pond had historical significance and was once a mill pond and was once much bigger than it is now. However, he could only provide this assumption based on Pill Pond's appearance in old maps and that further evidence would have to be searched for at the archives. He also suggested the WTT plan would not resolve the Council's maintenance issues as it would still accumulate silt and require a secure embankment and spillway. He ended by stating he and other residents were willing to continue communicating with the Council about another way forward to avoid modifying the pond.

A member of the public raised concerns about accessibility of footpaths in two areas. One was the Coffin Trail by Dorset House and the other was via Houghton Lane up to the riverbank. Both were difficult to access due to the wet/slippy conditions and suggested a handrail would be helpful.

One member of the public spoke about his planning application SDNP/21/04265/HOUS and suggested the type of PVC windows he was considering for his property were consistent with other houses in the conversation area and that his neighbours were happy with them.

6. Minutes from meeting on 12th April 2021

Councillors **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting on 12th April 2021 were a fair and accurate record.

7. Planning Applications

SDNP/21/03937/TCA

Woodbine Cottage The Street Bury RH20 1PA Proposal: Notification of intention to crown thin by 15% and crown lift to 2m (above ground level) on 1 no. Silver Birch tree (quoted as T1). Crown reduce height by 3m (leaving final height of around 4.5m) on 1 no. Eucalyptus tree (quoted as T2).

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application.

SDNP/21/03938/TCA

Headmasters House Dorset House School Church Lane Bury Pulborough West Sussex Proposal: Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Ash tree (T1).

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application subject to a condition that a suitable replacement was planted such as an English hardwood.

SDNP/21/04102/TCA

Papplewick Houghton Lane Bury RH20 1PD Proposal: Notification of intention to reduce height by 1m on 1 no. Cherry Laurel hedge (quoted as H1). Fell 2 no. Bay laurel trees (quoted as G1), 1 no Holly tree (quoted as G1) and 1 no. Lawson cypress tree (quoted as T1).

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application.

SDNP/21/04265/HOUS

High Dyke Church Lane Bury RH20 1PB Proposal: Replacement of existing windows.

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application.

SDNP/21/04100/LIS

Westburton Place West Burton Road West Burton RH20 1HD Proposal: Proposed roof alterations and associated remedial works.

After discussion Councillors **AGREED** to remain neutral on this application.

8. Grounds maintenance

(a) To discuss conducting a tree survey for the parish.

Councillors considered last year's tree survey and discussed conducting another one for this year. The survey showed that several Ash trees were felled last year due to Ash Dieback and it was **AGREED** that the remaining Ash trees (T6, T7, T8 and T11 from the 2020 report), should be surveyed to ensure they are still in a fair condition.

(b) To discuss refurbishing the road signpost in West Burton.

The Chair advised the Committee that he had inspected the sign with Primavera who was putting together a quote for the repair works. Councillor Whyles queried whether Primavera knew the specific paint colour for the sign and whether they could provide evidence of similar work as it required specialist treatment. The Chair believed the answer to both questions was yes and that Primavera was sensitive to the fact it was a heritage item.

(c) To receive any update on plans for Pill Pond.

The Chair informed the committee that the South Downs National Park Authority was still trying to approve grant funding for the Wild Trout Trust's proposal to turn Pill Pond into a natural watercourse. However, he believed it would not happen this year and that a meeting will be scheduled with the Wild Trout Trust once funding had been acquired. Councillor Whyles responded to the member of the public's comments about the pond stating that it was currently providing the Council with big cost implications and that is why he warned personally to the WTT proposal as it would preserve the tranquillity of the pond and resolve the

maintenance issues. He added that he was also worried about the historical significance of the pond but was unable to find any evidence to suggest it had any.

(d) To receive an update on the footpath by the riverbank.

The Chair updated Councillors on his meeting with owners of the footpath by the riverbank. He explained the Council had not been maintaining the footpath due to a legal issue regarding ownership. The owner said that once the legal issue was resolved then they would be carrying out some remedial work in the area which included the willow trees by the riverside. The Chair responded to the resident's concerns about accessibility of the two footpaths in the parish and said that any attempted remedial works to footpath by Dorset House would just be washed out as it gets so wet. He added that the installation of a handrail was an ownership issue but suggested approaching West Sussex County Council about the riverbank footpath and asked the clerk to contact them to see if one could be installed.

The meeting ended at 6.50pm