

# Bunbury Parish Council

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## MINUTES

of the meeting held at The Jubilee Pavilion, Bunbury, on

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.35pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Liam Anderson, Linda Barton, Pamela Brookfield (Chair), Peter Gorman, Nick Parker, Richard Slater, Mike Thomas and Andrew Thomson.

**In attendance:** Maximilian Clay - Clerk to the Council  
One member of the public

**May 23-1. Election of Chair**

Cllr Brookfield was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously.

**May 23-2. Election of Vice-Chair**

Cllr Thomson was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously.

**May 23-3. Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

The newly elected Chair and Vice-Chair duly signed their declarations.

**May 23-4. Apologies**

All members were present and so there were no apologies.

**May 23-5. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Considerations**

There were no declarations of interest.

**May 23-6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 were a true record and that the Chair be authorised to sign them as such.

**May 23-7. Unitary Authority Councillor Report**

Borough Cllr Posnett was in attendance, having been elected earlier in the month, and was welcomed.

**May 23-8. Public Forum**

No matters were raised.

**May 23-9. Members' Reports & Items for Future Agendas**

- ◆ Cllr Barton had submitted a written report on defibrillators and highlighted that the cost of maintaining the units with pads and batteries is significant, so provision should be made when budgeting, for example over £500 will be needed in 2025. This was noted and will be discussed when the next budget is prepared. The replacement of paediatric pads for one unit, at a cost of £200 and a heated cabinet at a cost of £600 is more urgent and will be considered at the next meeting.
- ◆ Cllr Anderson proposed that the WhatsApp group be reviewed with a view to making it permanent.

**May 23-10. Planning**

**a. Responses to Application Consultations:**

**i. 23/1393N - 4 Wakes Meadow, Bunbury**

*Mono pitch garage extension in line with neighbour's additions to enable a reconfiguration internally. Mono pitch single storey rear extension to feature skylights. 2 number dormers to front elevation to enable future plans with a loft conversion. A new bay window to the current office room to convert it into a snug lounge. (Re-consultation)*

After brief discussion the Council resolved to offer no objection.

**ii. 23/1594N - The Old Coach House, Bowes Gate Road, Bunbury**

*Change in use of land to garden, creation of new access and hardstanding area and construction of a detached car port.*

After brief discussion the Council resolved to offer no objection, noting that adequate acknowledgement of the issues arising from the presence of TPOs on a number of trees had been made in the application.

**iii. 23/1615N - The Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury**

*Erection of a wooden oak balcony (raised platform) to the rear of the property from the existing Juliet balcony. North East facing across empty fields.*

After lengthy discussion it was resolved to offer no objection to the application but to recommend that the issue of privacy be dealt with by the requirement for a privacy panel on the side of the balcony. It was also agreed to point out the building regulations problem arising from the proposed situation of the balcony over the oil tank.

**b. Updates on Application Consultations considered previously:**

It was noted that the applications for **Parkside** and the **Methodist Chapel** had still not been considered but that Cllr Thomson would attend the relevant meeting(s) as and when they were scheduled (or other arrangements would be made if this were not possible). In relation to **Parkside**, Cllr Thomson pointed out that there had been considerable representation from residents, especially in relation to the facts that the proposal is for building outside the settlement boundary and that there is no demonstrable need for the proposed housing.

It was resolved to delegate the monitoring of developments in the proposal to Cllr Thomson and empower him to make further objection as necessary.

**May 23-11. Installation of Poles Related to Fibre Broadband**

The Council had previously considered a request from Airband Community Internet Ltd to install two poles on Council owned land at the Playing Fields but had deferred a decision pending further information. In the light of that information, and especially the fact that there was no appreciable community benefit to the proposal and that other provision for fibre broadband is being developed, the Council resolved not to grant permission.

**May 23-12. Fundraising by Young People for the Maintenance of the Play Area**

Cllr Anderson had consulted with families and it was felt that an event that was held entirely within the playing fields would be preferred and so he proposed a sponsored laps event, enabling people to complete the course at whatever speed they wished. The Council resolved to hold the event on the second weekend of September and to keep the event simple. Cllr Anderson was delegated to organise the event and to keep the Council informed. It was noted that a first responder should be present.

**May 23-13. Correspondence and Clerk's Report**

There was nothing new to report but the Clerk reminded members of the need to submit election expenses forms, following the recent election.

**May 23-14. Coronation Event**

It was reported that the event had been very relaxed and well attended, despite the fact that the live band had had to pull out. Feedback suggested that the absence of live music was welcomed as it created a more open feel to the event. Just under £420 was raised to support defibrillator costs and it was noted that a card reader for payments would have significantly increased the amount raised. No litter had been left and the event had garnered a good level of publicity in local media.

**May 23-15. Village Day Stall**

The Council had been asked if it would take a stall at Village Day (17th June) at a cost of £10. After brief discussion it was agreed that the stall would be used to help residents better understand the purpose and achievements of the Parish Council, including the names of members, use of the speed gun, the neighbourhood plan and locations of defibrillators.

## **May 23-16. Finance and Governance**

- a. Schedule of Receipts and Payments - The schedule of receipts and payments was received and it was resolved to approve the payments.
- b. Council Representation - A schedule of current councillor roles and representational roles on village bodies had been circulated and it was agreed to maintain the current memberships together with some additions. A new schedule will be circulated with the minutes.
- c. The Council received a brief report on the purpose of the General Power of Competence and agreed to move the idea forward in principle over the next year to 18 months. To achieve this status, the Clerk would need to obtain a further qualification for which training would be necessary and, ultimately, the Council would need to pass a formal resolution (with a majority of *elected* members supporting the resolution). The Clerk will move ahead with the training and once this is complete will prepare a formal report and motion for the Council to consider.

## **May 23-17. Speed Management Policy**

The Council had received a report from Cllr Gorman setting out the key issues and a number of proposals. Following discussion, the Council resolved to mandate Cllr Gorman to convene a working group, including residents, to consider adopting a 20mph speed limit within the current 30mph zone, the introduction of a 30mph buffer zone from the Bowes Gate/Bunbury Common junction and designating Birds Lane and College Lane as 'Quiet Lanes'.

The Working Group's remit will be to:

- a. Disseminate information about 20 mph zones and how they could be implemented within the village (using, for example, posters and public meetings.)
- b. Survey the village to gather opinion
- c. Propose (to the Council) any necessary adjustments to the proposed 20mph zone and quiet lanes
- d. Draft Active Travel Schemes, where appropriate, for consideration by the Council
- e. Report back to the Council with any proposals for a 20mph zone/ Quiet Lanes/ 30mph buffer zone.

Consultation will be both digital and physical.

**The meeting closed at 9.27pm**

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chair

Date