

BURMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Year 2021, page 4

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING

On Tuesday 5th October 2021 starting at 7:30 pm in All Saints Church

Present: Cllr. Mrs. P. Argar (Chairman) and Cllrs. B. Ashdown, A. Burgess, Mrs. L. Cottingham, D. Wimble & clerk J. Rich plus 2 members of the public

1. **Minutes** - minutes of the last meeting on 3rd August 2021 were agreed and signed.

2. **Defibrillator** – Awareness training has been applied for and a date is awaited.

3. **Playing field**

(A) received the Chairman's report on the survey of residents' views on the use and provision of the playing field. Cllr. Mrs. Argar had distributed over 70 questionnaires in the village and notices had been placed at the playing field and in the Burmarsh Newsletter to alert any users from further away. About 25 responses were received, nearly all being in favour of retaining this amenity. Members thanked Mrs. Argar for her work.

(B) considered the current grass cutting contractor's request for a continuation of the contract for the next two years at the same price and agreed to accept this offer for the parish council's playing field.

(C) noted safety concerns about the Children's Fund's fencing of its area and agreed to investigate replacement of the fence in support of the Children's Fund.

4. **Financial Matters**

(A) approved 2 payments of £168 inc. VAT to M. Coleman for grass cutting in August & September.

(B) reconciled the cash book with the bank statement dated 1st September, showing a balance of £10,808.20 on 24th August.

(C) noted the bank's confirmation that the Signatory Amendment request has been completed.

(D) agreed to consider next year's budget and precept demand at a future meeting.

(E) accepted, with thanks to Cllr. Mrs. Cottingham, a wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday and approved a £25 donation to the RBL Dymchurch Branch. Arrangements for presenting the wreath on behalf of the parish council will be finalised at the next meeting.

5. **Church Room**

(A) noted that the district council has agreed to the parish council's request that the Church Room be listed as an Asset of Community Value with effect from 23rd August 2021 and that there follows an eight week period during which the owner may challenge the ruling.

(B) noted that the Churchwardens have been informed by the diocese that use of the Church Room is not insured and that consequently the Churchwardens have offered the church as a meeting place for the parish council.

(C) the chairman reported that she will be meeting with the PCC and other interested parties to consider future steps to restore the Church Room for community use.

6. **Church bells** – agreed to refer to the PCC a request from a resident to reconsider the time of bell practice to take account young children's bed times, whilst confirming that Members would not wish to see bell ringing stopped.

7. **Benches** – thanked Mrs. Whitehead for her kind offer to paint the benches by the bus shelter as an acknowledgement of the litter bin being moved. Discussed their current condition and agreed to defer the matter until the spring.

8. **Dog bag dispenser** – considered Cllr. Burgess's suggestion that a dispenser should be provided similar to those at Sellindge and Aldington. Noted costings provided by the Chairman and other considerations and resolved by a majority not to agree.

9. **Correspondence** – noted correspondence received, including a suggestion that the parish council consider purchasing land as an investment.
10. **Highways** – asked the clerk to pursue highways faults which had been reported as completed when this did not appear to so and also a fallen tree in Shearway and an overgrown hedge in Donkey Street. Noted that obstructive parking in Church Road seemed to have reduced.
10. **Next meeting** – Tuesday 2nd November 2021.