

**BURTON-IN-KENDAL PARISH COUNCIL**  
[www.burton-in-kendal-pc.gov.uk](http://www.burton-in-kendal-pc.gov.uk)

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
at 7.15pm in the Memorial Hall, Burton-in-Kendal**

**PRESENT:** Cllr A Wren (Chairman), P Rogers, M. Rowley, J. Hopwood, G. Isherwood, S. Colyer, D. Haigh, F. Mason-Hornby

Also present: County Councillor & District Councillor R. Bingham and B. Cooper & Parish Clerk C. Davidson

**PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE.** Two members of the public were present.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Councillor Mike Taylor

**2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD .** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

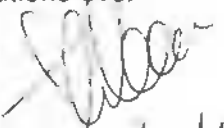
**3. ANNUAL REPORT OF CHAIRMAN**

This year has seen the first parish council elections for many years, resulting in a change of two members of the council and I would like to welcome Sarah and David to what I hope will be the first of many Annual Parish Council meetings. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our previous Councillors, John Brown for his service to the Parish and of course Peter Smith who served both as Councillor and Parish Clerk, and on a personal note I would like to thank Peter for the guidance he gave me during my first few meetings in the chair.

During my research for this report, I looked back over the last couple of years of minutes and agendas and found there is a noticeable trend in the decrease of consultation documents being passed to us for comment as a Council, with many bodies opting for an online option, with Councillors being asked to respond individually rather than as a Council. Another unfortunate decrease noted was the infrequency we have a police presence at a meeting, we do still however receive and emailed report but we have only had two visits from PCSOs Coleman and Boak. Thankfully we in Burton and the surrounding area are incredibly lucky to have such a low crime rate, but a more frequent visit from the local constabulary would be most welcome.

Something which never seems to decrease from year to year is the number of planning applications we receive, 2016/17 was no exception with the Council being asked to comment on 16 applications. These ranged from a small extension to two of the three larger scale developments included in the Local Development Plan. The Green Dragon Development had a planning workshop in May which three Councillors were invited to attend as well as the Church Bank development currently well underway. Other notable applications were the Holme Park Quarry extension of time and the controversial Witherslack Group's application for a 'Certificate of Lawful Development' on the Cottage.

During planning it was also noticeable that the Government's switch of subsidies on renewable green energy has changed with a steady increase in solar power solutions over

  
18/3/18

wind turbines. With numerous solar array developments both within our Parish and surrounding countryside

The last twelve months have also seen the Council again contribute to the village book drop service, a well-attended facility in the Memorial Hall. The recreation ground grass cutting and the installation of rubber safety matting to be placed under the zip wire on the playground

Some topics never go away and are visited most years. Parking, speeding, dog fouling and drainage are four regulars and we all have our favourite.

Unfortunately parking is a subject we will visit many more times, all we can ask is that drivers park within the law and with consideration of others. Hopefully we have helped alleviate some of the dog mess in the village with the provision of dog waste bag dispenser fitted in The Square. However, we still have issues in some areas in the village with dog mess, may I remind dog owners of their responsibility to clean up after their pet, and the financial penalties if they don't. The Parish Council will continue to maintain pressure on the authorities to improve the drainage within the village following the floods of 2015. This is a topic I raise on a regular basis, but as yet with little joy. Speeding is another annual problem which I hope with the installation of the speed indication device (SID) the Council has helped alleviate, we unfortunately cannot make provision for the idiot on the road.

This year the Council's finance working party advised the Council that a modest precept rise was needed and a precept of £15090 was proposed. This was in order to maintain the Council's currently financial footing. (The precept is the Parish Council's share of your Council Tax). This figure was duly adopted.

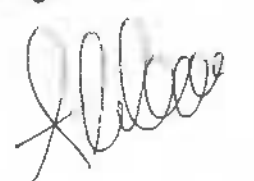
Unfortunately, the number of members of the public attending council meetings was disappointing again this year. I am hoping with some larger planning developments on the horizon, the number of parishioners attending meetings will increase. But it would be nice to see anyone with new ideas and suggestions, or who are just interested to see how the Council works. So please do come along, we don't bite.

It only needs me to thank my fellow Councillors who give their valuable time to represent the Parish interests on many organisations such as Burton Educational Foundation, Burton Recreation Trust, Local Area Partnership, Memorial Hall Management Committee, Quarry Liaison Committee, Burton School Governors, Fireworks Working Party, Lengthsman Manager, Plain Quarry Working Group, Playground Maintenance to name but a few.

I would also like to thank our local press representatives who sit through all of our meetings, without yawning too much or dropping off to sleep, our Lengthsman David Holmes for his tireless work keeping the Parish in good order, our District Councillor Brian Cooper, District and County Councillor Roger Bingham for their regular attendances and carrying our view and issues forward. I would also like to thank Alison Cummings for auditing our accounts and last but not least our Parish Clerk who works tirelessly chasing up various County and District departments and looking after our finances and making these meetings run as smoothly as they do.

## **5. OPEN FORUM.**

No comments

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. Holmes', is written over the bottom right of the page.