



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES

of the **Ordinary meeting** held in Burton Green Village Hall, Red Lane at 7:30pm on  
**20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

**Present:** Councillors McColl (Chairman), Marshall (Vice), Aizlewood, Deeley, Hatton, Larsen, Paine, Taylor, Webster and the Clerk (Helen du Bois).

**Others present:** None

**Public:** Three

No.	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>
	The Council had received apologies from Cllr Gibbs which were accepted. Cllr Cooke (WCC) sent apologies.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests</b>
	None.
<b>3.</b>	<b>To approve the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>
	The minutes were approved and signed without amendment.
<b>4.</b>	<b>To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting that are not included on the agenda</b>
	<p>The Clerk gave an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initial discussions have begun with Nigel Whyte (Principal Transport Manager, WCC) regarding the Residents' Association's suggestion to install a bus shelter at the bus stop on Red Lane. The Clerk will circulate key points.</li><li>• The two new noticeboards have been delivered; the Clerk will liaise with Fairways Ltd to organise installation.</li><li>• The No Dogs signs will be installed at the 3 entrances to Burrow Hill playing field shortly. Cllr Deeley and the Clerk will issue a statement informing residents which will be included in the next edition of The Bugle and on the noticeboard.</li><li>• The Clerk attended the WALC Conference and AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> November. The members voted for a 6% increase in annual subscription fees for 24/25.</li></ul> <p>Cllr Marshall explained that Cllr Hales (WDC) was due to meet with Cllr Matecki (WCC's Portfolio holder for Transport and Planning) to discuss WCC's Bus Service Improvement Plan. Cllr Marshall has provided Cllr Hales with a proposal for a bus service through Burton Green, operating between Kenilworth and Tile Hill railway stations, via Kenilworth Castle, which would be in accord with the Warwickshire CC Bus Service Improvement Plan and the National Bus Strategy.</p> <p><b>Outstanding actions:</b> <b>Cllr Deeley</b> and <b>the Clerk</b> to communicate the No Dogs policy at the playing field to residents. <b>The Clerk</b> to investigate costs for blue P signs to direct visitors to the Burrow Hill car park</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Community reports</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>County Councillor, Lapworth and West Kenilworth: Cllr Cooke</b> Cllr Cooke's report had been circulated prior to the meeting, see Appendix A.
<b>5.2</b>	<b>District Councillors, Kenilworth Abbey and Arden: Cllr Hales, Cllr Aizlewood, Cllr Armstrong</b> Cllr Aizlewood's report had been circulated prior to the meeting, see Appendix A.



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	<p>Cllr Aizlewood explained that since his report was written, WDC Councillors have voted to continue with the project to redevelop the Abbey Fields swimming pool, the new pool will be built above the preserved medieval remains.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall enquired about WDC's recent decision to become an associate member of the West Midlands Combined Authority to help bring forward the proposed Gigafactory at Coventry airport.</p>
<b>5.3</b>	<p><b>Community Summary Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Burton Green Primary School:</b> building work is now complete, work is being done to finish the landscaping and purchase furnishings.</li><li>• <b>Village Hall Committee:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Committee has a meeting with Deeley Construction on 15<sup>th</sup> December to run through the remaining issues on the snagging list, including the recent flooding near the patio area.</li><li>○ The recent Christmas Craft fayre was very successful.</li><li>○ Jeremy Wright's HS2 forum meeting will be held at the hall on 8<sup>th</sup> December.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Residents' Association (RA):</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Cllr Deeley explained that the Residents Association and a Burton Green resident are due to meet with Jeremy Wright MP on 15<sup>th</sup> December to discuss improving the bus service for Burton Green.</li><li>○ Thanks were given to those who arranged the Remembrance display on the Coronation verge.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Warwick University:</b> Councillors gave a summary of the event they attended recently regarding the University's plans for a new science precinct.</li><li>• <b>Kenilworth Greenway:</b> no update</li></ul>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Public participation</b></p> <p>A member of the public made the following comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A recommendation that the Village Hall Management Committee consider providing additional car parking on the grassed areas during popular events.</li><li>2. HS2 has confirmed that they will cut back the overgrowth obstructing the path on the redirected footpath W/182A behind Poors Wood.</li><li>3. A photo of the location of Coventry Energy Storage's BESS proposal had been put on Facebook, encouraging residents to submit their comments to Solihull Borough Council - there have been 15 comments submitted so far.</li></ol>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Planning:</b></p>
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>To discuss matters relating to the South Warwickshire Local Plan</b></p> <p>Cllr Armstrong noted that the Issues &amp; Options Consultation summary document has been published. He explained that the Joint Committee (of Warwick and Stratford District Councils) is to be convened later this month to re-appraise the revised timescale proposed by officers; the Preferred Options consultation is unlikely to be run before October 2024, increased public engagement will be carried out before the Consultation.</p> <p>The Council discussed how this information could be communicated to residents; Cllr Armstrong has written an update for the next edition of The Bugle.</p>
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>To consider correspondence received re: W/23/1094 Burrow Hill House</b></p> <p>The Parish Council had considered planning application W/23/1094 Burrow Hill House in the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 when a NEUTRAL response was agreed.</p>



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	<p>It was noted that since that meeting, the Ecology Assessment has been submitted (and is favourable, offering biodiversity gain) and local District Councillors have indicated their support for the applicant, given what they considered to be the “exceptional circumstances”.</p> <p>The Council discussed the proposal again and re-stated its strong objection to building in Green Belt which protects Burton Green from encroachment from Solihull and Coventry. However, Councillors agreed that the applicant presented a unique set of circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The site is effectively a brownfield site washed over by Green Belt, for the last 37 years it has been tarmacked and was previously a delivery area for the pre-existing business. The site is surrounded on 3 sides by housing development, with an access road and stables block on the 4<sup>th</sup> side, so effectively enclosed within existing development.</li><li>○ The proposal is to build a single, low-rise dwelling. The dwelling is to have covenants placed in perpetuity to limit its use to supporting people with autism or some other form of physical or mental impairment, who would not otherwise be able to live independently within the village. The building would therefore provide a social resource to the village of Burton Green and is aligned to needs identified in the Burton Green Housing Needs Survey (2018).</li></ul> <p>A vote was held, with 8:1 Councillors in favour of submitting SUPPORT for the application.</p> <p><b>ACTION: the Clerk</b> to submit the comments.</p>
<b>7.3</b>	<b>To consider the following planning applications</b>
<b>7.3.1</b>	<p><a href="#">PL/2023/02196/PPFL</a></p> <p>Installation of a flexible electricity storage facility to supplement the local electricity grid in order to stabilise and secure electricity supply. Land East of Hodgetts Lane Berkswell Solihull BGPC comment: <b>OBJECT</b>, for comments see Appendix B</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Taylor would ask Cllr Richard Lloyd (Berkswell Parish Council) if he would speak on the Council’s behalf at the relevant SBC Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>Cllr McColl informed the Council that he had written to the National Grid asking for confirmation that there is enough capacity at their Hodgetts Lane substation for grid connections to all the proposed BESS sites.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b> <b>Cllr Taylor</b> to contact Cllr Lloyd regarding the SBC Planning Committee meeting. <b>The Clerk</b> to send the Council’s <b>OBJECTION</b> comments to the SBC Planning Officer.</p>
<b>7.3.2</b>	<p><a href="#">W/23/1529/HS2</a></p> <p>Schedule 17(9) Bringing into Use Application for the following:- Work No. 2/183A - A temporary diversion of Cromwell Lane commencing at a point 124 metres south of its junction with Hodgetts Lane and terminating at a point 140 metres north of its commencement. Land at Cromwell Lane, Burton Green, Warwick CV8 1PG BGPC comment: <b>NEUTRAL</b></p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Finance</b>
<b>8.1</b>	<b>To note the 2023/24 Local Government Services Pay Agreement</b>
	<p>It was noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had reached an agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The new rate will be implemented from the Dec 2023 payroll which will include back-pay for all hours worked between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to inform Topsource Worldwide Ltd of the new pay rate.</p>



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<b>8.2</b>	<b>To receive the Finance Report and approve invoices for payment</b>			
<p>The Clerk presented the latest Finance Report, see Appendix C.</p> <p>It was noted that the Council had received £10,000.00 from Cala Homes for the Burrow Hill grounds maintenance contribution. This will be transferred to the Unity Trust Instant Access savings account.</p> <p>It was noted that the Clerk had received confirmation from the Burton Green Bowls Club that the bowls were on loan and had not yet been purchased; the £550 grant payment was made to the club by BACS on 30.10.23. The Bowls Club had sent written thanks to the Council for the grant.</p> <p>The Finance Report showed a general reserves balance of <b>£40,591.21</b> on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and an expected balance of <b>£27,148.86</b> once all invoices and internal transfers have been paid.</p> <p>Contractual wage, tax and pension payments for November 2023 salary were approved for payment on 18.12.23</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to pay the following invoices:</p>				
	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>AMOUNT*</b>
1	Leicestershire Gardens	Grass cutting Aug 2023	BACS	£120.00
2	Geosphere Ltd	Parish Online Annual subscription Oct 23 – Oct 24	BACS	£86.40
3	Topsorce Worldwide Ltd	Monthly Payroll Oct 2023	BACS	£12.94
4	Playsafety Ltd	Annual Playground Inspection 2023	BACS	£90.00
5	H DU BOIS	Salary Oct 2023	BACS	£726.49
6	HMRC	Income Tax & NIC contributions Oct 23	BACS	£125.49
7	WCC Pension Fund	Employer contribution Oct 23	BACS	£185.49
8	WCC Pension Fund	Employee contribution Oct 23	BACS	£48.59
9	H DU BOIS	Office costs & expenses Sept/Oct 23	BACS	£138.67
10	Greenbarnes Ltd	2 x noticeboards (CIL funded)	BACS	£1940.57
11	Instant Access account	Burrow Hill grounds maintenance payment	TFR	£10,000.00
12	Current Account	Refund of CIL funds for 2 noticeboards (exc VAT)	TFR	-£1617.15
		<b>Total</b>		<b>£11,857.49</b>
<b>To be paid on 18.12.23:</b>				
10	H DU BOIS	Salary Nov 2023	BACS	£981.73
11	HMRC	Income Tax & NIC contributions Nov 23	BACS	£270.99
12	WCC Pension Fund	Employer contribution Nov 23	BACS	£263.20
13	WCC Pension Fund	Employee contribution Nov 23	BACS	£68.94
		<b>Total</b>		<b>£1,584.86</b>
<p>*Statutory Power used for all payments: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to set up the payments for authorisation by two signatories.</p>				
<b>8.3</b>	<b>To appoint an Internal Auditor for the 2023/24 AGAR</b>			
<p>The Council's previous Internal Auditor had declined to submit a quote for the 2023/24 AGAR. The Council considered a quote of £340.00 plus mileage from Ms. E Choudry (an independent Internal Auditor and also Clerk to Shrewley Parish Council) which was approved.</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to inform Ms. E Choudry of the appointment.</p>				
<b>8.4</b>	<b>To consider the draft budget for 2024/25 and consider likely project costs for 2024/25</b>			
<p>Councillors reviewed the draft budget and made recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cllr Deeley informed the Council that rental rates for rooms at the village hall are likely to be increased in 2024.</li> </ul>				



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Increase the amount ringfenced for S137 grants.</li><li>- Include a budget line for Biodiversity/Climate Change projects; Cllr Warwick explained that he is involved in a project with WCC and the Heart of England Forest charity which aims to 're-green' Burton Green.</li></ul> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to present an updated draft Budget for Expenditure to Councillors at the January 2024 meeting.</p>
9.	<p><b>To review and approve the following policies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training and Development Policy</li><li>• Financial Reserves Policy</li><li>• Grant Awarding Policy</li></ul>
	<p>These were approved and signed without amendment.</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to add the policies to the website.</p>
10.	<p><b>To note the Council's duty under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (s40) and review a draft Biodiversity Statement</b></p>
	<p>It was noted that under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (s40) there is a duty on the Council to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of its policy and decision making.</p> <p>The Council's Biodiversity Statement was amended and approved, see appendix D.</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to add the Biodiversity Statement to the website.</p>
11.	<p><b>To review the draft Action Plan</b></p>
	<p>The updated Action Plan was reviewed, Cllr McColl gave a brief update on the Village Gates proposal. It was agreed to store the Action Plan in an online shared drive so that Councillors could update when necessary.</p> <p><b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to save the Action Plan to a shared drive.</p>
12.	<p><b>Burrow Hill playing field</b></p>
12.1	<p><b>To consider the quotes received for a height restriction barrier, fencing and posts</b></p> <p>The Council considered quotes from three suppliers.</p> <p>It was agreed to accept the quote worth £5997.28 + VAT from Secure-a-Field for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RHS gate leaf frame 4.8m (w) x 2.2m (h)</li><li>• Hang post and hold back post</li><li>• Padlock box</li><li>• Warning sign</li><li>• 6m (w) x 1.2m (h) black estate fencing</li><li>• 7 x 150x150mm steel bollards with reflective stripe</li></ul> <p>All items galvanised and powder coated BLACK</p> <p>Councillors reviewed the height restrictions at council car parks in Coventry. It was agreed to set the height of the barrier at 2.2m and to request reflective stripes to be added to the barrier.</p> <p>The Clerk has arranged an online meeting with WDC's Car Parks Manager and WDC's Parking Operations &amp; Enforcement Team Leader to discuss car park management best practise.</p> <p>Councillors decided not to install a grit bin at the car park but it was agreed that a waste bin was necessary.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b></p> <p><b>The Clerk</b> to check that planning permission will not be required for the height restriction barrier.</p> <p><b>Cllr Larsen</b> to discuss the plans with the owner of 1 Green Leek Lane.</p> <p><b>The Clerk</b> to provide Cllrs with relevant information from the meeting with WDC's Car Parks officers.</p> <p><b>Cllr Deeley</b> to ask BBV if they will include the car park waste bin in their regular collections.</p>





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	<p>Mr &amp; Mrs Watkinson explained that they had donated the land at Burrow Hill Park to be used as a community resource. Their intention was that it would be a sports field for the primary school but its eventual size has meant that it should now to be used as a community green space and a playing field for children.</p>
<b>12.2</b>	<b>To review the designs/costs for public benches for the playing field</b>
	<p>Due to time constraints it was agreed to defer this item until the January 2024 meeting.</p>
<b>12.3</b>	<b>To consider offering residents the opportunity to purchase memorial benches</b>
	<p>Due to time constraints it was agreed to defer this item until the January 2024 meeting.</p>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Red Lane Play Area</b>
<b>13.1</b>	<b>To note the 2023 Inspection Report and consider any recommendations</b>
	<p>The Clerk confirmed that there were no High-Risk issues identified in the report. The report highlighted that one of the gate posts is rotting; it is considered a Medium-Risk and will require replacing in the near future.</p>
<b>13.2</b>	<b>To consider a quote for the weeding of the swing area</b>
	<p>It was resolved to approve a quote of £60.00 from Mr C. Colley to weed the bark area under the swings and remove the waste. It was noted that there is no weed suppressive membrane under the bark at the swings so weed maintenance will be required on a regular basis. <b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to instruct Mr Colley.</p>
<b>13.3</b>	<b>To receive an update on the play area improvement project and consider delegating budget to the Clerk for room hire costs for working group meetings</b>
	<p>The Clerk gave an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several residents have expressed interest in joining the working party. The working group's priority will be to determine the best ways to consult with residents.</li><li>• The Clerk has met onsite with representatives from Kompan and Wicksteed to discuss ideas for the best use of the space available. Other suppliers will be contacted.</li><li>• The Clerk highlighted the initial aims of the project:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To provide active play opportunities for toddlers, pre-schoolers and primary aged children</li><li>2. To include inclusive equipment when possible - something for every child</li><li>3. To improve access routes around the play area and between equipment</li><li>4. To provide surfacing that allows all-year-round play</li><li>5. To ensure the biodiversity of the site is preserved wherever possible</li><li>6. To make the best use of the space available</li></ol></li></ul> <p>Cllr Webster agreed to join the working group.</p> <p>It was resolved to budget £100.00 towards costs of room bookings for the working group and to delegate spending authority for this budget to the Clerk.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b> <b>The Clerk</b> to organise a project kick-off meeting for the working group <b>The Clerk</b> to contact at least two other play equipment suppliers and surfacing providers.</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Road Transport matters: to receive an update on the speed radar data</b>
	<p>Cllr Hatton explained that the dataset is too large to share easily. Councillors were asked to provide Cllr Hatton with information about how they want to analyse the speed radar data and the questions they'd like it to answer.</p> <p>Cllrs McColl and Marshall offered to work with Cllr Hatton to analyse the dataset. <b>ACTION: Cllrs</b> to send example questions to Cllr Hatton.</p>



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15.	<b>HS2: to consider any HS2/BBV matters</b> Cllr Deeley mentioned that HS2 will be providing Burton Green groups with three Christmas trees (one with lights and a stand) and will be supplying mince pies to the Church.
16.	<b>To consider a response to WDC's Net Zero Carbon Supplementary Planning Document consultation</b> Cllr Aizlewood explained the aims of the document and agreed to provide feedback on behalf of the Council. <b>ACTIONS:</b> <b>Cllr Aizlewood</b> to provide a draft response. <b>The Clerk</b> to submit the response to the consultation.
17.	<b>Housing and development: to consider matters relating to any of the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Land to the south of Westwood Heath Road</b> It was noted that Crest Nicholson are holding a consultation event on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 for a proposal to develop a further 100 homes at Westwood Park. Concerns were raised that Crest Nicholson appear to be promoting Westwood Park as being part of Coventry rather than Burton Green. Cllr Aizlewood and Cllr Armstrong will be attending a meeting between WDC and Crest Nicholson next week. It was suggested that Crest Nicholson be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting. <b>ACTION: Cllr Taylor</b> to write an article for The Bugle explaining that Westwood Park is part of the Burton Green Parish.</li><li>• <b>Land to the west of Cromwell Lane</b> There was no update.</li><li>• <b>The Kings Hill development</b> There was no update.</li><li>• <b>Warwick University's Eco Park</b> There was no update.</li><li>• <b>Solihull Local Plan Examination</b> There was no update.</li><li>• <b>A46 Link Road</b> Cllr Aizlewood mentioned that he understood that WCC still consider this a priority.</li></ul>
18.	<b>To approve the meeting dates for 2024</b> The following dates were approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15th January 2024</li><li>• 17th June 2023</li><li>• 19th February 2024</li><li>• 15th July 2024</li><li>• 18th March 2024</li><li>• 16th September 2024</li><li>• 15th April 2024</li><li>• 21st October 2024</li><li>• 20th May 2024</li><li>• 18th November 2024</li></ul> <b>ACTION: The Clerk</b> to book the Tacon Room.
19.	<b>Communications</b> The Council had received the following additional communications since the last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WALC weekly roundups</li><li>• Consultation on admission arrangements for the Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust academies for the year 2025-26</li></ul>



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20.	<b>Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:</b> Cllr Paine requested a waste bin to be installed where the footpath comes out on Cromwell Lane (route code 407/W168/4). <b>ACTIONS:</b> <b>Cllr Paine</b> to send photographs of the litter problem to the Clerk <b>The Clerk</b> to contact WDC to request a bin Cllr Deeley raised a query from a resident about covenants in property deeds regarding the parking of caravans. It was suggested that the resident consult with a solicitor. Cllr Webster explained that he has been working on a project to protect more trees in Burton Green with Tree Preservation Orders (TPO); he has been working with the Primary School to get a TPO placed on an oak tree in their grounds. It was agreed that the subject would be added to the next meeting agenda.
21.	<b>Date of next meeting</b> The next meeting will be on Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7:30pm at Burton Green Village Hall, Red Lane.
	<b>Close</b>
	The meeting closed at 9:53pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr McColl, Chairman





# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## APPENDIX A

### REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

#### Warwickshire County Council: CLLR COOKE

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##### **Reporting Vehicle Speed Concerns - Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership**

The joint approach from Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council is for members of the public (including councillors and key community representatives) to submit their concerns via the Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership website [Enforcement and Community \(warksroadsafety.org\)](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/warksroadsafety). This is the central reporting method for speed concerns within Warwickshire, which enables a consistent and data-led approach.

Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership is bringing partners together to improve the approach on how we investigate and respond to residents' concerns of speeding in their area. A consistent and data-led approach has been developed which considers all types of personal injury collisions reported and average speed data at the location. To report a speed concern please visit [Enforcement and Community \(warksroadsafety.org\)](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/warksroadsafety) and click on 'Reporting Speed Concerns.'

##### **Warwickshire County Council's Councillor Grant fund open for applications**

Warwickshire County Council's (WCC's) Councillor Grant Fund has reopened for applications from community and voluntary groups across the county.

Earlier in the year over £318,000 was distributed to support a wide range of projects that will bring positive outcomes to local communities. The application window reopened on 16 October as the Council looks to award the remaining funds.

The County Councillors' Grant Fund provides each of WCC's 57 Councillors with an allocated fund of £8,000 to support small-scale projects within their area that have a positive impact on the wider community.

The fund is aimed at projects that build community capacity and support initiatives that improve access to services; financial capability; reduce loneliness and isolation; promote equality and inclusivity; enhance the physical environment; and reduce environmental impact.

For more information and to submit an application, visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants>

##### **Parents and Carers Invited to Join "Applying for a Primary School Place" webinar**

Parents and carers with a child that is due to start in Reception or move to a Junior School in September 2024 are invited to join the school admissions team on Thursday 9 November at 7pm to get advice and guidance on how to apply for their school place.

This applies to children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 for Reception, and any child currently in Year 2 at an infant school who is planning to move to a junior school.

The webinar is open to everyone and free to join. A recording of the event will also be made available via the [School Admissions YouTube Playlist](#) shortly after for those not able to join on the day.

To book a place, go to [www.eventbrite.com/e/737955162757](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/737955162757)

Please note: Applications for primary school places can only be made after 1 November 2023. All applications received by the deadline of 15 January will receive a school offer on 16 April next year, which is National Offer Day. Any applications submitted after the 15 January deadline will only be considered after this, meaning the child is much less likely to be offered a place at a preferred school.

Applications can be made online after 1 November at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace).

##### **Visit Warwickshire Libraries to enjoy learning how to use new digital Hublets for e-reading**

Warwickshire County Council libraries are delivering a series of free drop-in sessions between November 2023 to January 2024 to support new and existing customers in learning how to use Hublets, which are free digital tablet devices available in most Warwickshire library settings for e-reading.

Hublets are now available to use at LeamingtonWarwick, Kenilworth, Southam and Stratford libraries, and allow users to enjoy eMagazines, eNewspapers, eBooks, and other online eResources without the need to have or bring their own digital devices to the library.

The drop-in sessions to learn how to use the Hublet devices are taking place between 10:30am – 12:30pm on:

- 13 December at Kenilworth Library 13 November at Warwick Library

##### **Warwickshire Buses: The new name for bus service improvements across Warwickshire**



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



Buses are good for our health, good for the economy and good for the environment and Warwickshire is committed to making them better!

This vision for bus travel in the County will be achieved through the introduction of measures aimed at helping to achieve the growth in bus passenger numbers, which were set out in the National Bus Strategy for England (Bus Back Better), published in March 2021.

Bus patronage in Warwickshire has been steadily increasing over the past year as the industry continues to recover from the pandemic and people regain confidence in using public transport and the Council is keen to see this growth continue.

A report recently went to Cabinet which set out the Council's plan for improving services across the county over the coming years, which included:

- Fully integrated bus services on the Warwickshire Bus Network;
- The availability of simple multi-bus operator tickets, multi-modal tickets and 'tap on / tap off' fare payment, like London;
- Bus priority measures on the local highway network;
- High quality and standardised information for all passengers;
- Improve and expand turn-up and go (demand responsive transport) services;
- Increasing bus use through behaviour change activities that encourage modal shift; and
- Financial support for bus services.

Find out more about the Warwickshire Bus Services Improvement Plan

at: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4524/cabinet-supports-improving-bus-services-across-warwickshire>

## **Warwick District Council: CLLR AIZLEWOOD**

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### **Newbold Comyn Cycle trails, Leamington Spa**

The Newbold Comyn Cycle Trails are now officially open. The new facility offers cyclists (**and** non-cyclists) of all ages the opportunity to learn, exercise and develop cycling skills, keeping active! The Trails include twelve wellbeing walks alongside the new cycle trails.

### **Abbey Fields Swimming Pool, Kenilworth**

Having discovered medieval remains at the proposed site of the new swimming pool, the Council must now decide how (or if) to proceed with the replacement scheme.

We (Richard, Dave and myself) have all raised concerns about the proposed approach – to concrete around and over the medieval remains– and we have asked whether an alternative site might serve people better? We also recognise the importance of having a local swimming facility in Kenilworth, preferably as soon as possible. Views across Kenilworth appear divided. The District Council will make a decision at its meeting on 15 November.

### **South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP)**

Work progresses with the SWLP and officers have recently proposed a revised timescale, resulting in a delay to the next consultation phase, on preferred Option(s). This is likely to be re-programmed to the autumn of 2024. The Joint Committee (of Warwick and Stratford District Councils) is to be convened later this month to reappraise the overall "plan for a Plan".

Your councillors for Abbey and Arden are:

Kyn Aizlewood – [Kyn.aizlewood@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:Kyn.aizlewood@warwickdc.gov.uk)

David Armstrong – [David.armstrong@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:David.armstrong@warwickdc.gov.uk)

Richard Hales – [Richard.hales@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.hales@warwickdc.gov.uk)

Please feel free to contact us with any issues.



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## APPENDIX B

### **RESPONSE OF BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL TO THE PROPOSED BATTERY ELECTRIC STORAGE SYSTEM, LAND EAST OF HODGETTS LANE PL/2023/02196/PPFL.**

Burton Green Councillors strongly oppose this Planning Application. In many ways, we repeat the arguments which we presented in our previous response to the other Battery Electrical Storage System, east of Hodgetts Lane. Although we recognise that BESS have an important role to play, not every application should be accepted automatically, especially, of course, if they are situated in the Meriden Gap.

In our two previous responses, we voiced our concerns about the risk of fire. In the debate on Little Beanit Farm at the SBC Planning Committee, most members seemed reassured about the safety of BESS but we pointed out that West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority had rejected a planning application for 60 proposed container-sized units at Wakefield. It stated that the “risks of vapour cloud, thermal runaway are becoming more common as we see an increase in the number of BESS installations rise.” Our fears have been reinforced by the recent response of the Fire Officer for Norfolk who rejected the battery storage plan at Walsoken, Burettgate Road, declaring that “the issue of battery farms was keeping her awake at night.” It is not surprising therefore that many of our residents are fearful of battery farms.

Our greatest concern is the threat to the Meriden Gap, which Solihull has always championed. This narrow Eastern Fringe, which separates the Great Birmingham Conurbation from Coventry, is so important to our community. Its openness and rural character give residents a sense of well-being, which is perhaps, even more vital at a time when HS2 uproots our village. The proposal by the applicants to shield the battery units with new trees and hedges has no substance whatsoever and it is, perhaps relevant to bear in mind the advice of the CPRE that “the need for renewable or low carbon energy does not automatically override environmental protections.” Certainly, we agree with the decision of Solihull Planning Committee members to vote against the Beechwood Farm proposal on the grounds of openness of the Greenbelt.

In our response to the Battery Storage Unit at Little Beanit Farm, we raised the concerns of the Ofgem chief executive, Jonathan Brearley, who criticised National Grid’s handling of the connection queue to solar power. It seemed that some speculators have secured a connection for a project and then hang on it for years. In the light of this information, we have tried to ascertain the situation at the Berkswell sub-station. Our research suggests there is no headroom available and that a new connection would require a modification application (Mod App) which is no longer being granted at Berkswell. Other issues have emerged as well, and it is increasingly clear that Solihull Councillors must study every detail of the evidence.

As stated previously, Councillors recognise that BESS have an important part to play, and we did support the Penso Power Battery at Little Beanit Farm. However, we do not accept that there are no alternative sites, as some investors claim, who obviously profit more from their proximity to the National Grid Sub Station. For example, the now approved (by Warwick DC) solar farm/BESS near Honiley/Beausale is five miles away and will be connected to the sub-station by a lengthy cable while there is another proposal for a BESS at Rouncil Lane, Kenilworth which connects directly to power lines. Finally, why don’t investors consider the land available along the HS2 route? Many farmers have suffered financially from the impact of HS2, and BESS could be their salvation.

We believe this issue should be addressed at national level rather than by Councils working in isolation but, most important of all, Solihull Councillors should avoid making hasty decisions until the fuller picture is revealed.



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## APPENDIX C

This report was presented to the Council on **20<sup>th</sup> November 2023**.

**Balance of Unity Trust Current Account T1 as of 10/11/23: £40,591.21**  
**Expected balance of Unity Trust Current Account T1 account after all payments: £27,148.86**

### Other accounts:

Unity Trust Instant Access Account	EARMARKED	£36,965.00
Lloyds Treasurers Account	GENERAL RESERVES	£55.70
Lloyds Business Bank Instant Account	CIL	£154,154.90
Interest received across accounts between 1/4/23 – 10/11/23:		£1,352.61

### Credits to Current Account since 9/10/23:

	DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT
1	18/10/23	Cala Homes Ltd	Burrow Hill Maintenance payment	BACS	£10,000.00
				<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>

### Payments from Current Account since 9/10/23:

	DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT
1	30/10/23	Burton Green Village Hall	Bowls Club S137 grant	BACS	£550.00*
				<b>Total</b>	<b>£550.00</b>

\*approved in meeting 16.10.23

### Payments from Current Account to be approved on 20/11/23:

	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	AMOUNT*
1	Leicestershire Gardens	Grass cutting Aug 2023	BACS	£120.00
2	Geosphere Ltd	Parish Online Annual subscription Oct 23 – Oct 24	BACS	£86.40
3	Topsource Worldwide Ltd	Monthly Payroll Oct 2023	BACS	£12.94
4	Playsafety Ltd	Annual Playground Inspection 2023	BACS	£90.00
5	H DU BOIS	Salary Oct 2023	BACS	£726.49
6	HMRC	Income Tax & NIC contributions Oct 23	BACS	£125.49
7	WCC Pension Fund	Employer contribution Oct 23	BACS	£185.49
8	WCC Pension Fund	Employee contribution Oct 23	BACS	£48.59
9	H DU BOIS	Office costs & expenses Sept/Oct 23	BACS	£138.67
10	Greenbarnes Ltd	2 x noticeboards (CIL funded)	BACS	£1940.57
11	Instant Access account	Burrow Hill grounds maintenance payment	TFR	£10,000.00
12	Current Account	Refund of CIL funds for 2 noticeboards (exc VAT)	TFR	-£1617.15
			<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,857.49</b>

### To be paid on 18.12.23:

10	H DU BOIS	Salary Nov 2023	BACS	£981.73
11	HMRC	Income Tax & NIC contributions Nov 23	BACS	£270.99
12	WCC Pension Fund	Employer contribution Nov 23	BACS	£263.20
13	WCC Pension Fund	Employee contribution Nov 23	BACS	£68.94
			<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,584.86</b>

\*Statutory Power used for all payments: General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## 2023/24 Expenditure vs Budget

	Budget	To date
<b>£ PAYMENTS</b>		
HW allowance/broadband	£372.00	£250.00
HMRC	£915.00	£1,090.10
Wages (Net)	£7,150.00	£6,359.56
Pension costs (employer & employee)	£2,270.00	£2,050.73
Payroll costs	£132.00	£86.24
Travel expenses (Clerk)	£150.00	£153.99
Travel expenses (Cllrs)	£0.00	£0.00
Advertising	£200.00	£0.00
Audit	£420.00	£455.00
Banking charges	£72.00	£36.00
Burrow Hill	£0.00	£55.17
Capital (equipment purchase)	£0.00	£0.00
Chairman's Allowance	£200.00	£15.99
CIL expenditure	£0.00	£1,797.15
Community grants (s137)	£3,800.00	£580.00
Defibrillator	£2,000.00	£0.00
Election fees	£10,000.00	£0.00
Grounds Maintenance	£4,990.00	£760.00
HS2	£0.00	£0.00
Insurance	£430.00	£304.04
Legal/professional fees	£0.00	£0.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£0.00	£0.00
Office costs	£300.00	£256.27
Playground inspection/repairs	£1,500.00	£340.42
Publications	£0.00	£0.00
Room hire	£234.00	£102.00
Speed Reduction Measures	£100.00	£36.00
Subscriptions	£700.00	£886.50
Training	£200.00	£180.00
Unforeseen exp/misc.	£200.00	£1,353.89
Website	£100.00	£0.00
VAT	£1,300.00	£665.68
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£37,735.00</b>	<b>£17,814.73</b>
<b>£ RECEIPTS</b>		
Bank interest	£0.00	£1,352.61
Precept	£20,505.00	£20,505.00
VAT refund	£1,000.00	£733.56
Community Infrastructure Levy	£0.00	£0.00
Grants	£0.00	£1,250.00
CALA transfer	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Miscellaneous	£0.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£31,505.00</b>	<b>£33,841.17</b>



# BURTON GREEN PARISH COUNCIL



## APPENDIX D

### BIODIVERSITY STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty imposed on parish councils by Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006<sup>1</sup>, Burton Green Parish Council acknowledges that it will, in exercising its functions have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving and increasing biodiversity within the Parish.

Biodiversity is the variety of all life on Earth<sup>2</sup>. It includes all species of animals and plants – everything that is alive on our planet. Biodiversity is important for its own sake, and human survival depends upon it. Biodiversity is essential to sustaining the living networks, or ‘ecosystems’, that provide us all with health, wealth, food, fuel and the vital services our lives depend on. It is a core component of sustainable development, underpinning economic development and prosperity.

The Parish Council will consider sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity of the natural habitat when making decisions and will develop and implement policies and strategies as required

In accordance with policy BG3 of the Burton Green Neighbourhood Development Plan<sup>3</sup> (NDP), the Council will not support development unless it minimises the impact on biodiversity and provides net gains in biodiversity wherever possible. The NDP also requires that development should safeguard and enhance the natural environment, protect priority species and enhance habitats and their biodiversity.

The Parish Council will, as far as is possible, conserve the biodiversity of the land it manages.<sup>4</sup> It will strive to adopt beneficial practices with regarding to cutting and removal of vegetation, application of chemicals and timing of maintenance work. Special care will be taken in the specification of grounds maintenance contracts to ensure that the work, whilst reaching acceptable standards, does not harm the natural environment.

The Parish Council will, wherever possible, raise public awareness of biodiversity issues. It will, where feasible, involve the community in biodiversity projects on its land and will communicate information and raise awareness of biodiversity through its website.

Adopted by Burton Green Parish Council at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

<sup>2</sup> As defined in ‘Biodiversity 2020: a strategy of England’s wildlife and ecosystems’ by DEFRA

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.burtongreenparishcouncil.org/neighbourhood-plan.html>

<sup>4</sup> The land managed by Burton Green Parish Council is the Red Lane play area and the Burow Hill playing field and car park at Green Leek Lane.