



**Minutes of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council meeting, held at
South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay
on Wednesday 4th October 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: -

Councillor M Dear – Chair
Councillor A Boyce
Councillor B Chapman
Councillor L Cowles
Councillor R Jackson
Councillor L Thomas

Also in attendance: -

Mrs Mylène Linwood, Clerk & RFO to the Village Council
Three members of the public

23/200 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Crowe

23/201 Declarations of Interest & Register of Members Interests

Cllr Boyce declared a pecuniary interest for item 9 and Cllr Thomas declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 16.

23/202 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on 6th September 2023 were received, and duly signed by the Chair of the meeting as a true record of the meeting

23/203 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters, which are of mutual interest. No decisions to be made.

Three residents from The Redinge and Tyrells Road to share their concerns regarding item 16.

They described experiences of vehicles blocking pavements putting pedestrians in danger by making it necessary for them to walk in the road. Driveways have been blocked stopping people being able to exit their property.

One resident explained he had reported the problems to Borough/County Council, providing photos of refuse lorries being unable to get through due to the manner in which vehicles are parked.

Members empathized with residents. The Chair proposed that item 16 on the agenda be brought forward, and provided all present a timeline detailing the actions taken by herself and the Clerk since the September meeting to seek advice and guidance on how best to help residents with this problem. The following had been contacted: Community Police Officers, Borough Cllrs Baggot, Blake & Moore, St Peter's School, Mitchell & Butler Brewery, The Kings Head Pub, Euro Car Parks,

Cllr Baggot, Leader of Basildon Council has requested Officers of the Council review the problem to see if they can assist, we await to hear further from them.

Cllr Moore suggested that an option open to residents is to apply to South Essex Parking Partnership for parking restrictions on the road, however he advised from his own personal experience that this does not necessarily solve the problem because of lack of enforcement.

The Chair shared that as a Billericay Town Councillor she has received many reports of parking problems from residents living near other schools in Billericay, and reminded all it is a Billericay wide and country wide problem.

She advised the residents present that should they wish to proceed with applying to the Parking Partnership they would need to have a petition signed by every resident in the street.

The Clerk was requested to contact St Peter's again to discuss further ideas and to pursue the communications with Euro Car Parks and Essex Police.

23/204 Finance

The following payments were unanimously approved:

Month	Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
October	Standing Order	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk salary September 2023	£705.55
October		Mrs M Linwood	Q2 Home Working Allowance (July, Aug, Sep)	£200.00
October		David Vinten	Village Voice Sept 2023 – Design costs	£200.00
October		Mrs M Linwood	Clerk September Expenses (Stamps)	£4.40
October		Uk Copyright Service	Renewal of Great Burstead Village Sign Copyright (Duration and cost to be agreed at the meeting)	£136.00
			Total	£1245.95

Prior to the meeting the Village Council cash book had been circulated to Cllrs and thanks were given at the meeting to Cllrs Cowles for checking through the Village Council accounts records.

The Village Council bank balances on 4th October 2023 were:

Current account: £84825.74 and Savings account: £49,962.30

The second instalment of the precept of £15, 519.31 was paid in on 27th September 2023

The Village Council agreed for the Clerk to approve a fee up to £550 for power supply works need on Church Street for the new festival lighting displayed planned there.

23/205 Planning Applications

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
23/01147/FULL	Land At Southend Road Great Burstead Billericay	Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of the site to provide 99 residential dwellings (Class C3); provision of strategic landscape; provision of new vehicular and pedestrian access routes and associated infrastructure -	Objection – please see attached document for full comments.
23/01161/FULL 1	10 Burstead Drive Billericay Essex CM11 2QS	Single storey rear extension -	No objection

23/206 Remembrance Sunday – 12th November 2023

Cllr Cowles kindly offered to again organise the purchase of poppy wreath of behalf of the Village Council.

23/207 Councillor Vacancy

No applications had yet been received. The advertising of the casual vacancy of Councillor to be filled by co-option. will continue.

23/208.Parking Fine Reimbursement

Cllr Boyce excused himself from the meeting while this item was discussed.

Cllrs discussed and agreed to reimburse Cllr Boyce for the £60 parking fine he received while attending a long meeting on behalf of the Village Council at Basildon Council.

It was noted that this decision will not set a precedent.

23/209 Great Burstead Cemetery Theft Awareness Notice

The Clerk had been in communication with the Cemetery Warden from Basildon Council who was agreed that a sign could be placed upon entrance to the car park warning visitors to secure their belongings. The small sign on entry to the cemetery itself would remain as it is as larger signs would not be inline of keeping the area as a calm, peaceful space. The warden will investigate the cost of having a new sign installed.

23/210 Renewal of Village Council Costco Membership

Members of the Council approved the renewal of the membership at a cost of £22 plus VAT to purchase items for Village Council events at trade prices.

23/211 Christmas Community Contribution

Councillors wish to still provide a Christmas contribution to the parish in lieu of the Christmas Fayre. A budget of £1400 was agreed to share with the three retirement homes in the parish and the primary schools. The Clerk is to make enquiries about the voluntary groups run within the parish such as Brownies and Scouts.

23/212 Great Burstead Sign Flower Bed

The previous quote of £920 to have tree roots removed and a root barrier installed was reviewed again and it was agreed to give this work the go ahead in order to be able to have flowers planted at the site again.

23/213 Great Burstead Village Sign - Maintenance

It has not be possible to contact the firm who originally installed the signs, so the Clerk has made enquiries with Basildon Council for contractors to carry out the work. Following information that another local Council have a window cleaner clean their sign, Cllr Jackson is to ask his window if he could help. The Clerk is to send to Cllrs recently taken photos of the sign.

23/214 Great Burstead Village Sign – Copyright renewal

It was agreed that the copyright on both the South Green and the Great Burstead Signs would be renewed for 10 years at a total cost of £136.

23/215 Parking in The Redinge

Item discussed during public participation.

23/216 Placement of Bollards around the Parking Bay at South Green Parade of Shops - Tesco's to Tylers Estates

Engineers from the Essex Highways have requested photographs to better understand the parking issues and aim them when their design proposals. The Clerk is to collate photos and send to Cllr Moore.

23/217 Bollards along the Village Green

The Clerk informed those present that the total cost for repairs and replacements to 10 wooden bollards and the addition of high-visibility strips around the bollards will be £1350 + VAT and that the work is due to be completed by the end of October 2023.

23/218 South Green Recycling Point Removal

Still no information received on the result of the public consultation regarding the future of the recycling point. Residents who live close to the recycling point continue to write to the Clerk complaining of the noise and mess caused by the site.

23/219 Grange Road shopping parade bins

Basildon Council have provided an update that the trial of compactor bins has been an overall success. A full litterbin audit across the Borough is due to take place in 2024 where problem areas will be identified and compactor bin put in place. The Village Council have been given the option to install a compactor bin at the South Green shopping parade at a cost of £100 per month to rent the bin. Cllrs agreed to proceed with this and requested the bin had a 'Funded by the Village Council' sign.

23/220 Defibrillator Government Grant

The Clerk advised members of a government grant currently open for applications to provide funding towards the installation of a defibrillator. If an application is successful the Village Council would need to match the funding - £750. It was agreed to submit an application form.

23/221 Village Voice

The new edition of the Village Voice was delivered to residents at the end of September. Members again expressed how pleased they were with the edition and thanks were given Cllr Dear for liaising between Crystal Print and the distribution company. A copy of the newsletter will be displayed on the Village Council notice board in South Green and on the website.

23/222 Essex & Herts Air Ambulance

It was agreed to send a donation of £100 as the Air Ambulance service has often landed on the Village Green to aid serious medical cases in the area.

23/223 Training

No requests were received.

The Clerk reminded Members that Basildon Council are offering a free Social Media training session on 22nd November 2023.

23/224 Social Media

The following suggestions were put forward as possible ideas to add to the Village Council Twitter page:

- Concerns about parking
- Remembrance Sunday Service
- Repairs to bollards on the Village Green
- Grant for defibrillator
- Compactor bin

23/225 Date of the next meetings -

1st November 2023, 6th December 2023, 3rd January 2024

23/226 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8:19 pm

Minutes agreed and approved:

Signed:

Date: