

Burgh Castle Parish Council

Chairman: Brian Swan

Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024 at Burgh Castle Village Hall

Present: Parish Cllrs: B. Swan (Chairman), B. Grimmer (Vice Chair), M. Greenacre, P. Carter, W. Griffiths, J. Hogg, S. Titterington, K. Ruddock (Clerk) and nine members of the public.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from County Cllr Smith, Borough Cllr Carpenter, Jill Skipper and Jamie Humphries.

2. MINUTES FROM 2023 APM

To accept the minutes from the meeting held on the 15th May 2023 proposed Cllr Greenacre, seconded Cllr Griffiths. All in Favour.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Although we were supposed to have had Parish Council elections in May 2023 the same seven of us are back for another four years although we welcomed two new Borough Councillors, Graham Carpenter and Ivan Murray-Smith

It has been another busy year some of the main issues being with highways, we finally got the Crows Farm corner of High Road resurfaced and have just seen Market Road top dressed and County Councillor Carl Smith funded posts to attempt to stop parking outside the Roman Fort site on Butt Lane for which we are very grateful (this sadly only partially successful) , he has also promised to replace, from his new budget, posts near to the flats by Louis Dhal Road on Butt Lane, other highways issues remain unresolved with the general condition of our roads deteriorating fast. Delays in planning from the Borough Council seem to be worsening, we have not seen hardly any applications for the last six months but have raised strong objections to entertainment licence extensions proposed at the Chery Tree site.

We have had very little contact with the Norfolk Archaeological Trust what we have had has been over the continued flooding of their entrance although it is good to see that they have cut back hedges on Church Road and the first part of the footpath to the Parish Burial Ground where the Council, as owners, have cleared those ridiculous large shrubs back and with some replanting made the seating more attractive to use, sadly we have recently had an issue with the hedge to the Churchyard being damaged and this is an ongoing situation.

The defibrillator at the Village hall is now situated in a more prominent position, at the front of the building but sadly the management of the Kingfisher Park site decided that they did not want a unit on their property and when Heart to Heart collected it they discovered that power had been turned off and it had not been maintained, this unit has now been refurbished but lost to Fritton, however Folkes at Welcome Pit have offered to install a new unit when available outside the front of their property and arrange for a power connection from the control box which is fortunately very near to the location that has been offered. We are now seeking funding (a unit costs £1500.00 with budgeting needed for occasional replacement pads and less frequently replacement batteries).

Having been trying to get our full bus service reinstated for a year or so I am pleased to announce that First Bus have now promised a considerably improved service using the new bridge from May 26th, we will have a 30 minute frequency weekday service to Gorleston and Great Yarmouth, an hourly Sunday service to 6pm and an extra evening bus, the school will still be served but we will not feel the impact so much

The year ended on a very pleasant note (not the weather) when Rev Rosie Bunn dedicated the Oak

tree that we had purchased on the Playing Field as a commemoration of King Charles Coronation, it was good to see most of our Councillors, several residents and Borough Councillor Carpenter and his wife who is mayor of Great Yarmouth attending

Away from Parish matters we continue to support the plans to merge the business of the Village Hall with that of the adjoining Playing Field, none of us currently involved could see the sense of two totally separate (legally) committee's which ended up being the same people! We are still seeking volunteers to join the new joint management.

I would like to thank a few people, Borough Councillors Graham and Ivan who are no doubt still learning about our needs, County Councillor Carl Smith, all fellow Parish Councillors for your continued support along with Parish Clerk, Kate who still keeps us on the straight and narrow and does an excellent job.

4. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS FROM:

Playing Field Management Committee

Cllr Greenacre reported there is no balance sheet for 2023/24 due to their being no income or expenditure during this period.

Village Hall Trust

Cllr Greenacre reported the 2023/24 financial report below will be the final set of accounts for the Village Hall Trust. The Trust is now in the final stages of merging with the Playing Field Management Committee to form Burgh Castle CIO Charity.

Balance Sheet

Carried forward	2023/24	£17,368.86
Income		£11,900.05
Expenditure		£ 5,210.41
Excess of income over expenditure		£6,689.64
Balance carried forward		£24,058.59

The Chairman and Cllr Greenacre reported a number of items are as yet to be paid for from the Trusts funds. Including Community Action Norfolk fees who have been helping with the merger, and solicitor fees to register the land with Land Registry.

5. BURGH CASTLE VILLAGE HALL TRUST - RESOLUTION

The Chairman read through the following resolutions:

1. That Burgh Castle Playing Field take steps to merge itself with the Burgh Castle Village Hall (CIO) on the following basis
 - (a) all assets, property and contracts of Burgh Castle Playing Field shall be transferred to the new Burgh Castle CIO, and
 - (b) forthwith upon the completion of the above, Burgh Castle Playing Field shall be wound up and cease to be a charity. its merger with the Burgh Castle Village Hall CIO shall be registered with the Charity Commission.
 2. That the Burgh Castle Playing Field Charity Trustees are hereby authorised to take all action and complete all documentation necessary to effect resolution 1
- Cllr Greenacre proposed to accept all resolutions en bloc, seconded Cllr Carter. All in Favour.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The Chairman read through the following report from Mr Botwright, the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Belton with Browston, Burgh Castle, and Fritton with St Olaves was formally submitted to Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority on the 17th April 2024. GYBC will now consult statutory bodies approximately 6 weeks, then it will undergo an independent examination (the examiner will be independent of the neighbourhood planning group and the authority, appropriately qualified and experienced) approximately 4 weeks, then a referendum will be held.

Once the neighbourhood plan has been made (approved) by the local planning authority, independently examined, and subject to a successful referendum, the neighbourhood plan becomes part of the statutory development plan for the area, alongside the GYBC local plan. Local planning authorities and planning inspectors considering planning applications and appeals must make their decisions in accordance with the policies of the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7.42pm