

## **BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm in Burnham Park Hall.

### **Committee members present:**

Cllr Ekta Kaur Ross (Chair)

Cllr Carol Linton

Cllr John Carey

Cllr Pat Bird

Cllr Terry Gamble

Cllr Marie Hammon

Cllr Lindsey Chatralia

### **Officers of the Council:**

Adam Killeya (Parish Clerk)

### **Members of the public:**

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### **RA2425/79 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bunce (Vice Chair), Foster and Mummery.

The Chair noted her thanks to the committee and to the council staff for their hard work over the municipal year, and committee members in turn thanked the Chair.

### **RA2425/80 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Gamble declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 – bench at Gore Road Bus Shelter (minute RA2425/85), as his wife is a member of Burnham Men's Shed, and he has been involved in the bench project. He remained in the room but did not vote or speak on this item.

### **RA2425/81 Public Forum**

As there were no members of the public present there was no public forum.

### **RA2425/82 Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Committee meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **RA2425/83 Head Groundsman's Report**

The report, along with the list and photos of major assets, was **NOTED**

It was **RESOLVED** to note the committee's formal thanks to the grounds staff for the report, and for their work over the municipal year.

### **RA2425/84 Tree survey**

The Clerk reported that the Head Groundsman was working through the recommendations of the Tree Survey to ascertain what work could be done by his team, and what would require work from an outside contractor. This work could then be authorised by the Clerk within the 2025-26 budget, subject to any necessary permissions. The Clerk also drew attention to the number of works at the Pond, not currently within the management of the Parish Council. The tree survey report and verbal update were **NOTED**.

It was **RESOLVED** that no work should be undertaken at parish expense on lands not owned

or controlled by the Parish, and that these works should be forwarded to the landowner, Buckinghamshire Council, for their action; but that quotes for such work at the Pond could still be obtained against the Parish Council reaching an agreement to take on the land. It was **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the updated Tree Management Policy be adopted.

#### **RA2425/85 Street Furniture**

The Clerk reported the installation of a new bench near the rail around the village green adjacent to Windsor Lane. The report, and updated bench inventory list, were **NOTED**. Cllr Carey noted that the updated inventory list set a good benchmark.

The Clerk stated that they had been informed of a previous informal discussion around planting a tree next to future memorial benches. It was recognised that this matter had never been raised formally. The report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** not to make changes to the scheme.

The Clerk reported that Burnham Men's Shed had kindly offered a wooden bench which had recently been renovated and was considered suitable for the wooden bus shelter on Gore Road, and to secure the bench. The bench would then become the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk had intended to recommend acceptance of the offer to the Committee; but due to a miscommunication the bench was installed on the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting. They further reported that the bench looked very suitable and in good condition, and that the installation had been done well; and recommended acceptance of the gift. The report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the gift of a wooden bench; and to write to Burnham Men's Sheds to formally thank them for the gift.

The Chair reminded the meeting of the importance of taking decisions through the appropriate process.

The Clerk further reported that their next regular meeting with the streetlight contractor would be the following week, and that the 2025-26 programme of works had commenced to be billed from 1st April. They further reported that, having checked, there was unfortunately no map of the streetlight locations although it was hoped to produce one in the longer term. The report was **NOTED**.

#### **RA2425/86 George Pitcher Memorial Ground**

The proposed pitch hire fees, and information regarding charges in recent years, was **NOTED**. It was **RESOLVED** to recommend the proposed pitch hire fees for the 2025/26 season to Full Council.

The Clerk reported that there had been a Food Hygiene inspection at the Pitchside Café, and that a rating of 4 – Good had been given. The one issue raised was a separate handwashing basin, and the Assistant Clerk was looking into resolving this. The report was **NOTED**.

#### **RA2425/87 Bus shelters**

The Clerk reported that there had been no further response from Buckinghamshire Council or from any advertising companies regarding the shelters that Buckinghamshire Council had requested for the Parish to take on. This matter was **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

### **RA2425/88 Sustainability, ecology and climate emergency**

The Clerk reported progress on several items on the R&A list of eco actions. The report and updated list of actions were **NOTED**.

### **RA2425/89 Healthy Walks around Burnham**

The Chair reported that work was ongoing on this matter; and she had sought quotes for the leaflet production, as well as further sponsors; she had currently secured two sponsors each paying £200. She anticipated costs for an initial print run of 200 would be around £500 based on the quotes currently received. It was hoped to commence leaflet production shortly. The report was **NOTED**, and it was **RESOLVED**:

- a. to approve up to £200 within budget to cover any gap in funding the initial print run;
- b. to make a nominal charge for the walk booklets, for use for future print runs;
- c. to delegate authority to the Clerk in consultation with the Chair to advance and complete this matter.

Cllr Linton reported that Jordan Payne, Conservation and Community Engagement Ranger at Burnham Beeches, had done some excellent work on walks in the wider area, including many starting near the Jolly Woodman or Boveney car park. The report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** to add the walks to the council website, and to write to Ms Payne to formally thank her for her work.

### **RA2425/90 The Knowledge Stream (formerly 'Project 57').**

Cllr Carey reported a successful grant application from the Burnham Beeches Community Board for the next stage of work. He further reported that he and the Assistant Clerk were contacting the Chiltern Rangers to arrange for the work to be carried out. It was confirmed that there would be a naming competition to find an updated name for the area. The report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** to note formal thanks to the Assistant Clerk and Cllr Carey for their work on this project and grant.

### **RA2425/91 BHPT Family Day**

The Clerk reported that the Council had been asked to consider running an activity as part of this event, and advised that the 'Love Exploring' trail would be advertised as part of this. The report was **NOTED** and committee members agreed to send any suggestions to the Clerk.

### **RA2425/92 Best Kept Village**

The Clerk reported that they and the Assistant Clerk had drafted and circulated the competition entry, and supporting maps and notes, for planned submission this week; and the Grounds Team were working to ensure that the village looked its best. There would also be publicity on council noticeboards, websites, social media and posters once the entry had been submitted. Cllr Gamble reported plans for further litter picks prior to the judges' visits. The reports were **NOTED**.

**The meeting ended at 1958**  
**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
**(subject to confirmation by the Annual Council Meeting)**