

## Burley Parish Council Annual Assembly

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall: to be signed on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014

**Present:** Mr Philip Daubeney (Chair), Parish Councillors Mrs Jane Kendall, Mr Robert Clarke, Mr Neal Martin and Mrs Val Thorpe; also present were District Councillor Mr John Penwarden; Cllr Keith Mans (HCC), Mr Mike Seddon of the Forestry Commission and Mr Richard Frampton from NFNPA , PC Nigel Linford & 67 local government electors.

**1. Apologies** Cllr Peter Russell, Cllr Ann Hickman (NFDC), Helen Siddall and Jean Gilbert Norton

**2. Minutes** Copies of the Minutes were distributed to all. The full minutes were agreed & signed.

**3. Matters Arising** There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**4. Chairman's Report and progress on Council's Objectives** The Chairman reminded the Assembly that the Objectives of the Parish Council had been tabled at the meeting last year. He then asked Cllrs Kendall and Martin to report on two of the Objectives. Cllr Kendall thanked everyone for the clipboard suggestions on how to spend the Jubilee surplus. She reported that the top suggestion was a playground but that as this may be taken up by the council as a special project, the second most popular suggestion of a clock with a commemorative plaque was being investigated. Cllr Kendall reported on her on going contact with the Shell garage regarding litter. She also thanked Barry Topp for the work he did clearing the brambles opposite the Village Hall and that this should be maintained. Cllr Kendall thanked the public for keeping the village clean and that the rubbish at the pinch points would be cleared. She also reported on the parking and safety issues at Burley Primary School, adding that a meeting is being arranged to discuss management if this issue. Barry Topp (elector) suggested a 20mph zone by the primary school, as he had observed in other villages.

Cllr Martin reported that the safety project of a new path and wall by the cycle shop is now complete and that the council is working with Hampshire Highways to improve footpaths in the village. David Pentland (elector) congratulated the work done on the new footpath by the cycle shop. Judy Khule (elector) raised the issue of a raised footpath between the estate agents and doctor's surgery. Cllr Martin reported on the on-going drainage project in Burley and David Pentland queried whether a proposed grill covering the new drains would itself get blocked. Cllr Martin that visibility is to be improved at Pinch points. Dionis Macnair (elector) suggested cats eyes could be used approaching the pinchpoints. Cllr Martin also reported on a speed management project to commence later in the year, involving electronic speed signs. These will record the number of people breaking the limit as well as making motorists aware when they are speeding. Cllr Martin reported on a Lengthsman scheme, sponsored by HCC, to support general maintenance around the village. The project will share resources with other villages. Cllr Martin reported on the issue of large groups of cyclists and said a working party was being set up to produce a Code of Conduct. Doug ? (elector) asked if the brambles could be cleared by the footpath in Ringwood Road. Mike Seddon (Forestry Commission) said if local volunteers were found to help clear the brambles he would add other volunteers to the group. Cllr Daubeney reported on options for a BLH building; either a new build on land offered by Dan Tanner or utilising an existing building in the village. The latter could be supported by a Heritage Lottery fund. He noted that income would need to be generated to maintain the project. Cllr Daubeney reported that once the options had been costed there would be public consultation. Cllr Daubeney said that a play area is one of the council's objectives and scored the highest on the recent clip board exercise. Since this would cost more than the Jubilee surplus the Council will take this up as a project and report back to the village. Carina Arnold (elector) said could Moors Valley be consulted to collect ideas on design and running costs and that a similar play area may attract visitors. Mike Seddon from the Forestry Commission said he was happy to introduce BPC to appropriate people at Moors Valley if required. A receipts and payments summary was distributed to everyone. John Cook suggested a comparison to last year's figures may be useful in future.

**5. Jubilee celebrations** Cllr Jane Kendall and Cllr Neal Martin have undertaken to acquire costings for the Jubilee clock (as mentioned above). Jeanne Wilde (elector) said a clock would be a lasting momento for everyone and an asset to the village.

**6. Community Policing** PC Nigel Linford gave PC Helen Haynes apologies for not being able to attend and reported on her behalf. He reported that the public should continue to report anything suspicious so that targeted patrols and intelligence lead policing can continue to be effective. He also reported that Burley is one of the safest places to live and that crime that does occur generally affects visitors more than residents e.g. thefts from holidaymakers motor vehicles. He reported that PC Haynes holds regular surgeries once a month and that she

can record items with serial numbers so that they can be returned if stolen. He suggested that PC Haynes be invited to meetings of BPC to create better liaison and that padlocks are available from Countrywatch.

**7. New Forest National Park Authority Report** Mr Richard Frampton from SW Quadrant, reported on a Sustainable Development Fund which may be available to the BLH project. It is a fund designed for communities. Up to £50,000 can be applied for as a grant. This can be up to 75% of the required budget for the project. He also reported on a Draft Landscape Action Plan that has been carried out and is open to public consultation until 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013. This action plan may go on to affect future documents and can be accessed via the NFNPA website. Mr Frampton reported on a new tourist bus route funded by a Local Sustainable Transport Fund. He also reported on the Recreational Management Strategy Plan and that the NFNPA are going to monitor the effects of cycling both positive and negative. Moira Swayne (elector) suggested cycling licenses be sold.

**8. Report from the Forestry Commission** Mike Seddon reported on a new Forestry Policy Statement from the government. He reported on the special values of the Forestry Commission that have been recognised by the government and that there will be no sell-off; the forest land will remain in public hands. The new body that is to be formed will evolve from the current Forestry Commission, not undo local legislation and have more freedom but be accountable to government. This will take time to implement and there will be consultation on the government proposals for the new body.

**9. County Councillor's Report** Cllr Keith Mans reported that HCC had decreased the number of employees earning £70,000 and above by 25% and that this had been achieved through natural wastage or voluntary redundancy. He reported that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that HCC Council tax has been frozen and the same is intended for next year, unless central government funding changes significantly. Cllr Mans reported that more money is needed to improve Highways especially with regard to potholes, despite £100 million being put in the budget 2 years ago. He reported that HCC have signed a contract with BT for a high speed broadband project. Cllr Mans reported that there had been a £10,000 increase in the budget for environment and highways and that this would be spent on issues such as flood prevention and improving footpaths. He reported that there is £1million in the budget for village hall and community centres, to help reduce running costs and that there is £800,000 budgeted for footpaths in Hampshire. Cllr Mans voiced his support for the speed restrictions project of BPC and the Lengthsman scheme. Chris Baldwin (elector) asked what the timescales were for the high speed broadband project. Cllr Mans reported that 90% of the population should have 20Mbps by 2015. He also reported that BT are to fund 90% of the project themselves.

**10. District Councillor's Report** Cllr Penwarden reported that NFDC has also frozen the council tax charged this year. He reported that NFDC have purchased 29 affordable houses and have allocated 2 sites for 6-10 affordable houses to be built. 4 new houses are funded through s106 money. He reported that Dibden Golf club is now rented to Mytime and that alarmed padlocks are available from NFDC for £10 to avoid rural theft. Cllr Penwarden reported that NFDC are planning to talk to Burley parish on plans to refurbish the public conveniences and that work should start in October. He reported that 4 weekly glass collection will start in July on the Waterside and that Burley and Ringwood should follow in October. Very rural areas may be later in the year. Cllr Penwarden reported that Blue Badge car parking charges have now been applied and that meters are being replaced in car parks. He also reported that in 2013/14 NFDC plan to reduce the number of councillors, review the impact of the 8.5% Council Tax contribution for those on benefits and review long term empty houses.

**11. Village Hall Report** The Village Hall AGM will be held Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 7pm and a report will be given then.

**12. Report on Burley Living History Project** Cllr Martin reported that BLH was a 2 year project. Volunteers have been trained. 46 interviews were filmed and have been put on DVD, all of these have been transcribed and archived. 20 verbal interviews were also taken. He reported that 2 exhibitions have taken place, the first in September 2011 and the second in September 2012. 600 visitors attended and were presented with artefacts, documents and interviews. The Jubilee celebrations were also filmed. Cllr Martin reported that the information is now stored in the Red Cross Hut and he thanked Peter Russell, Sandy Simpson and the whole team for their efforts. Cllr Martin reported that a grant application has been submitted for a film to be produced documenting the last World War and Afghanistan. There are 10 interviews to be done. Cllr Martin reported on a new project for the autumn of the Burley Historical Society; volunteers are being sort. Robin Russell (elector) commented that there are relatives of people whose names are on the War Memorial that have not yet been interviewed.

**13. Any Other Business** Cllr Daubeney reported that in future Parish Council meetings will be held in Myrtle Hall as Harry's Room in the Village Hall is not compliant with the Disabilities Discrimination Act. He commented that the Village Hall itself will still be used for other Parish Council events such as the Annual Assembly. He went on to thank Cllr Robert Clarke for his hard work with regard to Planning issues and all the councillors for the work that they do for the council. Cllr Daubeney reported that Little Deers Day Nursery now have a lease. Ann Powell (elector) thanked all of BPC for the work that has been done during the year.

**The meeting closed at 9.30pm**

