

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 30th May 2023
Burgh le Marsh Town Council & Library
Tinkers Green, Jacksons Lane
Burgh le Marsh**

Present: Chairman, Cllr Jim Moss,
Cllr David Hartley, Cllr Pat Phillips, Cllr Mike Greenhalgh,
Cllr Victoria Driver, Cllr Neil Cooper, Cllr Pauline Cooper, Cllr Amanda Willis,
Cllr Chris Sanderson.
Clerk: Kelly Stevenson

Public: Nine Members of the public present.

1. Chairman's remarks and welcome.

Cllr Jim Moss thanked and welcomed all attending.

2. Apologies of absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Lisa Broomfield, Cllr Colin Wright, and Cllr Sue Blackburn.

3. To approve the notes of the Annual Parish Meeting 17th May 2022 and by doing so resolve that they be adopted as minutes.

Notes from the meeting held on 17th May 2022 were approved and adopted as minutes.

4. Receive reports from the Council covering planning, finance, and work of the council for 2022/23.

Cllr Jim Moss read the attached report chairman's reports.

The Clerk and RFO (Responsible Finance Officer) read out the following report regarding council finances for 2022/23

Finance: April 2022/2023

The Town Council receive income by raising a precept which is requested from East Lindsey District Council. The total amount claimed by the Town Council is then collected by ELDC via Council Tax. The amount paid on each council tax bill is calculated on the Village Tax Base (the number of occupied properties paying Council). The tax base for Burgh increased from 817 in April 2021 to 844 in April 2022 (3.2%). Going into the new financial year, April 2023, that tax base has further increased to 863 (2.20%).

Income and Expenditure 2022/2023

Total Income: £88,364.90. This is made up as follows:

Precept claim: £74,901.74

LCC Community Hub Grant £5167.00

To support running costs of the library building.

VAT reclaimed £4,584.81

Donations £880.00.

Specifically for two benches: one has been placed in the Church Yard and one on the grass verge near Windmill Drive / Elm Crescent.

Grant: £1000.00

Received to support the Jubilee Event.

LCC Parish Agreement £1831.35
To support grass cutting.

Total Expenditure: £107,512.11

Expenditure outside of the expected precept expenditure is listed below:

Toddlers play area replacement £24,370.74

Benches within the village £1,323.00
3 x benches: Jubilee Bench, Elm Crescent, and Church Yard (from donations)

Christmas lighting £9303.47
This is an increase £5,590 on the previous year, which included lighting for 10 streetlight columns and LCC Licensing and all village Christmas trees.

Total Vat paid £9396.02
*The amount of vat paid out increased by £4045 with increased expenditure.
Vat is reclaimed from HMRC (see income) the balance on 2022/23 has been reclaimed and received in May 2023, recorded in the 2023/24 accounts.*

Full summary of receipts and payments for 2022/2023 is attached.

Year end funds: 2022/2023

Council funds at the year-end (31st March 2023) is £102,756.40, which includes general reserves of £68,580.10 and earmarked project funds of £27,334.87.
A year end underspend and general fund of 6,841.43.

New (current) financial year April 2023/24

A precept claim of £77,468.30 was requested from ELDC. This is to support an expenditure budget of £83,323.78. The Town Council offset parish agreement income from LCC towards grass cutting and have carried forward £4,000 of the 2022/23 underspend against the precept claim.

A VAT reclaim is awaited of £7,794.36.

The council are expecting expenses to increase with their added responsibility of the maintaining the public toilets in the Market Place and the Market Place.

5. To receive a report from the local Police representative if available.

No report received. However, the clerk gave details of recent matters reported relating to dangerous parking. As of September 2023, under a re-structure of PCSO's, Burgh Le Marsh will have no neighbourhood policing coverage other than response officers dealing with calls for service.

Cllr Jimmy Brookes of ELDC was unable to attend. A report of events regarding the District Council and the recent elections has been circulated. Any matters relating to the District Council can be emailed or telephoned to Cllr Brookes.

Cllr Sue Blackburn of LCC was unable to attend. However, any matters that need the attention of the County Council and Highways at the County Council can be reported to her via email upon her return work. Information was given of the Highways portfolio holder attending a walk round on 12th June 2023 to review roads and footpaths in Burgh that need attention. This is specifically the

Church footpath and The Causeway. Cllr Blackburn will then report back to Town Council at their next meeting.

6. Public Forum and questions.

- Claremont Road, the footpaths, and road have been reported year after year. They are in a terrible state, the paths have large holes and driveway access over the footpath are sinking with severe trip hazards. Some of the damage has been caused by the large vehicles accessing the building sites of Bishop Tozer and more recently Springfields. Nothing has been done by these contractors to rectify any damage they have caused.
Members of the public ask what are the Town Council doing to represent this and the people of Burgh.
The Town Council are very sympathetic to these concerns. These matters will be reported to LCC Highways and passed onto our LCC Councilor, Cllr Sue Blackburn to ensure this is added to areas of priority on the portfolio holders visit to Burgh Le Marsh.
- Councilors used to have a ward / area in the village they would walk and be responsible for. Is this something the council would consider? It would be useful for keeping a check on the roads and footpaths.
The Town Council will review this suggestion at a future council meeting.
- Speeding traffic and dangerous parking in the village, specifically along Ingoldmells Road. The parking near Cervantes Court is dangerous when cars are then speeding past. Residents feel this is an accident hotspot waiting to happen. The amount of traffic in this area is increasing with all the additional houses on Bishop Tozer and Springfields and will only increase with more planned development.
What can be done? Can council make representation to Highways for yellow lines?
The Town Council will pass these concerns on to our LCC Councilor, Cllr Sue Blackburn, for assisting with reports to Highways.
- Who owns to the railings on High Street? Can the school PFTA add a banner advertising the schools bonanza.
The Town Council own the fencing and confirmed displaying the banner.
- As previously requested, is there any update and support for adding some trees to grass verges on The Causeway. Have the Baptist Church confirmed the number they may be willing to donate.
The Baptist Church have confirmed they can fund some trees. The Clerk will contact them to discuss further, and Highways for approval.
The council will look to get this moving.
- With the loss of the PCSO's to the rural community, could the council and neighbouring parishes look to fund this?
The suggestion would need to be put to Lincolnshire Police and then neighboring parishes. The council will review the suggestion at a future council meeting.

There being no further comments or questions the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Dated

NOTES