

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes for the meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting

30th April 2024

**Burgh le Marsh Town Council, Tinkers Green, Jacksons Lane,
Burgh le Marsh**

Present: Chairman Cllr Jim Moss.
Cllr David Hartly, Cllr Lisa Broomfield, Cllr Victoria Driver,
Cllr Graeme Driver, Cllr Mike Greenhalgh, Cllr Mandy Willis,
Cllr Pat Phillips.
Clerk: Kelly Stevenson

Public Eight members of public present.

1. Chairman's remarks and welcome.

Chairman, Cllr Jim Moss welcomed all attending.

2. Apologies of absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sue Nutman, Cllr Neil Cooper, Cllr Pauline Cooper and Cllr Chris Sanderson.

3. To approve the notes of the Annual Parish Meeting 30th May 2023 and by doing so resolve that they be adopted as minutes.

Minutes from the meeting held on 30th May 2023 we approved and adopted as minutes.

4. Receive reports from the Council covering planning, finance, and work of the council for 2023/24

Chairman, Cllr Jim Moss, delivered the report summarising 2023/2024 (copy attached, appendix 1).

The clerk delivered the finance report summarising the council's financial position for 2023/24 (copy attached, appendix 2)

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

No report.

6. To receive a report from the members of Lincolnshire County Council and East Lindsey District Council, if available.

No reports.

7. Public Forum and questions.

Comments and questions from the public:

- Speeding around the whole village, is there anything the Council can do to prevent this.
Following discussions, Council will again write to Lincolnshire Police.
- Parking at the Chip Shop is dangerous, parking on double yellow lines and grass verges continues. Emergency vehicles would not be able to gain access down Storeys Lane.
The council are also concerned regarding parking on double yellows in this area and other areas around the Town.
Following discussions, Council to action letters to Parking Enforcement and Lincolnshire Police.
- Is it possible to have central diary on display of events in the village to help with community events planning events.
Following discussions, Council can look at adding a calendar page to the Council Website and will look into placing a monthly printed copy in the notice board.
However, there are concerns regarding all groups consulting and therefore the calendar being accurate.
- Can there be a Poppy display around the village and possibly on Cock Hill for remembrance in November 2025. Resident gave a drawn example of what she would like to achieve.
Following discussion, council were in full support and offer help with actioning the display.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Signed

Dated 29/04/2025

Appendix 1. Chairmans Reports:

Annual Public Meeting 30th April 2024

Chairmans Report

Review of the past year 2023/2024

In this review I would like to report on key events and activities of the Council. As well as the events I will mention there is a lot of behind the scenes work that Kelly (our Town Clerk) does on a day-to-day basis to support the Town.

I would also like to record my thanks to my fellow Councillors and especially to Cllr Sue Nutman who has deputised for me on occasions when I have not been available.

Responsibilities of Burgh le Marsh Town Council

Just a reminder of the Councils responsibilities:

Maintain Tinkers Green including the play area and the toilet and the small play area at the Causeway.

Maintain the public toilets in the Market place and the Market place space

Organise the grass cutting around the Town

Maintain certain public footpaths

Maintain the bus shelters

Employ the Town Clerk (Kelly) and the village handyman (Adam)

Comment on planning applications related to our area.

Support the Library and are responsible for the volunteers

Organise and finance the annual picnic in the park

Key Events

Transfer of the Market Place, public toilets and the former clerks office

The transfer of these assets, which happened formally on 1st August last year, came with a supporting grant and this, along with some earmarked funds has meant that we have been able to start some upgrading work to the toilets. To date we have had the lighting revamped and we are now looking at improvements to the sanitary ware.

Its fair to say that if the Town Council had not accepted responsibility for the toilets they would have almost certainly been closed.

The transfer of the Market Place coincided with our aim to improve that area which is looking a little tired.

Two benches have been replaced in the Market place along with three others around the town. One of the new ones has been paid for by Anglian water and the other by a lady who wants to dedicate it to her late husband.

We have a new noticeboard and town map on order.

An organisation called Community Heartbeat Trust formally claimed ownership of the old phone box (and many others nationally) in 2016.

The council has made a financial contribution to them which will mean that a defibrillator will soon be installed there. The financial contribution means that we will also get a quantity of the special red and gold paint and we will be grateful to Mr Alsop (who you will know is the school caretaker) who has offered to do the painting.

Christmas

Ownership of the Market Place has given us the freedom to think about different ways we can use that space and last year we are able to organise a Christmas Craft market on Saturday 2 December. I was away at the time and the organising of the event and work on the day was done by Kelly, Cllrs Sue Nutman, Mandy Willets, David Hartley along with Adam Jamieson our handyman. We also were joined by friends from the Baptist church who led the carol singing around the Christmas tree.

The event was judged a success and we are planning to hold the event again this year.

Once again the Council was able to organise a Christmas tree for the Market Place and street lighting decorations which received many appreciative comments. We were grateful for the help from our friends at the Windmill who put up the trees on buildings around the centre of Burgh.

Community Litter Picks

We have continued to hold the monthly community litter picks and it is pleasing to report that we are having more people joining us for these. As well as helping to keep the Town tidy it is an opportunity for people, who come to sit down and talk to Councillors with refreshments.

Attendance at Burgh Windmill Festival Day

The Council had a stand at the Festival Day on 1st July. It was an opportunity for us to promote the work of the Council and an opportunity for residents to come and talk to us. We were also able to signpost people to the correct organisations. Cllrs Lisa Broomfield, Dave Hartley and Mike Greenhalgh helped man the stall.

Picnic in the Park

Once again we organised the annual "Picnic in the Park" in August. In spite of Kellys superb organisation and the help of fellow Councillors we were not able to control the weather and we experienced a heavy down pour which meant the event finished early about 2.30pm.

Although this is very much a weather dependent event for this years event, which will be held on Saturday 3rd August.

Remembrance Day celebrations

As in previous years we placed around 50 large poppies on lampposts around the town. This was done by Cllr Dave Hartley, our handyman Adam Jamieson and myself. We were grateful for the extra help we had from Paul Ogden, a veteran who lives locally and his two grandsons Charlie and Ollie Vines.

I was incapacitated at the time of the Parish church services and I was grateful to Deputy Mayor Cllr Sue Nutman who deputised for me at the two wreath laying ceremonies.

National Grid Pylon Consultation

As with the vast majority of local people we were alarmed by the proposals set out in the consultation to use very large pylons to transfer electricity across Lincolnshire and beyond.

Councillors attended the consultation event at the village hall which I understood did nothing to reassure us about these proposals. District Councillor Jimmy Brookes also attended.

In response to the consultation Kelly sent a strongly worded response on behalf of the Council and all local residents.

As an aside, last week we received further consultation material regarding an underground and undersea proposal.

Section 137 grants

The Council is able to make grants to organisations related to the Town.

This year we have made grants to:

Burgh School PTFA

Burgh Guides

Burgh Rainbows

Twinning Association

British Legion

We also made a financial contribution to the Windmill group to pay for the childrens christmas presents at their Christmas event.

Adult Gym equipment

We had been considering what extra facilities we could provide at Tinkers Green and following a suggestion from members of the public the Council purchased items of Gym equipment. These are proving to be extremely popular with all ages.

Burgh WI

My wife and I were invited to the WI on 7th February to celebrate the national 100th year anniversary of that organisation. We were made very welcome, well fed and enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

Planning

The Town council is a statutory consultee for all planning applications relating to our area. We do not have the final say in applications but we do consider each one very carefully before submitting our comments.

Comparative details on the previous year are as follows:

Date	New Build Houses/ Bungalows	Extensions/ Alterations/ S.73 amendments	Tourist related. Caravans/fishing lakes	Grand total
2022-23	15	28	9	52
2023-24	14	10	5	29

Filling of vacancy for Councillor

Colin Wright, who had been a Councillor for a number of years became ineligible to be a Councillor towards the end of last year and we undertook a co-option exercise and I am pleased to say we had 3 people express an interest and following the selection interviews Mr Graham Driver was invited to join the Council.

Kelly includes further details of the Councillors, including our attendance records at meetings and how much and who claimed our allowances in her report.

Looking forward to next year:

Public consultation about the request for a footpath across Tinkers Green.

For a number of years we have been discussing a request from a developer for a footpath across Tinkers Green. The Council has rejected this request twice but as it was a major decision affecting the Town national guidelines required us to hold a public consultation.

The consultation started on 17th April and ends in a months time on 17th May and I would encourage everyone to complete one of the questionnaires either on line or by a hard copy that are available here or at various places around the town.

The Council will be considering the results of the survey at a May meeting.

Dobsons Windmill

I think most people are aware of the plans by Lincolnshire County Council to end its responsibility for the Windmill in about 4 years after it has been repaired. At a recent Council meeting we unanimously passed a resolution to support the Heritage Group in whatever way we are able in maintaining the mill. A joint working group has been set up to take this forward.

Picnic site (Bratoft)

The Council owns an unused picnic site at Gravel Pits Lane in Bratoft. We will be discussing shortly whether we should dispose of this and invest the proceeds. If the Council agree to go forward on this I expect we will be seeking the views of local residents.

Marsh Lane football field

For some time we have been trying to establish contact with the remaining trustee of the Burgh Sports Association who own the football field. We did manage to get confirmation that a rumour that it was going to be sold was untrue.

Recently we have met with Chris Cussons who is involved with the football club. We have agreed some immediate small financial help and we are confident that we can re invigorate the Sports Association with Councillors being represented on the management committee which will go along way to securing the ground and football for the future.

D Day celebrations

We will be supporting the national D Day celebrations on 6th Jun this year by lighting the beacon and organising refreshments on that evening.

Pride in place grants

I know that Kelly is working very hard to complete a grant form as a way we are trying to get funding to restore the blue millenium railings and decorations over Cock hill and along the High street. We will report further on that during the next few months.

I will finish here by again thanking my fellow councillors and especially Kelly who works so hard for us. And I also apologise to anyone I have overlooked who has helped and supported us during the year.

Thank you very much

Appendix 2. Finance Report:

Burgh le Marsh Town Council Annual Parish Meeting: 30th April 2024

Finance Report:

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 tax).

The 2023/24 tax base was 863 an increase from 844 (2.20%) in 202/23. Going into the new financial year 2024/25 the tax base has increased to 894 (3.47%).

Councils' funds starting April 2023	£102,756.40
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Income received during 2023/2024	£106,784.38
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This is made of the precept claim of £77,468.30. Additional income of grants to support grass cutting, library services and building, donations and vat reclaims.

Expenditure during 2023/2024	£115,803.69.
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This is including VAT paid of £5398.00, which is reclaimed quarterly. VAT paid out for January 2024 to March 2024 of £1, 136.43 is awaiting receipt.

Expenditure made outside of usual council running costs has included:

Coronation event	£1,214.08
Capital Loan Payment	£30,605.99
Adult gym equipment	£4,360.00

Year end funds 2023/2024

Council's fund at the year-end (31st Mach 2024) total £93,737.09. This is a *reduction of £9,019.31(9.6%)*.

This includes a general reserves of £28,103.07 and earmarked fund of £39,824.31. Council will be reviewing balances in May 2024.

Public Works Loan:

Balance outstanding to the Public Works Loan Board at

31/03/2023	£66,080.57
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31/03/2024

£28,593.24

Due to the capital loan payment from council's reserve funds in 2023 the annual loan payment has reduced by approximately 50%.

New financial year 2024/25

A precept claim for £81,069.43 was requested from ELDC. This is to support an expenditure budget of £87,562.58.

The council have offset income expected from LCC Parish Agreement, interest to be received and surplus funds totalling £6,493.15 against the precept claim.

Council's liabilities have increased with the added responsibility of running the public toilets, and Market Place. However, use of council's reserve to reduce the PWLB mean the council endeavour to provide the best value and service for residents without considerably increasing the precept.

Councillor allowances 2023/24

Councillor	Allowance	Amount Paid
Lisa Broomfield	300.00	300.00
Neil Cooper	300.00	-
Pauline Cooper	300.00	-
Victoria Driver	300.00	300.00
Mike Greenhalgh	300.00	-
David hartley	300.00	300.00
Jim Moss	300.00	300.00
Sue Nutman	300.00	300.00
Pat Phillips	300.00	
Chris Sanderson	300.00	
Mandy Willis	300.00	300.00
Colin Wright.	300.00	

Councillor Attendance 2023/24

Councillor	No. of Meeting Summons	No of meetings attended	% of attendance
Lisa Broomfield	17	13	76%
Neil Cooper	17	9	53%
Pauline Cooper	17	9	53%
Victoria Driver	17	12	71%
Mike Greenhalgh	17	14	82%
David hartley	17	17	100%
Jim Moss	17	17	100%
Sue Nutman	17	10	59%
Pat Phillips	17	11	65%
Chris Sanderson	17	7	41%
Mandy Willis	17	17	100%
Colin Wright.	13	3	23%

In accordance with regulations, all accounts will be open for inspection in June and early July, with the exact dates being set out in a Notice to be published later in May.