

# **Environment & Amenities Working Party**

Report Date: Author: 16 June 2022 Alinda Howland (Parish Councillor) Maxine Mussell (Parish Councillor)

#### PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE & REPLACEMENT:

Our groundsman extended the play area over May bank holiday. The play bark was topped up the following week to provide the required continuous safety zone, and the new swing seats hung.



Following last month's majority approval to create a pedestrian link from the main barrier entrance of the recreation ground to the playground, a safe mobility and baby buggy friendly access has been created.

The annual playground inspection is now due and required for insurance purposes. This inspection will include the recent installation of the swings, increased safe play zone and additional access gate. The Clerk has received a quote from our usual service provider of £315 net for which we seek BWPC majority support.



Our groundsman will be installing a line of dragon's teeth along the grass to clearly separate the carpark from the playground area and keep all users of the playground safe from vehicles.

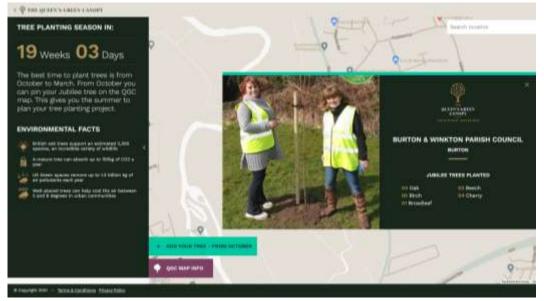


#### VILLAGE RECREATION GROUND:

Very positive conversations with supportive residents continue.

The tree specialist has advised keeping weeds, grasses, scrub and brambles to minimum by strimming or spraying herbicide as necessary aftercare of newly planted hedgerow and trees for a couple of years to promote growth. It is very encouraging to see a noticeable increase of birds and other wildlife frequenting the hedgerow.

#### TREE REPLENISHMENT & QUEENS GREEN CANOPY PROJECT



The springtime planting programme in support of the Lord Lieutenant's initiative to increase tree planting and commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 has been officially reported and registered on the Queen's Green Canopy website. BWPC is happy to be involved in creating this special gift for Her Majesty The Queen.

All trees continue to be regularly watered by members of E&A WP

Commemorative plaques for this project must follow the approved design and materials – quotes are being sought.

#### CAR PARK REINSTATEMENT

Burton Scout Group agreed at a meeting on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September the outstanding works that formed the Grant of Full Approval will be completed, this is in line with terms of their Underlease.

The local scout group acknowledged at this meeting and at subsequent meetings the financial responsibility for the provision of the bike stand is theirs and forms part of the conditions of planning approval. At the same meeting on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September the reinstatement of the car park was also discussed. Similarly, the construction of the car park to plan is also a planning condition as referred to in the terms of the Underlease. Given the scale of the works required the parish council decided to undertake these works and accept a financial contribution towards the cost from the local scout group.

Our contractor completed works on the carpark to schedule mid May 2022. Binding path gravel was laid on a base of levelled crushed limestone and left to dry/set for three days.

Clerk to obtain confirmation of scout group financial contribution toward these scout hut grant of approval planning conditions.















#### MEMORIAL BENCHES AND TREES:

The delivery of the second memorial bench to be sited on Martins Hill Recreation ground was expected at the end of May has been delayed. We are in regular contact with both the supplier and the resident.

#### VANDALISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:

No reported incidents

# FOOTBALL:

AFC Burton has notified the Clerk, due to the collapse of the BDFA Haywood Saturday League, the club has reverted to one team for the 2022/23 season. The Sunday League is expected to commence at the beginning of September, kick-off remains 10.30am.

A subsequent request from AFC Burton for a meeting before the end of June to discuss next season has been received – the Clerk is checking availability and will advise.

AFC Burton has also informed the Clerk the Football Foundation has awarded the club an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) plus secure storage case which they would like to mount on the external wall of the football hut. This is great news and a request the E&AWP fully supports subject to securing all necessary permissions. If the unit requires mains supply connection, this work must be carried out by a qualified electrician and certificated. **E&AWP suggests BWPC seeks Clerk's assistance with guidance from BCP Planning department and seeking superior landlord approval for external modifications before the unit is installed**.

### VILLAGE GREEN:

All trees continue to be watered and cleared of weeds by members of E&A WP.

We're disappointed the field poppies sown around the Luke Taylor memorial bench, silent solider and nurse silhouettes haven't emerged yet.

Following a request on social media for the return of the hefty metal cap from the centre of the ground compass on Burton Village Green a resident made contact and Cllr Mussell collected the errant cap and returned it to its rightful place.





A badly corroded manhole cover on Burton Green was reported to BWPC via Facebook and has since been replaced.



#### **FINGERPOSTS:**

Staple Cross fingerpost – is awaiting repair to prevent the fingers being swung to give the wrong directional information.

The final fingerpost to be reinstated at Winkton will replace all existing road signage. Quotes are being sought

#### BUS STOPS: - NO FURTHER UPDATE

As previously reported, bus shelters in poorest condition have been earmarked for replacement with good condition nearly new. BCP failed to communicate a works schedule with dates to the parish council, however, when contacted by E&AWP for update on 9 January, Nick Phillips of BCP Transportation & Engineering, immediately confirmed the shelter at Martins Hill Lane nearing Salisbury Road had been removed by BCP, and the installation of the replacement would follow, three months have passed and still no sign of the replacement shelter. We continue to chase repeatedly pointing out this particular shelter was removed from an exposed location during winter months, that the majority of regular bus users are elderly and asking for its replacement to be given priority. A chaser email sent 4<sup>th</sup> April and copied to Graham Farrant, CEO of BCP went unanswered. Disappointed but undeterred, a further chaser was sent 29 April 2022 to which a response was received. BCP previously advised the replacement bus shelter needed an electrical disconnection, however, we are now being told this bus shelter requires a direct connection to the mains electricity supply – **clarification of these contradictory statements was immediately requested.** 

BWPC leases the land this bus shelter is sited on from Meyrick Estate. Out of courtesy BWPC/E&AWP has kept Meyrick Estate informed throughout, we are disappointed BCP did not keep the parish council or Buses for Burton in the loop.





Bus shelters listed for replacement

- Martins Hill Lane
- Martins Hill Lane junction of Sandy Plot
- Salisbury Road junction of Campbell Road.



# BOCKHAMPTON LAND OCCUPATION: AKA HOLFLEET GREEN: – NO FURTHER UPDATE

Further report made to Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) during the first week in April. General area is now an unsightly, filthy mess of churned earth and rubbish, attracting fly tipping and vermin. The pigs continue to spook horses and pose a risk of injury to riders and other road users should a horse rear up or bolt.

As agreed at last meeting, Parish Councillors Howland and Mussell met with concerned resident at stables close to Harpway Lane to discuss and gave them assurance that the BWPC continue to pursue the matter and asked to let us know if there any changes to the site.

Parish Councillor Howland contacted Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) again to report that the pigs are now over 12 months old, do not appear to be registered and expressing general concern about the welfare of the animals. The agency was asked to confirm that the occupier of the land has obtained a County Parish Holding (CPH) number from the Rural Payments Agency, an executive agency of DEFRA. This administrative unique land identifier is essential and to be used in conjunction with any livestock that the occupier possess. The number is used by the UK government for reporting on the location and movement of livestock. This is essential for monitoring and management of outbreaks of disease. Unfortunately, despite making follow up calls to APHA, which is part of the BCP Trading Standards team, no response has been received. Next step is to make a Freedom of Information Request to the Rural Payments Agency.



The piece of land is the triangle formed by Harpway Lane and Burley Road near the Lamb Inn. It has been fenced in, further to the last Meeting more trees have been cut down and we have been advised by Ward Councillor Simon McCormack the matter is in the hands of BCP legal department and may take some time to resolve.

This is of concern and causing great distress to many residents. The Parish Council and villages alike are concerned if the wheels of bureaucracy are permitted to turn slowly without interest from the unitary council it could result in the land being misappropriated by those who have no right to it.

The situation is having a detrimental effect on the local residents and the area has become an eyesore. The keeping of a pigs on this site is impacting on the enjoyment of the private land oppostie which is used as horse paddocks. Ponies and pigs do not mix, many horses are are afraid of pigs. Ponies using the road are spooked by the pig/s and are suffering distress, this is a busy road, riders, animals and pedestrians are all being placed at risk by one person's actions to attempt at a land grab.

*Pressure to be kept up else BWPC will be accused of complacency – we would like BCP to explore all avenues of non compliance as a matter of urgency and report back.* 

Specifically can BCP investigate the following:

- 1. OWNERSHIP OF LAND: Has the historic ownership of this land been established in order to consider whether the triangle is manorial waste? **UPDATE: The Clerk wrote to the assumed landowner's agents but so far without response.**
- 2. PIG MOVEMENT: Our understanding is all pigs must be registered and all pig movements have to be reported and recorded. Could BCP investigate whether the pigs owner is complying with these rules and update the Parish Council as a matter of urgency.
- 3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF PIG KEEPING: It is recommended an area of ½ acre is required to keep two pigs. There are strict rules concerning rodent control, hygeine and spread of disease. UPDATE: It has been established that the site has been inspected by Animal and Plant Health Agency. The local Animal Welfare Officer was advised that one of pigs was 7 months old at the time of their visit in May. The pig is now 12 months old and will require tagging and additional documentation.
- 4. USE OF CCTV: There are several signs warning that CCTV is in use, this is overt filming. Has this been registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and the necessary data protection fee paid or is this simply intimidatory behaviour? BCP to investigate and update the Parish Council as matter of urgency.

#### BURLEY ROAD – Swans, Power outages: – NO FURTHER UPDATE

Following a further power outage last week, BWPC registered an on-line complaint with SSEN. This was the third three lengthy outage in recent months and the result of swans taking flight and striking overhead power cables on Burley Road. BWPC has requested additional Swan deflectors be fitted to this stretch of overheard cables.

Councillors have also received complaints from residents about excessive mud and stones dispersed by heavy plant vehicles being deployed at a construction site on Burley Road. These vehicles are also destroying the verges, creating dangerous road conditions for drivers and pedestrians alike. More research is required regarding the conditions of planning approval before drafting a letter to be sent to all appropriate parties.



# STAPLE CROSS: - NO FURTHER UPDATE

Taylor Wimpey provided the following response to question raised by Alinda Howland relating to the proposed development of Roeshot Hill and the impact on Staple Cross

QUOTE: Re the Scheduled Ancient Monument, again the plans have not yet been finalised. A Heritage Management Plan has to be prepared by Taylor Wimpey and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of any works in this parcel of land. The Outline Planning Consent stipulates that the developer has to undertake an archaeological investigation of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, repair the cross (resetting and repointing the stone by specialist stonemasons) and fund landscape works, but again no detail has yet been prepared. UNQUOTE

We previously expressed concerned that this historic landmark and scheduled monument is being overlooked and has no maintenance schedule. More recently Christchurch History in Pictures, a local social media history group has been in touch regarding the condition of the metal markers and Staple Cross. We have responded to confirm that we have already carried out a village survey of assets and items of interest and mapped and photographed. We advised them the condition of the metal mile markers and the requirement for maintenance has already been put to the Parish Council for consideration and we hope to carry out this work when the weather improves. The base of Staple Cross appears to be sinking into the ground and we will need to seek out specialist advise on restorative work and how to it should be funded.

They have also sent through some information about an archaeological dig carried out within the parish boundary at Clockhouse Barrow in 2019, this early Neolithic long barrow has been entered into the Historic Environment Records. We said we will investigate further. Max and I have both joined the Christchurch History Society as this will assist us with further research into the history of our parish.