



Environment & Amenities Working Party

Report Date: 17th February 2023

Author: Alinda Howland (Parish Councillor)
Maxine Mussell (Parish Councillor)

PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE & REPLACEMENT:

The playground replacement is complete. The playground is extremely popular with young families (our target users), in constant use, seven days week rain or shine. This project is a great success.

The equipment and area is checked weekly by Councillor Mussell. Recent mild weather has promoted rapid grass growth - Groundsman is aware and will be carrying out additional cuts as he can to keep the area manageable.

As a result of the playground's popularity, the play bark requires regular raking and even distribution in some areas of high use.

VILLAGE RECREATION GROUND:

We are delighted Burton Primary School have accepted BWPC's invitation to be part of the final stage of the rejuvenation – the creation of a wild flower bank along the ditch on the east flank. This event will take place no later than April 2023, the exact date is unknown at this time but we will be liaising with the school and local press nearer the time.

As part of general maintenance, the perimeter hedgerow requires cutting and clearing at ground level of bramble regrowth to encourage the newly planted hedgerow to thrive. A quote of £920 net has been provided by BCP Environment Services to include reducing tall stumps, brush cutting and removal of all cuttings and vegetation waste. This work is required to be completed before the end of March to protect wildlife. **MAJORITY APPROVAL SOUGHT FOR THIS NECESSARY EXPENDITURE**

We are seeking advice and quotes for service repair and/or replacement the two entrance barrier gates that require attention.



The entrance on Martins Hill Lane is a mishmash of wooden fences either side of a pedestrian swing gate and a narrow vehicular access gate. This arrangement is not DDA compliant, is not wide enough for a fire engine and presents a risk of unwanted incursions.



We have a quote of £3620 Net to remove all existing elements including fencing and replace with a Woodstock kissing gate with mesh infill and a wider 4m galvanised barrier gate, also with mesh infill, and make good with uniform fencing either side. Additional quotes being sought.

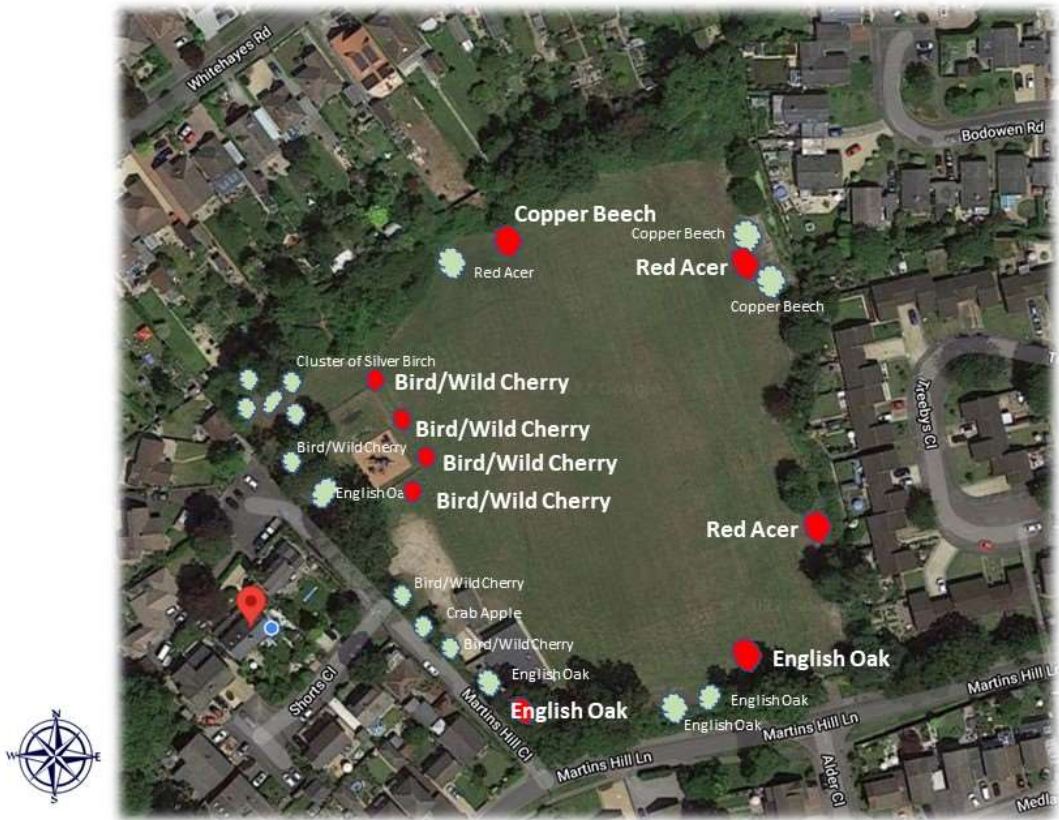


Example of kissing gate and low barrier gate without mesh infill.

TREE REPLISHMENT & QUEENS GREEN CANOPY PROJECT.

Second phase planting of trees to replace those dead and dying removed two years ago was completed 18 January as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy. This brings the total number of trees planted to 25. A galvanised mesh guard has been placed around each tree to protect the young trees from further accidental damage.

Martins Hill Recreation Ground - Tree Planting Plan, January 2023





The official approved commemorative plaques for the Queen's Green Canopy project have been installed and the planting registered on the official Queen's Green Canopy website

<https://queensgreencanopy.org>



CAR PARK REINSTATEMENT

All work is now complete.

MEMORIAL BENCHES AND TREES:

No enquiries have been received since the December meeting. The benches on the recreation ground are well used and enjoyed by a great many.



VANDALISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:

A safe box found inside the recreation ground was reported the police and has since been reunited with its owner in Poole whose home was burgled in December 2022.

The copper beech tree planted February 2022 as part of the Queen's Green Canopy that was subsequently snapped during a football match in April has been replaced by BWPC. A galvanized mesh tree guard has been placed around to prevent accidental or deliberate damage occurring again.



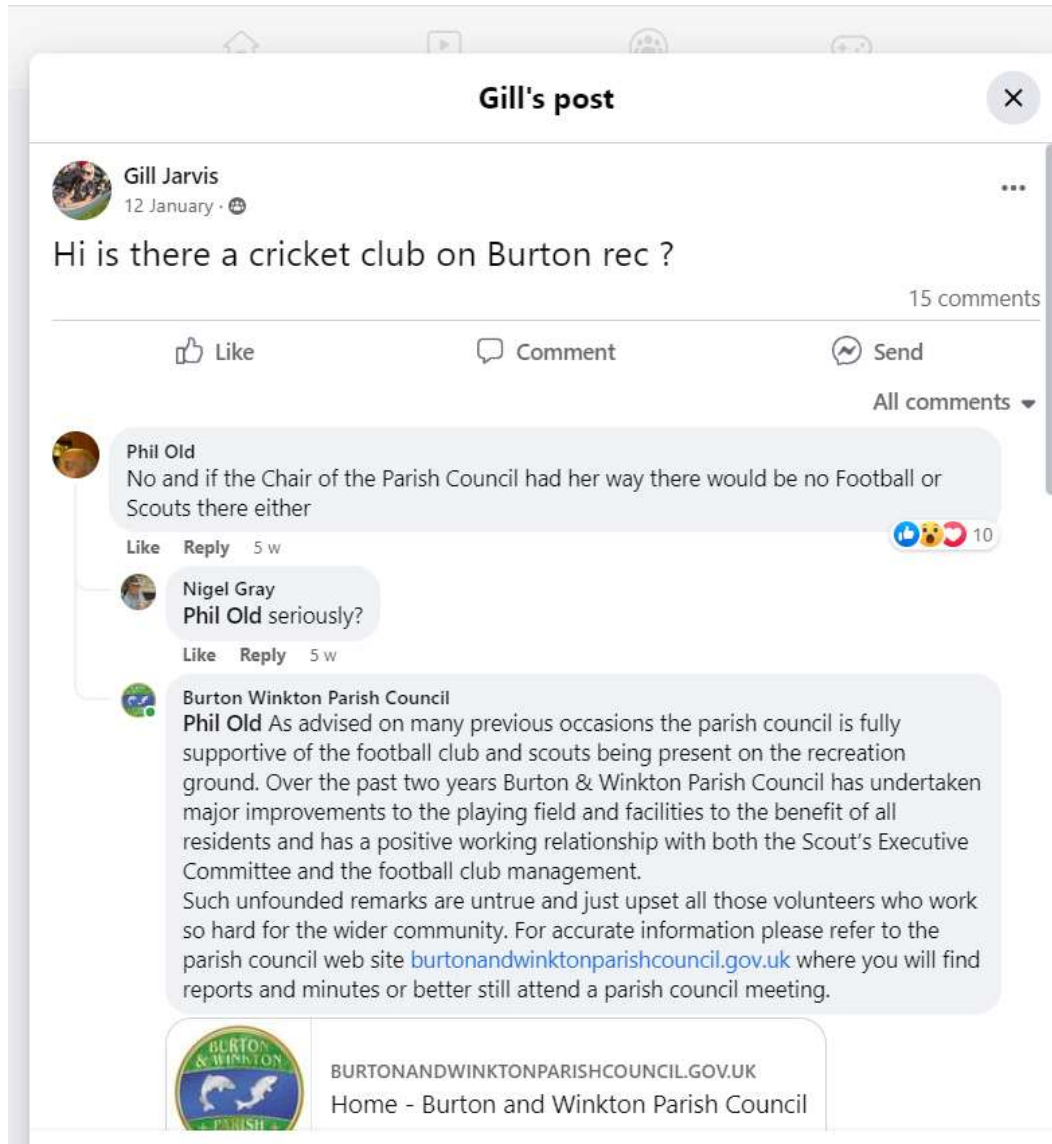
Much of the unsightly graffiti on village road signs has been removed. The low level signage was cleaned by Councillor Wade. Higher level graffiti was reported to BCP for removal.





FOOTBALL:

See below FB post and BWPC response. it was agreed the Clerk would write of AFC Burton to express the parish council's disappointment that these untrue comments continue to be posted on Facebook and liked by members and associates of the football club.



- **Defibrillator supplied to AFC Burton by the Football Foundation** – For practical reasons the defib may have to be installed on the scout hut – Richard Davis of AFC Burton will pursue with the Burton Scout Group. Advice since received by the Clerk from BCP Planning confirms the Parish Council has the same permitted development rights under Part 12 of the GPDO so won't need planning permission for the external placement of a defibrillator on either the football hut or scout building. The superior landlord has also confirmed agreement to external placement on either hut. Any necessary modification to the electrical supply to either property will need to be certified to satisfy the terms of the tenant's lease and building insurance policy **No further update.**



VILLAGE GREEN:

The agreed replacement of the vandalized cherry tree was ordered in December – the specimen delivered in January was rejected as too small. Supplier is sourcing a taller tree of 2m and will plant as soon as one becomes available. Once planted a galvanized mesh tree guard will be fitted around the new tree to prevent accidental or deliberate damage occurring again.

FINGERPOSTS:

Staple Cross fingerpost – is awaiting repair to prevent the fingers being swung to give the wrong directional information. At a previous meeting the BWPC agreed costs of remedial works to retrofit a countersunk tamper resistant torx driven screw. **CLERK TO UPDATE**

Subject to confirmation and approval from BCP Council, the final fingerpost is intended to replace the existing signage at Winkton Green

It was decided at a previous meeting this project should be placed on hold pending repair of the existing fingerposts, however, as repairs are carried out by a completely separate company, unconnected to the specialist manufacturer, any outstanding maintenance and repairs to existing fingerposts should not delay placing an official order for the Winkton fingerpost.

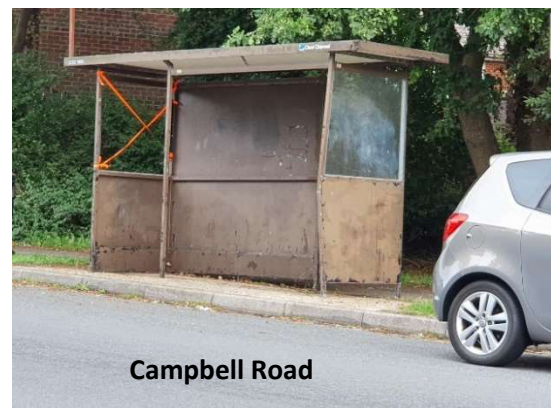
The specialist manufacturer has confirmed the quote of £3700 remains live and also advised that they can at manufacture secure the fingers in a fixed position to prevent movement. **SUBJECT TO RECEIVING BCP COUNCIL APPROVAL TO REMOVE EXISTING AND REPLACE WITH FINGERPOST, MAJORITY APPROVAL SOUGHT FOR THIS EXPENDITURE.**

FOOTPATHS:

During the public participation of the July meeting a resident raised concern about a footpath in Bockhampton that had become overgrown and impassable. Councillor Tony Bragg has since reported he had a meeting at the end of July with BCP to discuss cutback of this footpath in early August. The Environment & Amenities working party will undertake a coordinated review of all footpaths and signage throughout the parish. **NO FURTHER UPDATE AT THIS TIME**

BUS STOPS:

From BWPC's original list, there remains one bus shelter waiting for replacement on Salisbury Road at the junction of Campbell Road. Following a request from the Burton Bus Campaign group, BWPC made representations to BCP to add the very sad bus shelter on Campbell Road to the list of shelters requiring replacement - BCP confirmed by email on 20th October both bus shelters will be replaced but were unable to provide a date. Further update from BCP received 20 January confirmed the bus shelters are part of the 2023/24 programme due to commence in April. BCP will keep BWPC informed, we will continue to chase.





ROAD SIGNAGE and ROAD MARKINGS:

BWPC continues to advise BCP of road markings and signage in need of refreshing and/or replacement.

FLOODING

Following the recent flooding that brought Burton to a standstill, Councillor Howland and Councillor Mussell met with Doug Troke, a resident and appointed Stony Lane Flood Warden. Mr Troke has attended a training course run by Environment Agency. The Stony Lane properties nearest the railway bridge are at high risk and have a Local Flood Plan in place. During 2014 the Environment Agency funded flood prevention modifications to these properties ie flood barriers to external doors, installation of underground pumps and dug pits below floors where necessary in an effort to prevent water ingress. However the most recent flooding event in January escalated very quickly and in addition to their flooded gardens and drives it also caused the closure of Stony Lane, gridlock on alternative routes, accidents and car breakdowns. Road users ignoring the CLOSED ROAD signage further exacerbate the situation by displacing the water mass towards the properties.

Mr Troke showed us around the affected area. It is apparent the overgrown neglected ditches and blocked storm drains in Stony Lane, Martins Hill Lane and those roads that feed into Martins Hill are adding to the problem and require attention. Whilst regular maintenance might not have prevented the flooding under the railway bridge, a planned preventative maintenance (PPM) schedule is required to minimise the impact of heavy downpours. Kerbs, ditches and storm drains along Martins Hill Lane and Stony Lane all need to be regularly cleared of debris, vegetation and silt to allow surface rainwater to enter the drainage system.

In addition to the single use flood sacks supplied by Burton Parish Council some years ago, Mr Troke was able to collect sandbags etc from Christchurch Civil Offices but this building is now closed and his request to BCP for updated instructions and supplies has been ignored. In view of the serious problems and disruption experienced by our residents in recent weeks it is important that BWPC follow up and ensure the local flood plan also covers Stony Lane itself in addition to the properties.

POTENTIAL COMMUNITY GROWERS PROJECT:

BWPC is in communication with the landowner and researching funding opportunities.

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

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 overhead 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 a historic landmark and scheduled monument.

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