

# BURY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk - Charlotte Copley. 37 Station Road, Ramsey PE26 1JB

Telephone – 01487 813606

Email – [parish.clerk@buryparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@buryparishcouncil.co.uk)

Website - [www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk)

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH 2022

The Annual meeting of Bury Parish was held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
at Bury Village Hall, from 7pm

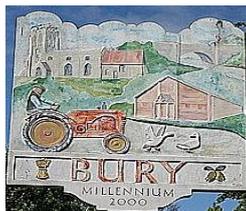
### Minutes

- Present: Councillors D. Wakefield, R. Scantlebury, J. Hayes, K Prestage, D Masterson  
County Councillor Costello, District Councillor Clarke  
Also, present; Clerk – C Copley and 3 members of public.
- APM0522.01 Apologies.  
Apologies received from Cllr. J. Prestage
- APM0522.02 Councillors Interests.  
None received
- APM0522.03 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021.  
The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
- APM0522.04 Matters Arising.  
None received.
- APM0522.05 The Responsible Financial Officer of Bury Parish Council presented the 2022 financial report which will be appended to these minutes.
- APM0522.06 The report from the Parish Council Chairman was provided verbally by the Clerk in their absence and will be appended to these minutes.
- APM0522.07 County Councillor Costello and District Councillor Clarke presented their reports, appended to these minutes.
- APM0522.08 Two reports from local organisations received from Bury Residents Charity and Ramsey Womens Institute, circulated to members ahead of the meeting and appended to these minutes.
- APM0522.09 The Clerk confirmed the Wind Farm Funding poster is available on the website and noticeboards. The poster is also appended to these minutes.  
The Ramsey Wind Farm is committed to providing **£40,000** of funding per year for community projects. The Community Benefit Fund will allow groups to apply for grants between **£250** and **£20,000**. There will be one application round each year.  
The closing date for the next round of applications is **10 August 2022**. Decisions will be made by the end October 2022.
- APM0522.10 To invite members of the Public to raise any Matters of Interest.  
None received.
- APM0522.11 Questions to County and District Councillors.  
County Cllr Costello reminded those present to include her in emails to the County Council.
- APM0522.12 Chairman's Closing Remarks.  
The Chairman thanked everyone for attending this evening and extended thanks to the organisations who had forwarded their reports to the Clerk.

The Chairman wished to extend the Council's gratitude to Mr. Hazell, Mr Tew and Mr Johnston who stepped down from the Parish Council at this year's elections. Their dedication and time given to the parish are much appreciated. They have been very important members of the Council and will be missed. The Council wish them every success in the future.

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# Bury Parish Council



## Annual report from the Responsible Financial Officer May 2022

### Year End Roundup

Bury Parish Council started the financial year with £164,346 and received £66,670 of income which was made up of £32,500 precept and the remainder mostly of Community Infrastructure Levy, cemetery fees, a VAT claim and a small amount of bank interest.

The total spend for the financial year was £62,218.82 of which £10,267.20 was spent on the Guardroom project and £5,650.00 on the acquisition of the BMX track. This left the remaining spend of £46,301.62 on Council administration, amenities and cemetery etc. The Parish Council received £32,500 in precept for this financial year. Therefore, the overspend on budget of £13,801.62 was covered by general reserves.

Due to this overspend on precept an explanation of the Councils decision to raise its precept to £61,200.00 for the next financial year was offered in the Chairmans Statement which can be found on the Parish Councils website:

“ The Council is now faced with dwindling reserves and increasing costs. With this in mind, the Council agreed at its November 2021 meeting to accept the Finance group’s recommendation to raise our precept to £61,200. The amount is raised through the Council Tax from all the houses in the parish and include in your Council tax bill. The Tax Base advised by Huntingdonshire District Council for 2021-22 was 648 (equated number of Band D properties) this brings a charge of £94.44 per year, or £7.87 a month. For reference the Bury parish council precept is less than 5% of the total council tax bill collected by HDC.

The Council will continue to monitor its spending, be audited both internally and externally, and provide monthly and quarterly finance reports through the financial year. These reports will be published on the parish council website and members of the public are always welcome to attend parish council meetings.”

The new developments are also bringing new bus shelters to the village, these are a requirement by the County Council and funded by developer contributions as stated in Section 106 agreements. The Parish Council are then passed the responsibility for their maintenance, upkeep along with insurance. This will also bring a cost which initially is provided in the form of a developer contribution but is not for the lifetime care of the shelter. The Parish Council will also need to make budgetary requirements for the ongoing care and maintenance of these shelters.

The village has seen a new housing development site coming along on the former RAF Clinic, with phase 1 works for 160 houses due to commence June 2022, following demolition of most of the dilapidated RAF buildings. The planning application approval for Phase 2 build on the site is yet to be confirmed by the District Council. These developments will see a considerable amount of Community Infrastructure Levy being received by the Parish Council who will utilise the funds for infrastructure such as much needed pedestrian crossing on the Upwood Road, and more formal green space provision for our villagers to enjoy. CIL can only be spent on infrastructure matters such as;

- Access and footpaths
- Health and community facilities
- Libraries
- Lifelong learning and education

The Parish Council have maintained the play equipment well carrying out repairs and new purchases where necessary. There has been an installation of a new waste bin adjacent to the footpath between Valiant Square and Upwood Road, the Parish Council pay a fee to Huntingdonshire District Council for emptying the parish waste bins. With the Queens Platinum Jubilee this year the Parish Council are looking to spend on sprucing up

## **Chairman's Report for 2021-22**

This year the full council met 11 times starting virtually, then hybrid and latterly in person, as now required by the Government. In June we established the planning committee, which meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, to enable us to focus on planning issues and future developments within our community.

This committee, which is open to the public, is working towards the purchase of the land on which is sited the BMX track which we then intend to level and create a focussed play space for use by the school in termtime and the community outside of school hours. It is also in discussion with Evera Homes, the developer of RAF Upwood, regarding the refurbishment of the guard house as a community centre. Both proposals will be the subject of a community consultation which will be led for us by Cambridgeshire ACRE.

At the July meeting we welcomed Dominic Masterson who was co-opted as a councillor and in September Mike Tew stepped down as Chairman due to pressure of work. Your Parish council is elected every 4 years, and this would have happened on 5<sup>th</sup> May this year – however the election was uncontested as only 6 people stood for election, all current councillors. Your parish is required by statute to have 9 councillors, so if there are any villagers who would like to find what the position involves and perhaps join us please contact our parish clerk or any councillor.

We have responsibility for some areas of green space in the village – namely the cemetery and both playing fields and play areas. This is ably managed by Mr. Badcock and it is a credit to him that it looks so good. The garden of remembrance is now complete with sundial and bench; a restful place to sit and remember our loved ones.

I wish to convey our gratitude to the three members of Bury Parish Council who have decided to step down from their roles. On behalf of the Parish Council and the community we need to thank Mr. Peter Hazell, Mr. Alan Johnston, and Mr. Mike Tew for all their efforts and many years of commitment to the Parish Council and the Bury community.

We continue to be ably supported by our county and district councillors, our thanks and gratitude to Adela and Jeff for all their hard work.

We are also joined at our meetings by members of the public, one lady is a regular and I thank her for her input. It is a pity that the Buryfield developer is proving to be so inconsiderate of the community in general and neighbours of the site in particular.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to Charlotte, our parish clerk, who works tirelessly and continues to keep us all in order.

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## **County Councillor Costello – Report for Bury Meeting of Electors – May 2022.**

In May 2021, the Conservative Party lost total control of Cambridgeshire County Council, even though it had the largest number of Councillors, a 'Rainbow Coalition' of LibDems/Labour/Independents were able to form an Administration to lead the Council.

The Administration decided to change committee structures, so for instance, the previous separate Adults and Public Health committees were joined together resulting in a very long day. However to compensate for this, the Administration decided that monthly meetings would not be required for any committee, preferring 3 months with the result that many decisions that should be made by the members had to be undertaken by the officers because of timing constraints.

This proved to be very difficult for Officers and during the year many disappeared with the excuse of retirement or secondment.

As a result of continuing Covid restrictions, many meetings such as training sessions continued to take place virtually, however, the first meeting of the full County Council took place in a Duxford hangar to ensure sufficient spacing and safety of Members/ Officers/ General Public and Journalists attending.

Over the coming months committee and full county council meetings were held in a variety of venues throughout Cambridgeshire until September when the New Shire Hall at Alconbury Weald was opened. Whilst the Council Chamber was felt to be able to meet the requirements of the Covid restrictions for Committees, full County Council meetings were still held at the Burgess Centre in St. Ives and may continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Following a day of torrential rain on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 many areas of Bury experienced flooding as the drainage systems became overwhelmed. As the Lead Local Flood Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council undertook an investigation in collaboration with other organisations such as Middle Level Commissioners, District and Parish Councils amongst others into the causes. A report has now been published on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and is available on the County Council website.

I continue to pursue the provision of Section 106 money from the RAF Upwood Phase 2 site allocated towards the provision of secondary and early years education. It is still unclear how this funding is to be allocated.

As always, I am happy to offer my services to assist the residents of Bury and the Parish Council.

Yours faithfully  
County Councillor Adela Costello

## **District Councillor Jeff Clarke – Report to Bury Meeting of Electors 2022**

It has been another difficult year for the overall wellbeing of the residents of Bury and indeed the whole country, with Covid still “hanging” around restraining people from getting back fully to normal daily life.

The Parish continues to suffer from the large amount of development that is still taking place and will rumble on for some time with RAF Upwood sites coming along. The annoyance, not only infuriates residents but us as District Councillors as well. The Officers at HDC with their, at times, seemingly arrogance, does not help the matter.

With a lot less rainfall this last six months we all need to keep our fingers on the “flooding” buttons. Something us three District Councillors will endeavour to do, throughout this coming year. The District Council as a whole, whilst not totally responsible for flood risk management, needs to engage and support all in the future.

I know speeding traffic, has been and still is, a great concern for Bury as indeed it is for the whole of the country. For a great number of years now I have been in umpteen meetings about concerns of speeding traffic. I have seen various attempts to steady it down. Whilst some structures achieve it, it annoys the householders immediately adjacent to them. I refer to Ramsey Mereside and Pondersbridge. They also annoy the residents outside of the village limits because the “mad Harrys” go even faster when exiting. I have tried to engage with all areas and conclude all attempts at “traffic calming” are a waste of rate payers money and the only control, in my opinion, is “Average Speed Cameras” which unfortunately cost the earth.

We all know roads are another big issue locally and the only thing the Parish Council and us District Councillors can do, along with our County Councillor, is to keep flagging them up to the County Highways Department.

Yours faithfully  
District Councillor Jeff Clarke

**Annual Report from the Bury Residents Charity**  
**to Bury Parish Council**  
**2021/2022**

The Charity manages Bury village hall and the current committee comprises 7 trustees.

The hall was completely redecorated, inside and out, during the summer holidays

This year, once again, hall usage has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions imposed by the government. Thankfully, we were in receipt of Central Government grants managed by HDC. These enabled us to keep going until our regular users could re-start.

Unfortunately Bury Playgroup which ran during the summer term closed in July 2021 and the Judo club never re-started. All other regular bookings re-started in September, and we also have with 2 new regular bookings – seated yoga run by Hunts Community Cancer Network who provide cancer care in the community and trampoline classes.

The hall is in use every weekday, when government regulations allow, for a variety of activities. These include Beavers & Cubs, Carpet bowls, Table Tennis, Women's Institute, Bridge Club, Ramsey senior citizens lunch club, Hunts society for the blind and the Bury & Ramsey Concert band rehearses on Saturday mornings. Bury parish council hold their meetings in the committee room and the Active Lives programme ran during the summer holidays.

The hall is available for hire for private functions, and we have had children's parties, wedding receptions, funeral teas, quizzes, yoga, occasional stage performances, social and fund-raising functions. This year Grantscape held their annual meeting in the hall and B&M held interviews and the induction process for their new Ramsey store's employees.

Spare capacity in the hall is promoted via the Hall for Hire website maintained by Cambridgeshire ACRE.

This continues to be a team effort and my thanks go to Pat, Karen, Trudy, Jo, Thusy and Chris.

John Prestage

Chairman

May 2022

## **Bury Parish Council**

### **Report from Abbey WI**

Abbey WI stopped meeting in March 2019 with the outbreak of the covid pandemic. During the pandemic we held together by emailing and phone calls to each other. The secretary did a daily blog and the President did a newsletter once a month. Members with no computer had information delivered to them and phone calls. The committee put together Christmas and Easter treat bags and delivered them to all members. On VE day bags of handmade biscuits were delivered to all members living on their own. One of the committee members delivered birthday cards to members. Our meetings in the village Hall began back in September 2021. Before that a small group went to the walled garden in 2020 and in 2021 we met twice for tea and chat in members gardens and had a couple of tea and chat events at Ramsey golf club outside. The January 2022 meeting was cancelled due to covid numbers in the area rising and we did not want to put members at risk of getting covid.

With resumption of meetings we have slowly since February 2022 resumed our craft, reading and lunch/ coffee clubs. We were able to have our Christmas lunch at the Ramsey golf and bowls club in December 2021 this was enjoyed by all members.

We continue to have our monthly meetings at the village Hall on the first Thursday of the month with the exception of May when we meet on the second Thursday due to the hall being used for voting. The numbers of our members have dipped a little due to the age of the membership; however, we have had a few new members joining us.

Maria Pidoux

President Abbey WI

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# RAMSEY II WIND FARM

## Ramsey Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

APR 2022

### About the fund

The Ramsey Wind Farm is committed to providing £40,000 of funding per year for community projects. The Community Benefit Fund will allow groups to apply for grants between £250 and £20,000. There will be one application round each year.

The closing date for the next round of applications is 10 August 2022. Decisions will be made by the end October 2022.

### Project locations

Projects for which grants are requested must be located in the Parish boundaries of Ramsey, Bury, and Upwood and the Raveleys.

The Fund will notionally be split as follows: 60% allocated to applications from Ramsey / 20% allocated to applications from Upwood and the Raveleys / 20% allocated to applications from Bury.

### Project purpose

The Fund is open to any community project which is for the benefit of residents of the local area. This Fund can provide both capital and revenue grants.

### Eligible Organisations

Applicants need to have a written constitution, set of rules, or governing document and a bank or building society account held in the name of the group in place before applying for a grant. Organisations who can apply for funding include charities, voluntary groups, community groups, Town / Parish Councils, schools / educational establishments, social enterprises (provided they operate on a not-for-profit basis).

### Where can I find out more?

Full details of how to apply and further information about who is eligible and what you can apply for is on GrantScape's website. Please click on the home page link 'Projects developed by REG' and choose Ramsey Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund on the next page.

Phone: 01908 247630

Email: [info@grantscape.org.uk](mailto:info@grantscape.org.uk)

[www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk)

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