



BURY PARISH COUNCIL

www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk

Parish Clerk - Charlotte Copley

07849 107046

parish.clerk@buryparishcouncil.co.uk

Residents were invited to attend:

Meeting: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

Date/Time: Wednesday 3rd May 2023 from 7.00pm

Venue: The Committee Room, Bury Village Hall

Minutes

- Present: Councillors J. Prestage, D. Wakefield, R. Scantlebury, J. Hayes, K Prestage, D Masterson
Also, present; Clerk – C Copley and 6 members of public.
- APM0523.01 Apologies.
Received from County Councillor Costello and District Councillor Brereton.
- APM0523.02 Councillors Interests.
None received.
- APM0523.03 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 11th May 2022.
With one correction to the minutes under reference APM0522.08 Abbey Women's Institute should read Abbey Women's Institute, was corrected and initialled by the Chairman, the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 11th May 2022 was duly signed by the Chairman.
- APM0523.04 Matters Arising.
None received.
- APM0523.05 Community Award Presentation.
Appended below.
- APM0523.06 Responsible Financial Officer Report 2023.
Appended below.
- APM0523.07 Report from the Parish Council Chairman.
Appended below.
- APM0523.08 Report from District and County Council Officers.
County Councillor Costello provided a, read out by the Clerk in her absence, and appended below.
- APM0523.09 Reports from Local Organisations.
Senior Citizens Club, Hunts Blind Association, Bury Table Tennis Club, Bury Village Hall (Residents Charity). Abbey WI. Bury Bowls Club.
Received and appended below.
- APM0523.10 Funding opportunities available.
Grantscape – www.grantscape.org
Ramsey Wind Farm - <https://grantscape.org.uk/fund/ramseywindfarmcbf/>
Mick George Community Fund –
<https://grantscape.org.uk/fund/mick-george-community-fund/>
Cambridgeshire County Council Communities Capital Fund -
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/communities-capital-fund>
Huntingdonshire District Council Grant Funding –
<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/council-democracy/grants/>
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 with the closing date in August.

- APM0523.11 Upcoming Events
Cambridgeshire ACRE are hosting a consultation event in Bury Village Hall on the 20th May 2023, from 2pm – 4pm, regarding the restoration of the RAF Guard Room building.
- APM0524.12 To Invite Members of the Public to Raise any Matters of Interest.
Informal discussion was had between all parties attending.
- APM0523.13 Questions to County and District Councillors.
None raised.
- APM0523.14 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 gratitude to the Council members and Clerk, their continued dedication and time given to the parish are much appreciated.

APM0523.05 Community Award Presentation:

We decided to establish the Bury parish council community award to recognise an individual's extra special effort and support for our community.

It will be awarded annually and this year the parish council have selected the recipient but in future years it will be decided by the community. There will be further details in a future newsletter on how to recommend someone.

So, this award enables us to honour someone who gives an extraordinary amount to this community and expects little in return – goodness know we have tried!

Their support is given freely, happily and without any desire for recognition.

I am extremely happy to announce this year's award goes to Arumugasamy Thusyanthan (Tushy!).



APM0523.06 Annual report from the Responsible Financial Officer May 2023

Year End Roundup

We started the financial year with £168,916.00 and received £162,260.00 of income which was made up of £61,200.00 precept and the remainder mostly of Community Infrastructure Levy, Section 106 monies ringfenced for the MUGA installation on the sports field, cemetery fees, VAT claims and an amount of bank interest.

The total spend for the financial year was £88,528.00 of which £15,295.74 was spent on the Guardroom and BMX track projects. This left the remaining spend of £73,232.26 on Council administration, amenities and cemetery etc. The Parish Council received £62,100.00 in precept for this financial year. Therefore, the overspend on budget of £11,132.26 was covered by general reserves.

Due to costs and increase in working hours, in addition to the running of the Council, to bring you projects such as the Guardroom restoration, BMX Track land purchase, MUGA build, installation of the Upwood Road pedestrian crossing and new bus shelters, the precept for 2023-2024 is set at £85,000. This represents an increase of £23,800 from last year's figure, in real terms this is an increase of £23.11 over the year, or £1.93 per month for a Band D equivalent property.

The Guardroom project is an extensive project which will require significant grant funding to complete along with a considerable amount of the Councils reserve. Many hours are being spent on liaising with the teams of people bringing you this new building, building a robust business plan and a business case for the project that we hope will see us successful in securing funding for the works. Whilst the Councils reserves may look healthy the monies are earmarked towards specific projects, It is also essential that we grow and use our own reserves for match funding in order to be eligible for grant funding.

The BMX Track acquisition has dragged on unfortunately and has incurred additional costs, but we have been successful in receiving a grant of £8000 towards the project. Once the grant is received and the acquisition complete any remaining budget will be earmarked for the MUGA project. We have received one of the two developer contributions for offsite sports provision from the Buryfields and Tunkers Lane developments. The first being from the Buryfield development which has been deposited into a Public Sector Deposit Fund where it will be ring fenced whilst we await the Tunkers Lane monies. The total of the two awards may not be quite enough to cover the works so the Council will also have to budget to cover the shortfall.

5 new bus shelters are being installed in the village, these are being funded and installed by the various developers. The Parish Council will then be passed the responsibility for shelter maintenance, upkeep, and insurance. This brings 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 need to make future budgetary provision for the maintenance and insurance of the new and existing shelters in the village and refresh the existing 2 shelters, possibly replacing them if funds are sufficient.

Some of the other things we have undertaken this year:

- We pay Huntingdonshire District Council to empty the village waste bins.
- Fund a caretaker of the sports field and Jubilee play areas, (the bins in these areas are not emptied by HDC).
- We have continued to maintain the sports field and play areas to a good standard.
- The new climbing dome is installed.
- The annual independent safety inspection was carried out by Wicksteed with minor works required. A thank you to members Wakefield and Scantlebury are also trained in assessing the equipment and carry out the monthly checks for no charge.
- We have continued to maintain the play area, sports field and cemetery grass to a high standard, all thanks to our contractor, but, with rising fuel costs the charges to the Council have increased from this year. The contractor also undertakes minor repairs to the play areas for a small fee.
- Brought you the annual Christmas lights switch on event.
- Funded free sports sessions on the parish sports field and Upwood sports field, in collaboration with Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council.
- Purchased the BMX track for the installation of a sports facility/MUGA.
- Continued to work towards the restoration of the Raf Upwood Guardroom.
- Employed a Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer/Proper Officer who undertakes the financial management, is the legal officer, parks and open spaces manager, burial authority officer, liaison officer, GDPR and data protection officer, communications, website and social media management.
- Refurbished and repaired the millennium village sign.
- Maintained the defibrillator at Bury Stores.
- Brought you the Parish Council newsletter.

What we hope to do this oncoming year:

- Tree works to the sports field hedge.
- Refurbish the community telephone box.
- Refurbish the noticeboard at Meadow Lane.
- Seek funding opportunities to provide new play equipment, including some items of inclusive play.
- Repair the levels and gateway in the Jubilee Playground.
- Increase the sports sessions to half terms and summer holidays.
- Continue to maintain the play areas.
- Continue to maintain the cemetery.
- Continue to work on the Guardroom project.
- Complete the BMX track purchase and commence the next steps; consultation and funding for a MUGA.
- Continue to bring you the newsletter raising awareness and promote the Councils activities.

As always details of the Councils finances can all be found on our website.

APM0523.07 Report from the Parish Council Chairman

Your Parish council meets regularly and at least monthly: there were 11 full council, 5 planning committee, 1 HR committee and 2 finance working group meetings. The full council meeting is normally the first Wednesday of the month and everyone is entitled to attend. Agendas are posted on our notice boards and on the council's website – www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk where you will also find lots more information.

Sadly, not many months after his retirement last year Mike Tew passed away – again I would like to record our thanks for his hard work and effort on behalf of our village.

At long last we have completed the purchase of the land on which is currently sited the BMX track. We can now move forward with our plans to level and create a focussed play space for use by the school in term time and the community outside of school hours. Hyde Housing have taken over from Evera Homes as the developer of RAF Upwood, and conversations continue with regards the development of the site and the refurbishment of the guard house as a community centre. Both the guardhouse and play space will be the subject of community consultations which will be led for us by Cambridgeshire ACRE. The Guardhouse community consultation will be on 20th May in the village hall, and you will receive flyers shortly.

Your parish is required by statute to have 9 councillors but we currently number 6. 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.

We continue to be ably supported by our county and district councillors, our thanks and gratitude to Adela and Roger for all their hard work. I would also pay tribute to my fellow councillors for their support and efforts throughout the year.

As this is a positive occasion, I have decided not to make any remarks on the developers in our village, nor will I mention the planners at HDC. You all know my thoughts which are contained in my monthly articles in our local paper, the Informer.

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

APM0523.08 County Councillor Costello, County Council Report 2023:

It is now nearly 2 years since the Rainbow Coalition took control of Cambridgeshire County Council and things have not improved much since my report last year. Committee meetings are only taking place every three months and can be very lengthy, however, as many decisions need to be made within certain time constraints, officers are being given delegated powers to make these, overseen by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee. This is not really democracy; it should be elected Members making these decisions.

Highways issues are a constant source of complaint by both residents and members. Unfortunately, there does not seem to be the money available to properly repair our roads, but it is understood that the Coalition has £17M in reserves that could be used for highway maintenance. There is also a drastic shortage of Local Highways Officers in the County, so we are very fortunate to have an experienced and knowledgeable Officer. There has been a restructure in the department and 10 apprentices are to be recruited for the future. Many of our local roads have suffered from the drought conditions from last year and will require serious repair but this will have to go into a programme of works, so who knows when the situation will be rectified.

The electorate are also worried about the proposed congestion charges for Cambridge City which will affect individuals and businesses alike. The idea is that the monies raised will be used to provide more busways from outlying areas into the city. I doubt very much that Ramsey or Bury will be on the route. Public transport is the responsibility of the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority, and the Mayor introduced a precept this year to subsidise sustainable routes, so hopefully existing public transport from Ramsey and Bury will continue.

I continue to monitor the allocation of Section 106 monies from the RAF Upwood Phase 2 site for the provision of secondary and pre-school education for the area. At present there is no indication as to the plans.

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

APM0523.09 Reports from Local Organisations

The Senior Citizens Club numbers declined due to the Covid pandemic but is now pleased to say they are up to 35 members. The Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 2pm – 4pm for a social with refreshments. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Helen Wagstaff on 01487 814704.

Hunts Blind also attended in person and was represented by Andrea Murphy, Social Events Coordinator: Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind run a 2-hour social meeting once a month in Bury Hall. The members suffer from several eyesight problems, and we are fortunate that none of the Ramsey members that join us each month are totally blind. Our group size varies depending on sickness and hospital appointments but on average we have 20 – 25 members each month, which include some husbands or wives as main carer.

We book a full programme for the year, and it includes live entertainment, quizzes and games, strawberry teas and speakers visiting us to give interesting talks. We have tea and coffee and biscuits. Our Outreach worker is available at these meetings to help with any problems or make appointments to visit our members at home. The members of this club come from rural areas such as Yaxley, Farcet, Sawtry, Warboys and Ramsey. A large catchment area requires the hire of the Ramsey and District Minibus as well as our volunteer transport.

Hunts Blind has hired Bury Village Hall for many years now, the members all like the hall for its accessibility and the disabled toilets. The chairs are comfortable, and we can access the heating if it is cold. The kitchen is very well stocked with everything needed to run a club. We have a Christmas dinner and outside caterers manage fine. We sweep up after each club for those following on from us, we always like to leave it as we find it.

The price we pay for the hire of the hall is very competitive compared to the other halls we visit. Communication is always swift.

We appreciate the trust we have from the hall committee regarding opening and locking up the premises, it makes life easier if we finish earlier than expected.

We as a charity see ourselves committed to hiring the hall well in to the future, as long as we can continue to hire it on the 2nd Monday of each month, 2pm-4pm (unless a bank holiday affects the calendar dates).

Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind can be contacted on 01480 453438, or andrea@huntsblind.co.uk

Bury Table Tennis Club

The Table Tennis Club can be contacted on 01487 815566 or email burytbletennisclub@aol.com



Bury Table Tennis Club's Annual Report April 2023 By Pauline Williams – Club Secretary

Bury Table Tennis Club was established back in 2012 by a local resident - Roger Albone. The club has gone from strength to strength over the years, even with the pandemic that happened in March 2020.

The club meets weekly on a Friday evening in the Bury Village Hall. Starting at 7pm till 9:40pm. The aim of the club is to promote a healthy lifestyle and to have fun while playing table tennis.

The club has over 60 members, of which 20 of them are regular players. Membership to the club is open to all ages and abilities (as long as they can see over a table!). There is no membership fee, players only pay a 'Club Night' fee of £2.50 per person, per night.

The club currently caters for a wide age group with our youngest member being 12 years old and our oldest being 80+.

On club nights there is on average 4 tables set up, the club has a friendly and social atmosphere so you can choose who you want to play with or against, plus if you prefer to play Singles or Doubles. The club tries to make sure everyone rotates around, so everyone has some time to practice and also play some friendly games with different opponents.

The club also has a Table Tennis Robot which is used to practice returning different variety of shots, but the main emphasis is on having fun. Since the pandemic the robot has not been used, but we hope to start bringing this back into use again soon.

Over the coming year the club aims to continue to increase the membership of the club. To encourage all generations to take up Table Tennis or to continue on from what they have learnt in school. The club is always looking for local companies to come forward to offer the club sponsorship, no matter how small the amount is, all is appreciated.

Bury Residents Charity manages Bury village hall and the current committee comprises 7 trustees. Following the pandemic, we decided that the hall should be cleaned professionally; this is done on a weekly basis. This year has almost seemed normal with the hall being used daily and we are thankful for the continuing support of all our regular bookings. These include Beavers & Cubs, Carpet Bowls, Table Tennis, Women's Institute, Bridge, Seated yoga for cancer rehabilitation, rebound classes on mini-trampolines, Ramsey Senior Citizens lunch club, Hunts Society for the blind and the Bury & Ramsey Concert band rehearses on Saturday mornings. We have also seen an increase in the use of our annexe room for smaller groups, including the Parish Council and National Teaching Advisory Service.

The hall is available for hire for private functions including children's parties, wedding receptions, funeral teas, quizzes, yoga, occasional stage performances, social and fund-raising functions. Spare capacity in the hall is promoted via the Hall for Hire website maintained by Cambridgeshire ACRE.

A defibrillator was purchased and will be installed in the hall for use, initially, by hall users. We also planted a tree for the Queen's green canopy on the small playing field adjacent to the hall. We are grateful to Abbey W.I. for their ongoing support and gift of 5 shrubs for our border; these will be supplemented during the course of 2023. This continues to be a team effort and my thanks go to Pat, Karen, Trudy, Jo, Thusy and Chris. To find out more about holding an event at the hall please contact John on 01487 813848 or email buryhallbookings@gmail.com

The Abbey Women's Institute, meet in the village Hall on the first Thursday of each month. We have continued to grow in membership, presently with 42 members. At our meetings we have had a good variety of speakers. Giving talks on subjects ranging from modern slavery, the Giggly Pig Company, to fast fashion and the environment. At the June meeting we played host to Henry V111 with a cream tea provided by the committee, to celebrate the platinum anniversary of our late Queen. We would like to give our thanks to the people who look after the village Hall as it is always clean and well kept, which make our meetings very pleasurable. To contact Abbey WI please call 01487 815747 or email mpidoux@sky.com

Bury Bowls Club meet twice a week on a Wednesday from 7pm – 9.30pm and Friday from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. After a slow start following the pandemic, we have a few new members but would welcome more. Unfortunately, our long-standing Chairman John Rignall retired because of ill health. John and his wife Doreen were founder members and put in a lot of effort to make the club so successful and friendly that it still is today. Thanking the parish council for their support. If you would like to find out more about the club, please contact Mary Dockerty on 01487 815363 or email marydockerty@uwclub.net

What does Bury Parish Council provide for the community, and how is the precept spent?



Maintenance of:

Community street furniture

- benches
- notice boards
- bus shelters
- red telephone box
- Some of our Parish trees

Purchase and install grit bins

Insuring these assets



Working towards bringing you-

- New Community Hub
- Pedestrian Crossing
- Improved Sports Field
- New Play Equipment



Maintenance of:

- Bury sports field
- Jubilee play areas
- Jubilee play park equipment
- Sports field Gym Equipment
- The Pound grass area

Provide a sports programme that's free for children aged 5-11



Bring you:

- Christmas lights event
- Help with other events
- Provide grant funding to local organisations

Produce a newsletter and post it through every door in the village

Bury Parish Council set the precept at £85,000 for the financial year 2023-24. This is included in the payments collected by Hunts District Council.

This represents an increase of £23,800 from last year's figure, in real terms this is an increase of £23.11 over the year, or £1.93 per month for a Band D property.



Maintain the parish cemetery and closed churchyard



Purchased a speed monitoring device that records data which is passed to Cambs Police for action

Collaborate with Ramsey and Upwood Councils over speeding issues



Liaise with:

- Cambs County Council
- Hunts District Council
- Developers

Hold monthly full council and committee meetings

Visit our website
www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk to find out more of what we do

