

MINUTES of a Committee Meeting of the Civic Trust held on Wednesday, 10th January 2024 at the Town Hall, Burnley.

Mr. E. J. Walton (Chairman) occupied the Chair throughout the meeting.

PRESENT: Mr. E. J. Walton, Mr. D. Kilpatrick, Mr. G. Grimshaw, Mr. I. Emo, Mr. A. Hollins, Mr. R. Crossley, Mr. R. B. Frost, Mr. T. Mitchell, Mrs. C. Stinton and Mr. R. Collinge. Also Mr. Gordon Salthouse from Burnley Rotary Club.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mr. & Mrs. N. Fawcett, Mr. P. Hornby, Mrs. J. Evans, Ms. C. Towneley, Mr. C. Shackleton, Mr. A. Lucas, Dr. & Mrs. Livingstone, Ms. S. Barker, Mr. F. Bartram and Mr. B. Hall.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2023 were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING AND TASKS UNDERTAKEN AFTER LAST MEETING:

i. *Mackenzie Plaque:* Nothing new to report, but kept on file.

ii. FUL/2022/0149: *Ridge Avenue:* The Chairman read out the objections of Mrs. June Evans, a local resident and Civic Trust member, to the proposed development. He had also sent in an objection on behalf of the Civic Trust.

PLANNING MATTERS:

i. FUL/2023/0748: *Land off West View Terrace. Padiham; erection of 33 dwellings with associated access and landscaping.* There were no objections but further investigations would be undertaken.

ii. FUL/2023/0437: *Land off Oswald Street; erection of 105 dwellings with associated access, drainage, internal roads and landscaping.* There were no objections.

iii. APP/Z2315/W/23/3328548: *Cold Soil Ruins, Kebs Rd; retention of building as holiday let, including car parking, landscaping and ancillary works.* The appeal regarding this application had begun.

iv. *Garden Centre, Ightenhill Park Lane:* There was some development going on at the site.

v. *Pendle Application: 23/0809/FUL: Rockwood, Halifax Road; erection of building and infrastructure including parking, landscaping and a new vehicular access to create a wedding venue.* Briercliffe Parish Council had objected and would welcome a Civic Trust objection; the use of glass on this scale was totally unacceptable in a rural area.

vi. Mr. Frost gave notice that a 65 turbine wind farm with turbines taller than Blackpool Tower and able to heat 3,000 homes was planned with the application due this summer. The applicant was based in Spain and the money was of Arab origin.

vii. Mr. Frost also informed the meeting that the solar farm application was also due to be made this summer.

Items for discussion under AOB were received.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS:

i. *Blue Plaques:* The Deputy Chairman had found out the figures relating to the cost of blue plaques and also discovered that other firms made smaller, blue ones; however, smaller plaques would restrict the information one could put on them. Resin ones cost about £160 each: the Deputy Chairman would contact the company.

ii. *Exhibition*: St. Peter's Church was not intending to organise an exhibition but would make the building available for other societies. People had been disappointed with recent events organised at and by the Church and it was suggested that *Landmark* be approached. The Mechanics' was also suggested.

iii. *Heritage*: The Chairman had spoken to the present Mayor about heritage and Asian youngsters, but been told that he didn't think heritage was important to young Asian people and old people were either dying or leaving.

iv. *Speakers*: A number of speakers were suggested for future committee meetings.

REPORTS:

FINANCES: Finances continued to be healthy with fees from talks and one new member – local book seller, Bob Dobson. The group was continuing to work with Dave Thomas on Burnley football matters. Money would be needed to insure all our equipment such as computers.

TREES FOR BURNLEY: The group had been planting at a site at Highfield Avenue, between the rugby club and a footpath, near where they had previously planted. They had dry weather but the ground was very boggy and they had to move to an adjacent piece of land where they planted 300 English broadleaved whips and 12 standard mixed trees with stakes. The area councillor had come along to the planting with the new prospective Labour candidate in the next general election.

WEAVERS' TRIANGLE: The Volunteers' Day had been held but no new volunteers had come forward.

CLIVIGER NEWS: It was suggested that the Cliviger Fund may be able to help with work restoring the sign outside The Ram Inn. Mr. Emo would contact Rebecca Hay, Clerk to Cliviger Parish Council.

PADIHAM NEWS: The town was busy doing work on flood defence.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: *Local Government Re-organisation*: The Deputy Chairman suggested that the Civic Trust should try to formulate a point of view to the coming re-organisation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: **Wednesday, 7th FEBRUARY next at 7.00 pm. at the TOWN HALL, BURNLEY.**
The room had been booked for Committee meetings, 7th February and 6th March.

CHAIRMAN

TASKS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER MEETING:

Deputy Chairman to report on the resin Blue Plaques.

Mr. Ivo Emo to report on his talks with Rebecca Hay re. the inn sign at the Ram Inn.

Blue Plaques under consideration and planning:

1. Sir Ron Greenwood (England Football Team Manager)
2. Ms. Betty Snowball, prominent sportswoman.
3. Starkie Arms, Padiham.

Suggested Sites for Civic Trust Awards

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| 1. Maiden Cross Restoration. | 6. Padiham Murals. |
| 2. Cliviger Milestones. | 7. Wall on Accrington Road. |
| 3. Newtown Mill Restoration. | 8. 156-160, Lower St. James's Street. |
| 4. Bus Station Clock. | 9. Ightenhill Park Volunteers and all the Parks. |
| 5. Lodge at Gawthorpe Hall. | 10. |