

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 8th September 2014 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Mrs. P. W. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. B. Dickens; Mr. T. Banks; Mr. A. Aldridge; Mrs. H. Cairns; Mrs. A. Hillerton; Mr. T. Slatford; Mr. J. Brims (part of the meeting); Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mrs. H. Pratt(Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. A. Dunkerton.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. There were no declarations of interest on any agenda items.

MINUTES

- M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Minutes for the meeting held on Monday 11th August 2014.
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 11th August 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.
- M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Minutes for Meeting held on Tuesday 26th August 2014.
The minutes of the Bucklebury Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26th August 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.

CHAIRS REPORT

CH1 Cemetery Chapel.

Mrs. Frankum reported that Mr. Christmas has carried out a very professional job on the chapel roof, using all of the old, undamaged tiles and only replacing the broken ones with similar reclaimed tiles. The reclaimed tiles have been interspersed with the originals so they are unnoticeable. Whilst on the roof, Mr. Christmas inspected the bell and its casing, which he found to be good condition. He therefore attached a rope to the bell, so that it can now be rung.

In addition he will repair three of the memorials which were identified as needing attention in the Memorial Inspection carried out by Mrs. Frankum and Mr. Dunkerton in early August.

CH2 Bucklebury Meadow.

On Thursday 4th September, Mr Aldridge walked round the meadows with Mrs. Frankum and the Clerk to inspect the boundaries and compare them with the plans.

CLERKS REPORT

CL1. Complements Slips.

The Clerk has obtained a quote from The Alpha Xperience for 500 and 1,000 DL size complement slips. The quote is £23.50 for 500 and £31.00 for 1,000. It was agreed that the Alpha Xperience be asked to print 500 complements slips as this should last for a minimum of 5 years.

HP

CL2. Cemetery Gates.

The Clerk will continue to pursue Mr. Plank to ensure that the new gates are fitted by the end of September.

HP

CL3. Cemetery Chapel – Cracks below the windows.

Mr. Christmas has recommended and agreed to fill the cracks with silicone as this won't be visible and if the building moves slightly, it won't crack like cement.

CL4. Allotments.

Michele Sherman at WBC was consulted on the 2nd February 2014 about whether BPC were acting correctly in referring people wanting an allotment to Bucklebury Estate.

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The Estate has then offered an allotment which had been unworked for in excess of 20 years, needed clearing and fencing (in order to be productive), but the latter would be unlawful as the allotments are on registered common land. A response was received from Michele Sherman on 10th February saying that she WBC were looking into the situation and would give a full response as soon as possible.

It was agreed that a letter (rather than an email) be sent to David Holling at WBC.

HP

CL5. Boundary between the Hockett Field and the Common.

It was agreed that without further information, BPC will assume that the boundary between the Hockett Field and the Common lies in the middle of the ditch between the two. This item will be closed on the agenda.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Rights of Way Report from the Ramblers.

The report has been reviewed by Mr. Banks and Mrs. Cairns and a meeting was held with Mrs. Frankum. It is not felt that BPC can contribute towards any of the issues, so this action will be closed.

CO2. Flooding, meeting with Stuart Clark(WBC).

Mrs. Cairns reported that she had spoken to Stuart Clark and attended the District Parish Conference in March. WBC has no issues in Bucklebury in terms of dwellings; gardens and agricultural land are excluded from their list. Therefore WBC does not have any planned work in the parish as a result of flooding for this financial year.

It was agreed that BPC should ask WBC to consider including the following work within the budget for the next financial year:

HP

1. Clearance of the swilley hole in Tylers Lane.
2. Clearance/rebuild of the culvert on Tylers Lane.
3. Clearance/rebuild of culvert at Chapel Row (opposite Fir Trees, Bijou and Willow Lodge).
4. Clearance of the ditch which runs on the south side of The Ridge and floods between the Hotshots entrance and the top of The Slade.

If WBC places a low priority on this work, it was agreed that BPC should request advice on how best to proceed with the work.

CO3. Cemetery Chapel.

The moss on the external ledge around the chapel will be removed at a Cemetery Working party on Saturday 27th September. It was agreed that C. R. Landscapes be contacted to see if they can chip scrub as it is cleared at the working party.

HP

CO4. CCTV.

An email was received from Paul Hendry, detailing a possible camera. The Clerk will forward the email to Mrs. Cairns for closer scrutiny.

It was also noted that none of the warning signage about the possibility of CCTV cameras being in use have been put up. Mr. Pask agreed to talk to Paul Hendry about this.

GP

TOPICS

T1. Transfer of Bucklebury Meadows.

There is some question over the physical location of some of the boundaries around the meadows and in particular the western boundary. There was discussion about writing a letter to parishioners in Little Lane and Byles Green whose land is adjacent to the meadows, explaining how the transfer is progressing and that BPC needs to define the boundaries. Arthur Cullen (the WBC tree officer) came out and inspected the trees along the western boundary in 2013 and agreed to consider putting TPOs on some of them; however no updates on this have been received.

It was agreed that BPC need to employ the services of a topographical surveyor to determine the boundaries around the meadows. Mr. Aldridge agreed to write a

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specification for a surveyor, enabling quotes to be sought.

Mr. Aldridge asked that BPC request a softcopy of the .dwg file, so that the actual boundary between land titles can be clarified. This should also clarify the discrepancy between the plan for transfer and the previous version.

T2. Common Clearing.

Common Clearing will take place on Saturday 11th October. The Horticultural Society has kindly agreed to allow us to use the kitchen and toilets in the Oak Room prior to their Beetle Drive in the evening. Mrs. Hillerton, Mrs. Cairns, Mrs. Frankum, Mr. Aldridge and Mrs. Pratt will all make cakes. Mrs. Hillerton will be in charge of the teas and Mrs. Dunkerton will be asked if she can help.

T3. Grant to Memorial Hall for Playpark and BMX Track.

The budget for this financial year included £1,785 towards the insurance and inspections of the Play Park and the BMX track at the Memorial Hall subject to copies of quotes being received. Quotes for insurance, inspections and maintenance totalling £1,719.08 have now been received. A proposal to make a donation of £1,785 was made by Mr. Dickens and seconded by Mr. Banks; a second proposal to make a donation of £1,719.08 was made by Mr. Brims, seconded by Mrs. Hillerton and carried by those members present.

PLANNING

P1. To review the list of enforcement issues.

In view of the time and that the WBC enforcement have not updated the Clerk on the open cases, it was agreed to adjourn this item until the October meeting of BPC.

Little Copse House in Paradise Lane was raised as a new issue because a fence has been put up across the paddock and one side is being well tended. It was agreed to refer this to WBC Enforcement.

HP

Planning applications to be considered:

P2. 14/01753/FULD 49 Roundfield.

Construction of detached dwelling and associated parking.

BPC objected to the original application; an amendment has since been received reducing the detached dwelling to a 2 bedroomed bungalow.

It was agreed that BPC continues to **object** to this application on the grounds of gross overdevelopment.

P3. 14/02165/HOUSE 47 Berry's Road.

Replace flat roof dormer window with a hipped roof.

It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P4. 14/01585/HOUSE Crystal Lodge, Chapel Row.

Creation of basement staircase and use of existing basement for residential purposes.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P5. 14/01717/HOUSE Osgoods Gully.

Single storey extension with balcony, alterations to dormer window.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P6. 14/01605/HOUSE 56 Broad Lane.

Small single storey extension to existing kitchen into the rear garden.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

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- P7. 14/01120/FUL The Cottage Inn.
Change of use from paddock to ancillary use for Public House.
 BPC **objected** to this application; however commented that they would be sympathetic to temporary permission being granted.
 The Eastern Area planning committee determined that temporary permission for a fixed period of two years be **approved**.

REPORTS

- R1. District Councillors Report.
 Mr. Pask reported that work started in Blacklands Copse 3 or 4 weeks ago and that wood is being stacked behind the Memorial Hall. The workers have been pleasant and polite.
 The Cottage Inn held an “It’s a Knock Out” competition and it is hoped that Gary Bush (the Landlord) made a healthy profit. Concern was raised about parking in Broad Lane on the blind bend opposite Berry’s Road and possibly difficult access for emergency vehicles. It was noted that this was not Mr. Bush’s responsibility, but that he was accountable. There was a suggestion that Mr. Bush obtain some “No waiting cones” to place along Broad Lane. Mr. Pask agreed to look into this.
- R2. Victory Room Letter.
 A letter had been drafted prior to the meeting in support of the Victory Room trustees and their decision to improve the facilities. Following a discussion about whether such a letter was required and the impact it might have at the moment, it was agreed that such a letter would not be sent.

GP

FINANCE

- F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| R. F. West | £90.00 | Cutting and removing hay from the Hockett Field. |
| Mazars | £240.00 | External Audit. |
| Berkshire County Blind Society | £75.00 | Donation: see Dec ’13 minute T3. |
| Bucklebury Memorial Hall | £2,000.00 | Donation: see Dec ’13 minute T3. |
| Bucklebury Tennis Club | £300.00 | Donation: see Dec ’13 minute T3. |
| Helen Pratt | £542.25 | Clerk’s August Salary. |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Lloyds Current Account | £24,889.96 | On 20 th August 2014. |
| Scottish Widows Reserve Account | £37,360.89 | On 1 st July 2014. |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Account | £5,524.04 | On 1 st July 2014. |
- F3. External Audit.
 The Clerk reported that the external audit had been completed by Mazars LPP. They requested that in future years the explanation of significant year on year variances provides sufficient detail to fully explain the changes.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

- C1. North Wessex AONB Annual Forum – Wednesday 15th October.
 No one is available to attend this meeting.
- C2. District Parish Conference – Tuesday 14th October.
 It was agreed that Mrs. Hillerton will attend with either Mrs. Clarke or Mrs. Cairns.
- C3. CCB AGM – Wednesday 24th September 2014 - 5pm at Theale Village Hall.
 It was agreed that Mrs. Clarke be asked if she is interested in attending this meeting and if not apologies will be sent.
- C4. Foundry Bridge – Highway Alignment Improvements.
 WBC has sent details of proposed highway improvements to the south side of Foundry

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Bridge, which would enable large vehicles to negotiate the road more easily. It was felt that large vehicles should be discouraged from using this very narrow section of road and car drivers should drive appropriately. Therefore BPC objected to this proposal. The Clerk will send these views back to WBC.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Speed Signs.

The temporary speed warning signs have now been up for a number of months and it was felt they should be taken down.

RT2. Boardwalk below Osgoods Gully.

This is a bad state of repair and needs some work. The Clerk will report this to WBC.

RT3. Neighbourhood Watch Meeting.

The next meeting will be on 17th November. There is a 15% discount on locks available to members of Neighbourhood Watch groups at Jewsons and Newbury Locks, a code is required from the co-ordinator.

RT4. Meadows Meeting.

Mr. Slatford asked for a meadows meeting to be organised towards the end of next week.

RT5. Hatch Lane and Paradise Lane.

It was reported that there is a significant problem with dog mess in Hatch Lane and Paradise Lane. A dog bin is provided on the green at Chapel Row. Local residents will be putting up signs and the Clerk will request dog signs from WBC.

RT6. Artisan Market.

The last artisan market for this season was held on Saturday at Chapel Row.

RT7. Damage caused by Vehicles at Apple Tree Farm.

It was reported that at lunchtime on Thursday 4th September a car was driven down the track to Apple Tree Farm, went round the yard and then drove back up the track, demolishing the fence as it went. It is understood that this has been reported to the Police.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

NEXT PLANNING MEETING: 8.00pm Monday 22nd September 2014 Victory Room.
(subsequently cancelled owing to no planning applications to consider).

NEXT BPC MEETING: 7.45pm Monday 13th October 2014 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date