

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 10th November 2014 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Mrs. P. W. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. B. Dickens; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. A. Dunkerton; Mr. A. Aldridge; Mrs. H. Cairns; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. T. Banks; Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mr. Q. Webb (District Councillor); Mrs. H. Pratt(Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mrs. A. Hillerton; Mr. T. Slatford.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

- M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 13th October 2014.
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 13th October 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.
- M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 27th October 2014.
The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting, held on Monday 27th October were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.

CHAIRS REPORT

- CH1 West Berkshire Countryside Society Work in the Meadows.
Mrs. Frankum said that she had met Richard Hubbard and walked around the Upper Bucklebury meadows identifying exactly what work ideally needs to be carried out by the West Berkshire Countryside Society, starting with a session on Tuesday 11th November. Ultimately four hedges need to be planted: from the kissing gate next to Byles Green Farm to where the hedge thickens, behind 16 Broad Lane, behind 9 Mortons Lane and between meadow 1 and the field belonging to the pub. Clearing the scrub which has grown up in the south-west corner of meadow 1 may also be tackled. As it is still too warm to plant whips where hedges are needed, it is hoped that the ground can be prepared. The whips have been ordered from Barlows.
- CH2 The Pang between the Fords.
Since the concerns raised at the last BPC meeting about vehicles using the river, Mrs. Frankum has spoken to Sally Wallington about posts being erected in the river. It is understood that Andreas Hempell will be putting the posts in over the next two weeks. The fencing between the Pang and Brocks Lane was discussed, but it was agreed to wait and monitor the situation.
- CH3 Cemetery.
Mrs. Frankum said that she had inspected the excellent new gates to the Cemetery. Whilst doing this, she noticed that the rendering on the top of the wall next to the gates and on the north wall of the new Cemetery is missing. The Clerk will look into this. HP
The Burial Board had a successful working party in October, when some of the scrub between the new Cemetery and the woodland was cleared. C. R. Landscapes have been approached about clearing and chipping the rest of the scrub as well as the scrub already cut.
- CH4 School Traffic in Berry's Road.
The school traffic is building up again and causing dangerous conditions for drivers and pedestrians. Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Hillerton and Mr. Dunkerton will ask for another meeting with the Head and PSCO Sarah Preston. It was noted that a traffic survey to ascertain the volume of traffic would be useful.
- CH5 Bonfires in Blacklands Copse.

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Residents have made a number of complaints to Mrs. Frankum about the bonfires being lit in Blacklands Copse as a result of the felling and thinning work which has been taking place.

CLERKS REPORT

CL1. Flooding.

The Clerk said that the Chapel Row culvert and flooding of the Ridge have been reported to Streetcare for investigation. Clarification is required about which of the Tylers Lane culverts need work; once received this too will be reported to Streetcare. It was agreed that the blocked swilley hole that has been reported, would be considered low priority by WBC, but should remain on the list of issues in relation to flooding. The Clerk will talk to Stuart Clarke about the best course of action for it, whilst not expecting any work to take place in the near future.

CL2. Water Supply.

Information is still being gathered on how many people are affected by air in the water. Ian Cuthbertson has contacted the Clerk and passed on information about profiling work which is planned between 7am and 9am on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November to determine Capital Projects for next year. Water will be supplied from Cold Ash, rather than via Harts Hill and the pumping station. This will result in a lower pressure between these hours.

CL3. VAT.

The Clerk has drawn up a list of all VAT which has been paid since January 2011. Possible areas of concern have been hi-lighted and will be investigated.

CL4. Cemetery Gates.

These have been installed and added to the insurance policy.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Vodafone Signal.

Mr. Banks said that the Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal was not felt to be of much benefit to Bucklebury as the areas which are suffering from the poorest signal also have insufficient broadband coverage to support the system.

CO2. CCTV.

Mrs. Cairns said that whilst WBC have now recommended a camera, there are a number of significant issues with using it. The concerns are that it will film anything which moves and generate a huge number of frames, all of which would need to be inspected if the information is to be of use which could take days.

TOPICS

T1. Transfer of Bucklebury Meadows.

The Clerk reported that there has been no significant progress. However the solicitors acting for DWH have appointed a trainee to work on the transfer who has identified some issues with the transfer document and is working more closely with the BPC legal representative.

T2. Broadband Facilities in the Parish.

Phase 2 of Superfast Berkshire is currently being planned, by April 2015 there should be details of what is included and what network speeds should be available from where. There was some discussion about whether BPC lobbying WBC would enhance the chance of Bucklebury getting better coverage. Whilst this was not understood to be the case, it was agreed that Mr. Banks would write to WBC and enquire on what approximate dates the new cabinets will be installed.

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T3. Cemetery Carols – Monday 22nd December at 6pm.

Mrs. Frankum said that a number of Upper Bucklebury young people have been asked to perform during the evening. Local people have been asked about use of keyboard,

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wireless microphone and amplification. There was some discussion about leading the proceedings. Mrs. Cairns, Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Dickens and Mrs. Frankum all volunteered to provide 25 mince pies each. The Beeson family have again offered to make the mulled wine and provide the generator and lighting.

Mrs. Frankum asked for volunteers to help decorate the Chapel in the morning of the 22nd, be available during the Carols to hand out carol sheets and collect donations, to clear up the following morning and to clear up afterwards (including washing the jam jars). Mr. Dunkerton and Mrs. Cairns volunteered to help decorate the Chapel from 10am on 22nd December; Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Dickens will help from 5.15pm onwards and Mrs. Cairns will help clear up and wash the jam jars.

It was agreed that the collection will go to the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust which raises awareness of depression and fights stigma so that people stay mentally well and get the help they need. This charity is based in Thatcham.

T4. December Meeting of BPC

It was agreed that the December meeting would start at 7.30pm to allow for seasonal refreshments to be shared after the close of the meeting. However it became apparent that a number of parish councillors are unable to attend the meeting on the 8th December. It was agreed that the possibility of holding the meeting on the 15th December be investigated and that the date (either the 8th or 15th December) that most councillors can attend be selected. Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Clarke volunteered to bring mince pies. Mrs. Frankum will bring mulled wine.

After the meeting it was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Monday 15th December.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 14/02553/HOUSE Holly Cottage, Kiff Green (Adjacent Parish).

Two storey side and rear additions with altered vehicular access.

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

- P2. 14/.02326/HOUSE Juniper Cottage, The Slade.

Rear conservatory.

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

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

Replace flat roof dormer window with a hipped roof.

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

- P4. 14/00267/FULMAJ Rochestown House, The Avenue.

(Retrospective). Change of use of part of ground floor and all of first floor of existing outbuilding from ancillary residential use to self-contained one-bed flat.

BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** at committee level by WBC. The applicant has made an appeal to the Secretary of State against the decision of WBC. This appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

REPORTS

- R1. West Berkshire Council Report.

The consultation on the Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document has now closed; 4,000 individuals responded, raising 18,000 separate points, each of which is being considered. The document now only needs to find sites for 2,000 additional homes and will be considered by full council next year.

Mr. Pask commented that there have been 6 road traffic accidents in 2 weeks and as a

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result he has spoken to Acting Superintendent Lindsey Finch about the ridiculous speeds at which vehicles are travelling. The outcome of the discussion was that more community police will be trained to use the speed enforcement equipment and more speed enforcement will take place.

WBC continues with its work in Adult Social Care and Children's Services. Work is taking place on plans to support the changes being introduced by NHS England.

R2. Victory Room AGM.

The Victory Room AGM was well attended including a number of people from The Slade. Mrs. Frankum and Mr. Dickens were also present. There were considerable differences of opinion voiced by various parishioners. It was reported that certain individuals do not wish to have a hall in Bucklebury village at all. However, many are in favour of redeveloping the existing hall and rebuilding it in one form or another. At the AGM the trustees were re-elected to manage the hall for the next year. Prior to the AGM the trustees had agreed to continue their investigation into a new hall building. After the AGM people stayed to enjoy a glass of wine.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:

Roofcraft	£4,440.00	Cemetery Chapel roof.
The Alpha Xperience	£28.20	Complement slips.
C. S. Morris	£3.00	Oaks delivery – Berry's Road.
NWN Over 80's Christmas Parcel Fund	£85.00	Donation.
Helen Pratt	£542.25	October salary.
Helen Pratt	£50.91	Expenses for July, August & September '14.
Bucklebury Tennis Club	£3,000.00	Composed of £1,500 grant from BPC and £1,500 from Greenham Common.

F2. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received.	£17,023.50	At 11/11/2014.
Lloyds Current Account	£28,419.46	At 20/10/2014.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account	£37,398.50	At 2/10/2014.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account	£5,529.60	At 2/10/2014.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

- C1. Flood Warning/Community Emergency Volunteers Meeting – 10th December.
A meeting has been organised by WBC to take place in the Council Chamber between 6.30pm and 9pm on the 10th December. The Clerk was asked to forward this to Piers Allison.
- C2. How to Manage for Ecosystem Services – 24th November 2014.
This is a free event being provided by Natural England and hosted by the Earth Trust to show the benefits which can be hoped for from the environment, using the floodplain as an example. No one was available to attend.
- C3. Peaches Garage Skittles Challenge – Saturday 22nd November.
The Clerk advertised this Skittles Challenge; a number of members are already going with other teams.
- C4. Bucklebury Memorial Hall, Management Committee Meeting – Tuesday 18th November.
Mr. Dunkerton will be attending this meeting.
- C5. Bucklebury Common Advisory Meeting – Thursday 13th November.
Mr. Dunkerton will attend this meeting. If Mr. Slatford is not back in time to attend this

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meeting, Mrs. Frankum will attend instead.

C6. Historic Paths.

The Ramblers have written concerning a change in the law under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CroW Act), after the 1st January 2026 it will no longer be possible to record historic paths on the definitive maps and therefore make them Public Rights of Way. They are encouraging parishes to ensure that known historic/old paths are investigated. This will require more investigation.

C7. SLCC Christmas Meeting and Lunch.

The Clerk requested agreement to attend the SLCC Christmas meeting and lunch at Datchet which will include a workshop on Induction for New Councillors and new regulations. It was agreed that BPC would cover the cost of £10.00 for this meeting.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Accidents in the Parish.

Mr. Dunkerton said that he had been contacted to carry out speed surveillance work in Upper Bucklebury; The Avenue, Chapel Row and Bradfield. He also commented that Police officers need to be trained to use the equipment.

RT2. Hedge in The Slade.

Mrs. Cairns commented that she had investigated the hedge which overhangs The Slade/Tylers Lane. From maps, the hedge would appear to be on manorial waste, which would make it the responsibility of WBC to maintain.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

NEXT PLANNING MEETING:

8.00pm Monday 24th November 2014 Victory Room.

NEXT BPC MEETING:

7.30pm Monday 15th December 2014 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date