

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Mr. J. Bywater.

APOLOGIES

Mrs. H. Cairns; Mr. A. Aldridge; Mr. A. Gilbert; 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 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014.  
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.
- M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014.  
The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting, held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.

CHAIRS REPORT.

CH1 Complement Slips – These are proving very useful.

CH2 West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS).

WBCS has now planted hedges in the meadows behind 16 Broad Lane, 9 Mortons Lane and between the Byles Green kissing gate and where the hedge started. Sally Wallington has recommended that the new hedges should be sprayed with “Roundup” twice a year for the first 3 years to allow them to establish without competition from weeds. She can arrange for this to be done, but no quotes have been obtained. All the scrub cleared in the southern meadow has been burnt.

Mrs. Frankum and the Clerk and were invited to the WBCS Christmas Party in the Victory Room. This was a good opportunity for networking with representatives from WBC, BBOWT and others.

CH3 School Parking.

Two Police officers have visited Berry’s Road in the morning during the last week following reports from parents of dangerous driving. The whole issue will be covered under reports.

CH4 St. Martins Club Christmas Lunch.

Mrs. Frankum was invited to attend the St. Martin’s Club Christmas Lunch, which was held at The Old Mill in Aldermaston. Willie Hartley Russell and the Rev. Jules Gadsby were also invited. It was a pleasant and well run occasion.

CH5 Firework Display at the Cottage Inn.

The bonfire night events at the Cottage Inn were well attended, but it is understood that the pub struggled to keep up with the demands for refreshments. Next year Bucklebury Events Committee will offer to help.

CH6 Christmas Tree Festival.

This was not as well attended as in previous years and this was reflected in the profit. Neither the primary school nor the pre-school entered a tree this year. The profit was down from £236 last year to £123 this year. A donation from this will be sent to Newbury Food Bank.

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CH7 Annual Assembly.

In 2015, the Annual Assembly will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm. It was agreed that Chris Boulton, the new Chief Executive of Greenham Common Trust be asked to come and talk about the work of the Trust.

CLERKS REPORT

CL1. Cemetery Wall.

Mr. Dunkerton and the Clerk have inspected the wall around the newer part of the Cemetery. Whilst the rendering is cracking and coming away from the wall on the top and over the corners, the underlying wall is composed of engineering bricks and breeze blocks so shouldn't deteriorate. It was agreed that once the vegetation has been cleared in the wooded area by the Burial Board, quotes will be obtained for the necessary repairs to the complete length of the wall.

CL2. Cemetery – wooded area.

Mrs. Frankum has asked CR Landscapes to quote for clearing the scrub in the wooded area and chipping it.

CL3. Flooding.

The culvert at Chapel Row has been flushed; the next restriction is a culvert which goes under the boundary of the property named Misfah, renewal and enlargement of which WBC have put on the list of projects to be funded next year.

No update has been obtained on the call made about the flooding of the Ridge near it's junction with the top of The Slade.

The culvert under Tylers Lane (parallel to Marlston Road) has been reported to WBC.

CL4. Water Supply.

The overnight pressure has been increased slightly. The impact of this on those properties suffering from air in their water is awaited.

CL5. VAT.

Elaine Hare (Clerk to Thatcham Town Council) has sent a copy of Legal Topic note 21 which relates to VAT and village halls. This indicates that, providing the Parish Council has instructed contractors for work on village halls, and that the invoice is made out to the Parish Council, VAT can be reclaimed.

BPC paid for surveys of the existing Victory Room, intending to reclaim the VAT, however, it may be more cost effective for the Victory Room to pay for this work and BPC not reclaim the VAT.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Superfast Broadband – There was no update.

TOPICS

T1. Money to be granted during 2015/16 and grants to halls.

Bucklebury Tennis Club	Application to cover 50% of the cost of tennis coaching for Year 5 pupils at Bucklebury Primary School.	Unanimously agreed to make a grant of £300.
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Bucklebury Wolves (Children's' Football)	Application for: 1. Hire of Recreation Ground pitch for 1 year. 2. Contribution for hire of 2 <sup>nd</sup> pitch for 1 year. 3. Contribution towards a pair of children's sized goal posts for the Recreation	The total application was for £550. It was agreed to defer the agreement of any grant, as there has been no agreement with the Recreation Ground Committee about the new goal posts. There has
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	Ground pitch.	also been a discussion about payment in kind for the hire of the pitch.
St. Martins Club	Grant of £500 from the Gilroy account – this is payment 4 of 5. A request for an additional sum of money to help subsidize trips.	It was unanimously agreed to make a grant of £500 from the Gilroy account and an additional sum of £300 from BPC.
Berkshire County Blind Society	Three of the society's 2,142 members live in the parish of Bucklebury.	It was agreed to donate £75 to Berkshire County Blind Society.

Victory Room.

It was unanimously agreed to make the third of three grants of £5,000 to the Victory Room towards improvements/redevelopment.

Bucklebury Memorial Hall.

An application has been received for a grant of £1,785 towards the insurance, inspections and maintenance of the play park and BMX track. This was agreed. In addition, the Memorial Hall Committee has requested a grant of £3,250, this being half the estimated total of widening and repairing the emergency exit ramps at the rear of the Memorial Hall and Oak Room, sound deadening panels for the Committee Room and decoration of other areas of the facilities. It was agreed to make an initial grant of £2,000. A further grant may be made later in the financial year, once firm quotes for the required work have been obtained.

T2. Transfer of Bucklebury Meadow.

An electronic map showing the boundaries has now been received. Unfortunately one house holder has moved their fence to the stock proof fencing, therefore increasing the size of their garden by a strip of ground approximately 1.5m wide. It was agreed that in the first instance Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Banks will visit the property owners concerned and request that they return the fence to the original correct boundary.

T3. Cemetery Carols – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 6pm.

It was originally agreed to give the donations to the Charlie Waller Trust, however on investigation, this is a national charity. It was therefore agreed that donations should be given to "Two Saints" the hostel for the homeless in Newbury. Mr. Dunkerton, Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Hillerton, Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Pratt are available to set up from 9.30am on Monday morning. Most members present at the meeting will be in attendance and willing to help in whatever capacity. It was requested that people help clear up on Tuesday morning.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 14/02987/HOUSE Camplins Cottage, Turners Green.  
*Two storey side extension comprising study at ground floor and en-suite above.*  
It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P2. 14/02936/HOUSE Kiln House, Broad Lane.  
*Proposed extension – revised design to address concerns raised in previous application 14/00718/HOUSE.*  
It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.

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- P3. 14/03038/HOUSE 3 Broad Lane.  
*First floor rear bedroom extension over existing flat roof. First floor side dormer extension to create en-suite bathroom. Internal alteration to form kitchen and utility room plus window and door alterations to elevations.*  
 BPC has **no objection** to the proposal. However, the plans are inaccurate and show 3 and 5 Broad Lane as a pair of semi-detached dwellings.
- P4. 14/02592/FUL Appletrees, Chapel Row.  
*Proposed extension and internal alterations to existing care home.*  
 There are currently 8 service users at Appletrees care home. There is no overnight accommodation for staff. One service user currently spends a significant amount of time in the day centre (a building at the other end of the site). This application is to provide improved services for this service user. The care home is not on mains drainage and uses a septic tank system with which there have been recent issues, although the application states that the care home is on mains drainage.  
 The meeting was **closed** for Mr. Bywater to speak.  
 Mr. Bywater said that the existing building is screened by the tree which is to be removed; he asked that a similar tree be used to screen the proposed extension when viewed from St. Crispins. Mr. Bywater also commented that any sewage needs to be adequately dealt with.  
 The meeting was **reopened**.  
 Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC **object** to the application due to lack of information about any overall increase in capacity and the fact that the application was incorrect in terms of waste water. This was seconded by Mr. Banks.  
 In principal BPC has **no objection** to the application, but felt that screening should be provided so that the extension is not obtrusive from St. Crispins.  
 It was agreed that more information would be sought from the applicant about the capacity for service users and the sewage. If more information about both items is forthcoming, BPC has **no objection**.  
*Subsequent to the meeting, it has been confirmed that there is the intention to increase to nine service users (this was approved under planning application 02/02278) and that problems have been experience with the pipe work to the septic tank which have now been resolved. BPC therefore has no objection.*
- P5. 14/02733/HOUSE Waven, Bucklebury (Amendment).  
*Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling, together with new garage building. The amendment includes plans showing the resiting of the proposed garage, air source heat pump and solar panels.*  
 BPC has **no objection** to this application with the amendment.
- Planning decisions made by WBC:
- P6. 14/02339/FUL Clover Cottage, Westrop Green (Adjacent Parish).  
*Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Erection of replacement dwelling with revised residential curtilage.*  
 BPC **objected** to this application; however it has been **approved** by WBC.
- P7. 14/02382/HOUSE 12 Roundfield.  
*To install a flue for the use of a biomass boiler to provide central heating and hot water for the house using a renewable energy source.*  
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

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- P8. 14/02370/HOUSE Kennel Barn, The Slade.  
*Installation of a domestic in-ground swimming pool and adjacent shed.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P9. 14/02397/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.
- P10. 14/02303/HOUSE Kings Copse Bungalow, Southend.  
*Construction of a timber framed building to house biomass boilers serving both King's Copse and King's Copse Cottage.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P11. 14/02308/HOUSE Hill Crest, Tylers Lane.  
*Replacement roof to provide the additional bedrooms and bathroom, new front entrance with balcony over, replacement rear extension to enlarge kitchen and lounge.*  
BPC **objected** to the original application. However, an amendment was received to which BPC had **no objection**. This application has now been **approved** by WBC.

## REPORTS

- R1. West Berkshire Council Report.  
Mr. Pask said that the Community Infra Structure Levy (CIL) is being implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.  
There has been a huge response to the Development Plan Document (DPD) and as a result there is a delay of some months before decisions can be made.  
There have been 8 road traffic accidents since early October in the parish. A speed limit is not considered the answer to addressing dangerous driving. Mr. Pask said that he had spoken to the Thames Valley Police temporary Area Commander Supt. Finch about the speeds which have been recorded and from the results she has seen she doesn't believe there is an endemic speed problem in Bucklebury.
- R2. Commons Advisory Meeting.  
Mr. Dunkerton said that BBOWT have filled in one of the holes reported on the Common, a second has concrete slabs over it and a third still needs to be filled in. Mr. Hartley Russell gave a description of why Bucklebury Common is different to the other commons which BBOWT manages on behalf of WBC. Bucklebury Estate needs to carry out remedial work on the oak trees along The Avenue, but once that is done they will become the responsibility of BBOWT. Bucklebury Estate is responsible for all of the other trees on the Common.
- R3. Victory Room Meeting.  
Phil Laybourne has recently joined the committee. Chris Willet has been asked to draw up three different sets of proposals:
  1. To keep the existing hall and increase it by approximately 20%,
  2. To keep the existing hall and increase it by approximately 30%
  3. For a new hall.
The plans have to be submitted to the committee by 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014 so that they can be considered by trustees over Christmas before a meeting in early January.
- R4. Report on School Traffic.  
After parents complained about the dangerous driving and parking, the Police visited the roads adjacent to the primary school to observe the parking/driving situation. The Police seem reluctant to fine drivers unless they are flagrantly breaking the law, although it is noted that dangerous driving and illegal parking are Police issues and not

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civil enforcement issues. The Kiss and Drop system used in the mornings is not working particularly well because people are parking in Blacklands Avenue. Parents now park between the “no parking” cones or simply move them out of the way. It was agreed that a meeting needs to be held between the headmistress, the Police and representatives of WBC Highways Department and BPC to determine the best route to proceed.

R5. Report on Speeding in the Parish.

Mr. Dunkerton said that as a result of the road traffic accidents in the parish he has carried out a number of speed surveys in the following locations: The Avenue, Harts Hill Road near the quarry entrance, Mount Pleasant (Harts Hill Road at its junction with Briff Lane), along Broad Lane and in Bucklebury village. Accurate results for Broad Lane are proving difficult as the data keeps being corrupted. Speeds along The Avenue, on Harts Hill and in Bucklebury Village are acceptable, however at the junction of Harts Hill Road and Briff Lane, 72.3% of vehicles recorded were travelling in excess of the speed limit (30mph).

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:

Barlows and Sons (Hermitage) Ltd	£83.59	Slips for planting in the Meadows.
Barlows and Sons (Hermitage) Ltd	£58.50	Additional slips for planting in the Meadows.

F2. Cheques signed by Councillors:

G. F. H. Plank	£2,350.00	Cemetery gates.
C. R. Landscapes	£519.12	Maintenance and chipping scrub.
Sylvia Cornell	£35.00	Bus Shelter Cleaning, October, November & December 2015.
Helen Pratt	£150.00	Hosting of buckleburyparish.org from October 2014 to October 2019.
Helen Pratt	£542.25	Clerks November salary.
West Berkshire Countryside Society	£1,000.00	Membership and donation.
GLEAM	£15.00	Membership.

F3. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received.	£12,350.04	On 16/12/2014.
Lloyds Current Account	£24,631.50	On 19/11/2014.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account	£37,398.50	At 2/10/2014.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account	£5,529.60	At 2/10/2014.

F4. To review the Budget.

There was discussion about the draft budget which the Clerk had circulated prior to the meeting. A quote from C. R. Landscapes for the maintenance of the Cemetery for the next 3 years, starting at the same price as has been paid in 2014 and increasing by 3% each year before VAT was agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

C1. GLEAM AGM minutes – had been circulated prior to the meeting.

C2. CAB request for donation.

A letter with details of the numbers of new clients per district ward has been received. Eighty six new clients have been received from Bucklebury Ward (including Bucklebury, Bradfield, Stanford Dingley and Frilsham) during 2014. It was agreed to make a donation of £100.

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C3. Bucklebury Tennis Club – A letter of appreciation for flood light donation has been received.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

**NEXT BPC MEETING:**

**7.45pm Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Memorial Hall.**

**NEXT PLANNING MEETING:**

**8.00pm Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Victory Room.**

Signature .....

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