

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Mr. B. Dickens (Chairman); Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. A. Dunkerton; Mrs. H. Cairns; Mr. J. Brims;  
Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mrs. P. W. Frankum; Mrs. A. Hillerton; Mr. A. Aldridge; Mr. T. Banks; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr.  
T. Slatford; Mr. Q. Webb (District Councillor).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mr. Dickens.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mrs. Clarke.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Oaks in the Meadows.

Richard Hubbard has weeded and put bark mulch down around the 3 oak trees in the meadows. He will replace the middle, dead, oak with a self-seeded oak from nearby in the Autumn.

CH2. Planning.

Mr. Dickens asked that all councillors take on their share of the load of planning applications.

CH3. Bucklebury Farm Park.

The Chairman asked why the Bucklebury Farm Park planning application (15/00620/FUL) had been withdrawn from the agenda of the Eastern Area Planning meeting at the last minute, after there had been a site meeting.

Mr. Pask responded that this application had raised concerns about the original conditions applied to the farm park planning permission. It was considered that these concerns should be addressed by this planning application. In order to do this, the applicant needs to clarify their precise needs for suitable conditions to be applied. There was a discussion about what can be carried out under Section 73 and 73A in planning applications.

CH4. Water Supply in the Parish.

Mr. Dickens raised concern about the state of the water supply in the parish, the following issues were discussed which have occurred recently:

1. A leak left for 3 weeks on Harts Hill outside Mounts Mist, which has now been repaired.
2. No water to parts of the parish after a number of power interruptions.
3. Very low water pressure in Chapel Row and Carbinswood Lane in the summer, particularly in the evenings and early morning.
4. A number of leaks, some significant, which have occurred recently in the parish; Briff Lane, The Slade and Chapel Row.

Mr. Pask commented that he had reported issue 1 to Thames Water and specifically Damian Crawford. He also reported issue 2 to Thames Water who identified that the pump at the bottom of Harts Hill was the issue; however we had understood that if the pump failed, wireless communication opened a valve in Cold Ash to provide water

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from there albeit at a lower pressure.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Damian Crawford raising the issues above and asking for a response by the next BPC meeting (14<sup>th</sup> September).

HP

#### CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Mazeldans Solar Farm.

The Clerk has organised a meeting for Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.45pm in the Victory Room for those parishes close to the site, the West Berkshire Countryside Society and other interested representatives to discuss issues with a solar farm in the AONB. Mrs. Frankum and Mrs. Clarke will be attending from Bucklebury.

CL2. Noticeboards.

A picture showing noticeboards similar to the one proposed for the Victory Room was sent to the Victory Room Committee for their approval. Mrs. Clarke said that the Victory Room Committee has discussed the proposed board and have no objections to it.

The Clerk will go ahead and order both a metal framed board for the Victory Room and an oak board for the carpark at Peaches Store.

HP

CL3. Trees Close to the Cemetery Wall in the 1970's Cemetery.

The Clerk reported that Absolutely Tree and Hedge Care have now removed all of the trees within 1 metre of the rear wall of the cemetery and put stump killer on the larger stumps.

The Clerk will now obtain quotes for the repairs to the wall.

HP

CL4. Flooding in Berry's Road.

The Clerk reported that the photographs of the flooding at the top of Berry's Road in January have been sent to Peter House at WBC. He has put in an order for jetting of the drains and investigation within 28 days.

#### COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Bollards by the River Pang.

Mrs. Clarke reported that the bollards were either in the river or lying on the verge. Her feeling was that they weren't wanted. The Clerk suggested that it was possible that they had been put in the wrong location and should have been further west along the river. The Clerk will talk to WBC about them.

HP

CO2. Community Asset applications for The Cottage Inn and Peaches Store.

The application to register The Bladebone as a Community Asset has now been accepted. Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Cairns will start work on the application to make Peaches Store a Community Asset.

LC

HC

CO3. The Swilly Hole.

No work has been done to clear the swilly hole in Tylers Lane. Mrs. Cairns reported that it was very dry.

CO4. High Speed Broadband.

Mr. Brims and Mrs. Cairns said that their broadband speed was getting worse rather than better at the moment and asked when they could expect high speed broadband. Mr. Pask said that the Phase 2 contract had been awarded to a company called Gigaclear who have agreed to take the coverage to 95% of premises receiving high speed broadband by the middle of 2017. Gigaclear are keen to make West Berkshire a success story.

It was noted that high speed broadband is on the agenda for the District Parish Conference in October.

#### TOPICS

T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Simon Taylor at Field Seymour Parkes LPP.

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There are currently 3 items being followed up on behalf of BPC: vehicular access to the meadows from Byles Green, vehicular access to the copse from Mortons Lane and ensuring that the tenant cannot claim adverse possession given that he is understood not to have paid rent for a number of years.

T2. Defibrillators.

Mr. Dickens said that he had attended the training course on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July and that installation of AED's is essential. It was agreed that the AEDs should be ordered as soon as possible, given that funding of £3,000 has been agreed for 2 devices. Dorothy Dugdale has arranged a meeting to discuss the various options for AEDs on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, at which it is hoped more information about maintenance and inspection will be available.

It was agreed that the AED in Upper Bucklebury should be located at Peaches store rather than the Memorial Hall.

T3. Community Assets.

The application for the Bladebone Inn to be registered as a Community Asset has now been made. It now needs to be approved by the committee.

It is understood that Enterprise Inns have organised a viewing day for the Bladebone Inn for those interested in the lease to make viewings.

Mr. Dickens thanked Mrs. Clarke for all her hard work, assisted by Mrs. Cairns.

## PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

P1. 15/01560/FULD & Brockhurst School.

15/01566/LBC2 *Two new classrooms (to remove teaching from the school library) with new staff accommodation above (to replace existing accommodation condemned by the fire authority).*

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

P2. 15/01672/HOUSE Vanners.

*Single storey side extension at ground floor level, rear and side extension at first floor level and various internal alterations to enlarge first floor and create second floor accommodation.*

Vanners is a 17<sup>th</sup> or a 18<sup>th</sup> century cottage which was extended in the 1970's. The existing house is 298m<sup>2</sup> and the proposed extension would increase this to 487m<sup>2</sup>, representing an increase of 63%.

BPC unanimously agreed to **object** to this application on the grounds of the significant increase in size, which was considered gross and excessive. It was also felt that the application was contrary to ENV 24 paragraphs C and D because it would have a harmful effect on the environment. The design and style were felt to be contrary to the local architectural vernacular.

P3. 15/01763/HOUSE Vanners.

*Reposition of existing pool from north elevation to south elevation and the addition of pool/pump house.*

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P4. 15/01562/LBC2 Brockhurst School Playing Field, Marlston House.

*Provision of new all-weather playing area with associated low level net enclosure, new emergency vehicle access with associated parking. No alterations to the listed structures – LBC application only by virtue of proximity to curtilage.*

The listed building application has been **withdrawn**.

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- P5. 15/01581/HOUSE Red Hill House, Briff Lane.  
*2 No. new roof lights in place of 1 No. existing roof light on East elevation.*  
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P6. 15/01542/LBC2 Brockhurst School, Marlston House.  
*Replacement of existing, building mounted floodlights to games court with new low energy pole mounted floodlights.*  
 It has been determined that listed building consent is **not required**.
- P7. 15/01415/HOUSE Yarkhill, Broad Lane.  
*Installation of white UPVC conservatory on south elevation and to install vertical tile hanging on remaining brickwork to south elevation.*  
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P8. 15/01104/HOUSE Bracken House, The Avenue.  
*Two storey infill side extension and back porch. Demolition of existing front porch and flat roofed dormer and replacement with new oak framed, glazed porch and rooflight.*  
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

## REPORTS

- R1. District Councillors Report.  
 Mr. Pask said the long awaited bridge to replace the railway level crossing at Ufton Nervet was approved at the last Eastern Area Planning Committee.  
 WBC has recently taken two decisions against it to judicial review with positive results; one about an amendment to the ability of Local Authorities to plan for affordable housing needs on small sites and redeveloped vacant buildings, the second is about the funding granted to the levels of care for the elderly. WBC had determined it would only fund the highest level of care, but the changes in the care order stated that the top two levels of care should be funded. Government will now compensate for this, but it is being spread amongst the different authorities concerned.
- R2. Victory Room Meeting.  
 The Victory Room Committee had a meeting last week with a surgery beforehand where the new proposals for the Victory Room were discussed. Whilst there is still objection to the proposal, it is felt things are progressing to a stage where a planning application should soon be submitted.
- R3. Patient Participation Group (PPG) Committee Meeting.  
 Mr. Dickens reported that the PPG met in the middle of July. Chapel Row surgery is considering offering health MOTs for the over 70's. It was noted that Newbury Community Hospital now has a cancer room and is soon to have a dialysis room. It was also revealed that the Chapel Row surgery has 7,500 patients registered; this was significantly higher than councillors thought.

## FINANCE

- F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:
- |                                    |         |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| R. F. West                         | £90.00  | Cutting the Hockett Field.      |
| Absolutely Tree and Hedge Care Ltd | £180.00 | Tree clearance in the Cemetery. |
| C.R. Landscapes Limited            | £72.00  | Digging of hole for interment.  |
| Richard Hubbard                    | £36.00  | Bark mulch for Oaks in Meadows. |
| Helen Pratt                        | £554.27 | July salary.                    |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.

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Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£21,035.09	
Lloyds Current Account:	£23873.76	On 20/7/2015.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,510.13	On 1/7/2015.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£5,546.14	On 1/7/2015.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

- C1. Berkshire Vision (formerly Berkshire County Blind Society).  
A letter has been received thanking BPC for the donation of £75.00. An invitation to the AGM of Berkshire Vision to be held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm has also been received.
- C2. Water Pressure in Chapel Row.  
A letter has been received from Patricia Barclay at Chapel Row seeking action about the low water pressure and lack of supply suffered by the people of Chapel Row. The items in the letter are covered under the discussion in CH4 of these minutes.
- C3. District Parish Conference – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015.  
An invitation and the agenda have been received for the District Parish Conference which is to take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015. The Clerk will put this on the September agenda to identify those interested in attending.

#### ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

- RT1. Interment of Ashes.  
Mr. Dunkerton said that he witnessed the interment of ashes on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> August (the day being a Sunday was an exception to the rules). The arrangements for this interment were rather unusual because there was no undertaker involved. BPC arranged for the grave to be dug and the family arranged the proceedings for the interment of the casket containing the ashes.
- RT2. September Edition of The Oaks.  
Mrs. Clarke asked whether an article should be placed in The Oaks about the planned provision of defibrillators in the parish and how to make donations should parishioners wish to. It was agreed that Mrs. Dugdale be asked to write an article and that any donations should be paid to BPC.
- RT3. Weddings and Funerals.  
It has come to light that concern has been raised about the speed of traffic through Bucklebury Village when weddings and funerals are taking place. It has been suggested that the church get some signs made up with wording along the lines of “Please drive slowly – Wedding”.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

**NEXT PLANNING MEETING: 8.00pm Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015 Victory Room.**  
**NEXT BPC MEETING: 7.45pm Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Memorial Hall.**

Signature .....

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