

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 12th October 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Mr. S. Hunt; Mr. & Mrs. Parker; Ms. Catherine Hall; Mr. C. Willett.

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. J. Brims.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

- M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 14th September 2015.
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 14th September 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.
- M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 28th September 2015.
The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 28th September 2015 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mr. Dickens.

PUBLIC SESSION

- PS1. Planning Application 15/02259/HOUSE for Fifield Farm.
The minutes of this item are listed under the Planning section of these minutes.
- PS2. Planning Application 15/02076/COMIND for Mazelands Farm, Stanford Dingley.
The minutes of this item are listed under the Planning section of these minutes.
- PS2. Bucklebury Primary School.
Mr. Andy Higgs, the new head teacher at Bucklebury school was welcomed to the Parish Council meeting. Mrs. Frankum said that BPC would like to support the school as much as possible. One issue which has been a matter of concern for a number of years is the parents' parking in Berry's Road and Blackland's Road at drop off and collection times. In the mornings this hinders the "Kiss and Drop" scheme from working as smoothly as it could. The parking makes it difficult for pedestrians to cross the road safely; particularly children.
Mr. Higgs commented that the problem of parking at drop off and collection time is not limited to Bucklebury. There is a note reminding parents about sensible parking on each of the weekly briefing letters. There are a lot of other parking options in place, although there are no parking restrictions in either Berry's Road or Blackland's Road to deter parents from parking closer to the school. Mr. Higgs will continue with the clear expectation that parents respect the wider school community including the neighbours. He also said that he was willing to walk out into Blackland's Road and Berry's Road and remind parents of their responsibilities, at the relevant times.
Concern was also raised that some parents don't appear to have very much control over their children. Mr. Higgs commented that arrangements at the end of the school day have been changed so that children are now collected from the playground rather than just inside the school gate and the traffic officer has been booked to talk to younger children so that they are more aware of road safety. There was a suggestion from BPC that maybe the traffic officer could also talk to the parents.
In order for BPC to be more aware of events being organised by the school, it was

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requested that the school newsletter be forwarded to the Clerk. It was also suggested that BPC events could be included on the school web site and school events relevant to the wider community be listed on the BPC website.

Mrs. Frankum said that BPC organises Carols in the Cemetery Chapel each year and asked whether the school might be able to provide a recorder group and some form of choir. In addition, she asked whether the school had any form of PA system which could be used; Mr. Higgs said nothing obvious came to mind in terms of a PA system; however he felt sure a choir and recorder group could be provided.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Ramblers.

The Ramblers did a lot of work with ROAR (Supported Volunteering in Countryside and Environment Maintenance) clearing Public Rights of Way (PROW). ROAR has been disbanded, so the Ramblers will continue the work alone. They are scheduled to carry out work on bridleways 60 and 75 on the 16th October.

CH2. Bucklebury Meadows.

Mrs. Frankum and Richard Hubbard have had a site meeting on the meadows to discuss the work to be carried out in December. More whips, sleeves and canes will need to be purchased; the final figures need to be calculated.

CH3. Bucklebury Air Raid Siren.

The air raid siren which was housed in the church during World War 2 was held at Reading Museum for a time. They have returned it and neither Newbury Museum nor The Museum of Rural Life wish to acquire it. After some enquiries, it has been arranged with John Tennent that it be returned to its original place in the tower of St. Mary's Church since it is a piece of Bucklebury history. Helen Relf has offered to write an article about the siren for the next edition of The Oaks.

CH4. Bucklebury Common Heathland Management Group.

There was a working party on the Lower Common on Saturday 10th October; 9 people, 3 from outside the parish, helped Tim Culley work on maintaining the heathland.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Enforcement.

Both Chestnut Cottage, Bucklebury and Autumn House, Byles Green have been brought to the attention of the WBC Enforcement team about the misuse of agricultural land.

CL2. Cones adjacent to Ford End.

After the clearing of the deep ditch between Tylers Lane and byway 12/1, cones had been placed along the road warning of the ditch. The work was completed some months ago, but the cones are still in place. The Clerk will follow up with WBC and find out what is planned.

HP

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Swilley Hole.

Mrs. Cairns said that the swilley hole has not received any attention.

TOPICS

T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

At a recent meeting with the farmer Andrew Waters, he confirmed that he will be vacating the meadows at the end February 2016.

The two outstanding issues are vehicular access to the copse from Morton's Lane and vehicular access over Common land from Byles Green. It was agreed that vehicular access to the copse should not stop the transfer as the copse could be accessed via the meadow. It was also agreed that whilst access to the meadow via Byles Green was

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- preferable, access could be obtained via the track off Broad Lane (which is rather narrow), or access could potentially be negotiated via the carpark at the Cottage Inn. There has been no update from DWH or Field Seymour Parks LPP about the actual transfer; the Clerk will chase this up. HP
- T2. Defibrillators. AH
 A draft agreement between BPC and Heartstart Thatcham was forwarded to members prior to the meeting. This has also been sent to Heartstart Thatcham for approval. The agreement was unanimously approved by BPC. JB
 The Working Group has agreed that written permission from Mr. Shingadia's landlord to put the defibrillator on the wall of Peach's store should be obtained; this needs to be requested. TS
- T3. Community Assets. LC
 No work has started on the application to request that Peach's Store be considered as a community asset. Mr. Shingadia is understood to be contacting his landlord about the possible proposal. HC
- T4. Review of Parish Assets. All
 A list of parish assets was drawn up prior to the meeting. Councillors were allocated assets to inspect before reporting back to the Clerk on their condition, either prior to the next meeting or at the next meeting.
- T5. Superfast Broadband.
 Mr. Banks reported that there was expected to be an update at the end of September, but to date there has been no update. It was suggested that interim milestones would be useful.
 Gigaclear wants superfast broadband in Berkshire to work and they are ambitious. More details are expected at the District Parish Conference on Wednesday.
- T7. Common Clearing – Saturday 24th October.
 It was agreed that Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Hillerton, Mrs. Cairns and Mr. Aldridge would supply cakes. Mrs. Frankum is no longer able to attend. Mrs. Hillerton and Mrs. Cairns will organise refreshments.
- T8. Cemetery Carols – Monday 21st December. WF
 Mrs. Hillerton, Mrs. Cairns and Mr. Dunkerton have offered to help Mrs. Frankum organise Cemetery Carols on the 21st December. Those interested in decorating and organising the Chapel will meet at the Chapel at 10am on the 21st December. The Chapel needs to be cleaned up the following day. Mr. Dickens, Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Hillerton offered to make mince pies and Mr. Aldridge offered to make gingerbread biscuits for the children. Lynsey McNish will be asked to compère proceedings. Mr. Dickens offered to talk to Mr. Fleming at Brockhurst School about a PA system. HC
 It was agreed to split donations between Cornerstone (a local charity supporting young people leaving care) and Heartstart Thatcham. AH
 AD

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 15/02340/FULD Fifield Farm.
Demolition of existing out-buildings and barn and replacement by proposed erection of a dwelling.
 This application includes an access track over what is currently agricultural land. No access track was included in the Certificate of Lawfulness. Concern was raised that the application is contrary to ENV 20 because the site is not in a sustainable location; there is no means of public transport and the site is not part of an existing settlement pattern. The proposal would represent a new build in the countryside. The meeting was **closed** for the architect to speak.

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Ms. Hall commented that there is an existing farm track (following a slightly different line) across the field and this wasn't commented upon in the appeal. The site is a brownfield site and buildings can be relocated on The meeting was **reopened**.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC **object** to this application as it is a new build outside of the settlement boundary.

P2. 15/02259/HOUSE

25 Broad Lane.

Section 73a: Removal of Condition 4 – Turning Area, for approved application 04/00593/HOUSE – Two storey extension to existing dwelling. Provision of dropped kerb and new entrance off Broad Lane.

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

P3. 15/02076/COMIND

Mazelands Farm, Stanford Dingley (Adjacent Parish).

Construction of a solar park to include the installation of solar panels, security fencing, transformer housing, access and other associated works.

At a public meeting with the applicant Anesco last week, the view was largely against the application. Highways have approved an access route via Hermitage and Yattendon; however concern was raised about this route. At the public meeting, it was stated that some solar farms had been approved in AONBs; however it has since been found that these sites have already been disfigured, previously having been airfields. It was considered that this application will destroy and industrialise this part of the Pang Valley.

The meeting was **closed** for parishioners to speak.

Mr. Willett said that he had sent a letter of objection to WBC, generally against the proposal. Mr. Hunt commented that it was unbelievable what damage this will do to the Pang Valley. It was also noted that previous solar farm applications are for 25 years and not 40 years. The proximity to the national grid has to be less than 1.5 miles; it was suggested that other locations in the Pang Valley be considered.

The meeting was **reopened**.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC **objects** to this application.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P4. 15/01566/LBC2

Brockhurst School, Marlston House.

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

BPC had **no objection** to this application; listed building permission is **not required**.

P5. 15/01673/HOUSE

48, Broad Lane.

Proposed two storey rear extension, new side gable and with additional roof, alterations to existing dormers, including internal alterations and modernisation to existing structure.

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

P6. 15/01861/HOUSE

Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue.

Section 73a Variation of condition 2 – approved plans 1002 32 and 1002 33 of approved application 12/01439/HOUSE – Relocation of main entrance, new link to garden room and removal of outbuilding (REF 11/01230/HOUSE consent 4.10.11; partially implemented).

BPC **objected** to this application; however it has been **approved** by WBC.

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- P7. 15/01561/FUL 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 structure – LBC application only by virtue of proximity to curtilage.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application; however it has been **withdrawn**.
- P8. 15/01548/HOUSE Brockhurst School, Marlston House.
Replacement of existing cricket nets with reinstatement of original tennis court.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P9. 15/00620/FUL Bucklebury Farm Park.
Section 73A – Variation of condition 1). The Leisure use for public access hereby authorized is to be limited to the months of March to October inclusive of planning permission 149980. To remove restriction on months of operation.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which was **approved** by the WBC Planning Committee. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Hillerton and Mrs. Clarke for representing BPC.
- P10. 15/02274/FUL Greenwood, Hatch Lane.
Section 73: Removal/Variation of Condition 2 – approved plans of approved application 13/02860/FUL.
 BPC has **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved** by WBC.
- P11. 15/01915/HOUSE Indala, Burdens Heath.
Demolish existing 14 square meters (internally) sunroom. Erect (in its place) 20 square meters (internally) sunroom.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved** by WBC.
- P12. To receive an update from a site meeting at Vanners.
 Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Slatford went to a site meeting at Vanners. It is understood from Lady Combermere (the previous owner) that it was a barn until the mid-19th century. WBC has now listed the building as a local heritage asset. The current owner (Lady Combermere’s daughter) wishes to largely keep the external appearance as it is, but carry out internal alterations.
 There is to be a meeting between WBC, the conservation officer and the owners at the site in the near future to view the internal structure. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the conservation officer after the meeting to query whether an application should be made to English Heritage for listed building status.

HP

REPORTS

- R1. District Councillors Report.
 It was reported that on the 22nd October a list of sites on which development decisions will be made will become available. At a meeting on the 5th November decisions will be made about which of the sites will be accepted and subsequently published within the next Local Plan. There will then be a consultation until the 21st December after which it will be considered by planning inspectors and go to public hearing. The public hearing is expected to take place approximately in June next year. Changes are expected to be made to a number of planning documents including “Houses in the Countryside” and “Planning Policy for Traveller Sites”. One expected change relates to the minimum number of parking spaces acceptable for houses in the countryside.
 It was also reported that work is ongoing on the budget for next year.
- R2. Memorial Hall.
 Mr. Dunkerton did not attend the meeting; Mr. Brims did and will report at the next meeting.

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R3. Beer Fest.

Mrs. Frankum reported that the Bucklebury Beerfest had been very successful and all the beer and burgers had sold out. The total profit is expected to be in the region of £3,750.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:

SSE Contracting Ltd	£18.96	Streetlight maintenance contract.
Post Office Ltd	£17.15	Streetlight supply, 27/6/15 – 23/9/15.
Bucklebury Memorial Hall	£76.97	Rent 1/8/2015 – 31/12/2015.
Sylvia Cornell	£40.00	Bus shelter cleaning, July to September 2015
Helen Pratt	£89.64	Reimbursement, April to September 2015
Helen Pratt	£554.27	September salary.
Bucklebury Memorial Hall	£10.30	Hall rent for defibrillator training on 22/7/2015.

F2. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£32,255.53	
Lloyds Current Account:	£21,357.09	On 18/9/2015 (prior to the 2 nd half of the precept being received).
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,510.13	On 1/7/2015.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£5,546.14	On 1/7/2015.

F3. Six Monthly Spending Against Budget.

The Clerk circulated a spreadsheet of spending against the budget to date this year with the expected expenditure for the end of the year. It was noted that money for the maintenance of the meadows and associated expenditure is in the budget, but nothing of this is available to be spent until the transfer of the land has been completed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

C1. West Berkshire Council – Winter Service Plan – Consultation.

This had been circulated to all members.

C2. West Berkshire Council – Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation.

This had been circulated to members.

C3. Newbury Weekly News Over 80's Christmas Parcel Fund.

It was noted that a number of people in the parish are eligible for the Christmas Parcel Fund but not on the list; this is particularly the case for Chapel Row. It was agreed that Mrs. Frankum would contact Georgina Cardy to check who might be eligible and appreciate a parcel.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC should make a donation of £100 to the fund.

C4. Total Transport – unmet demand for transport.

A survey is being carried out to determine what demand there is in the parish for transport which isn't being met. Mr. Dickens agreed to complete the survey.

BD

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Parking outside Peach's Garage.

Cars are being parked between the old petrol pumps and the road making it impossible for pedestrians to walk past without walking in the road. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mark Edwards (WBC) about the problem and copy the owner of the garage.

RT2. Anti-social Behaviour in The Slade/Tylers Lane/Holly Lane.

It was reported that on the weekend of the 3rd/4th October two vehicles were damaged by

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airgun pellets. An incident of flytipping was reported to WBC on the 6th October in Holly Lane which contained details of where the items had originated. It was agreed that this should be forward to PCSO Sarah Preston and Paul Hendry (WBC).

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

NEXT PLANNING MEETING:	8.00pm Monday 26th October 2015 Victory Room.
NEXT BPC MEETING:	7.45pm Monday 9th November 2015 Memorial Hall.
CEMETERY CAROLS:	6pm Monday 21st December 2015 Cemetery Chapel.

Signature

Date