

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Mr. A. Gilbert.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 12th October 2015.

Mrs. Clarke said that the profit from the Bucklebury Beer fest was £3,750 rather than approximately £8,000 as stated in the draft minutes. Once this had been corrected, the minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 12th October 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 26th October 2015.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 26th October 2015 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mr. Dickens.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Common Clearing.

Mrs. Frankum thanked all those who supported the event and commented that although it clashed with the rugby and the weather had not been favourable a reasonable number of people turned out.

CH2. The Oaks.

All those who distributed The Oaks were thanked, particularly given that a number of councillors took on delivery of rounds they wouldn't normally cover.

CH3. Annual Parish Assembly.

It was suggested that next year the Annual Parish Assembly be held on Thursday the 12th May in the Victory Room. Possible speakers for the Annual Parish Assembly will be discussed at the December parish council meeting.

CH4. Planning Meetings.

There will be no planning meeting in December this year as it would fall between Christmas and New Year.

There will be no planning meeting in March 2016 as it would fall on Easter Monday.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Parking at Peach's Garage.

Obstruction by vehicles to the unmarked pavement in front of Peach's garage has been reported to the PCSO Sarah Preston. She should be able to determine whether or not a white line is required to demark the pavement. A photograph showing an example of the problem has been sent to her.

CL2. Vanners.

The Clerk has spoken to Dennis Greenway (WBC Conservation Officer). He has carried out a site visit and inspected the building both internally and externally. He is of the opinion that the outer shell is built around an earlier building which has been fairly extensively modified. He was in favour of an application being made to Historic England to protect worthy features. He was also of the opinion that the application

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could be made now on the grounds that one planning application has been withdrawn and another is pending.

Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC proceed with an application for listed status to Historic England. This was seconded by Mr. Aldridge; six members were in favour; one against and there were two abstentions. There was then a discussion about if and when the owner should be notified of BPC's decision to make an application to Historic England. This resulted in Mr Dickens proposing that the owner be notified of the application immediately after the application has been submitted. This proposal was carried with six members in favour; two against and one abstention.

The Clerk will make the application.

HP

CL3. Victory Room Noticeboard.

Greenbarnes Ltd., the company supplying the noticeboard for the Victory Room, do not supply noticeboards with white aluminium surrounds; the choice is either a silver anodised finish, or powder coated in a variety of colours for an extra £45. There was a discussion about what would look best and it was ultimately agreed that BPC would order and pay for a noticeboard with a green powder coated surround. The Victory Room Committee had been consulted prior to the meeting on which of the available colours they would prefer and this decision complied with that.

HP

CL4. Dog Fouling Problem in Paradise Lane.

Mr. Aldridge has put up signs in the Paradise Lane area warning of fines if people don't clean up after their dogs. An enquiry was sent to WBC about a possible position for a dog bin; however no reply has been forthcoming.

It was agreed to close this item.

CL5. Peach's Noticeboard.

A renewed quote has been obtained for a replacement board for £1,404.74(the previous quote had expired). The order for the Peach's noticeboard will be placed at the same time as the noticeboard for the Victory Room, hopefully with a view to reducing the delivery charge.

HP

CL6. Cemetery Wall.

The render topping is crumbling on the wall of the 1970s Cemetery. Before asking builders to quote for repairs it was agreed that advice should be sought to clearly define what work BPC required. Builders would then all quote for the same work. The Clerk will ask Chris Willett if he is willing to advise on what work is required.

HP

CL7. Ownership of the Old Cemetery.

The Reading Public Records Office holds the Burial Board Accounts from 1884 – 1910 and the BPC Receipts and Payments book for 1895 – 1906. It is hoped that these should show an entry for payment to Bucklebury Estate for the purchase of the Cemetery. Mrs. Frankum offered to visit the Records Office and look at the information.

WF

CL8. Flooding – Top of Berry's Road.

The issue of flooding at the top of Berry's Road after heavy rain has been resolved. This item will be closed.

CL9. Chapel Row Culvert.

The area to the west of the road has been dug out, however there was still concern that the road floods after heavy rain. It was agreed that this should be monitored.

CL10. Marlston Road at Ford End.

A new call has been logged with WBC to find out what the final solution is supposed to be. The Clerk has spoken to Jon Winstanley who is sending Bob Bosley out for a site visit to determine what the situation is. Mrs. Frankum has spoken to Dereck Matthews (Ford End) who is planning to remove his cones and believes the best solution has been reached, given the situation.

There was a question about whether the culvert under Tylers Lane had actually been

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jetted because there was some suggestion that it had collapsed.

CL11. Flooding Outside 39 Berry's Road.

A report of flooding outside 39 Berry's Road has been received. The resident has been told that the drain is blocked. The problem has been compounded by a blockage in the sewer on the higher side of the road. Luckily there is not understood to have been any contamination, the sewer having been quickly dealt with.

The Clerk will monitor the situation and raise a call to WBC if necessary.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Community Assets.

Mrs. Cairns has spoken to Mr. Shingadia about making an application for Peach's Store to become a Community Asset. Mr. Shingadia is finding a site map which is required for the application.

CO2. Swilley Hole.

Mrs. Cairns said that the swilley hole is currently very dry and has not been dug out. The concrete slabs with holes in them, allowing drainage, at the Tylers Lane sewage works have been replaced with solid concrete slabs to prevent the lorries getting stuck in. Concern was raised that there would be a significant increase in runoff, however Thames Water has considered this and doesn't believe it will be an issue.

CO3. Super-Fast Broadband.

Those parts of Bucklebury parish which have not yet got Super-Fast Broadband (SFB) should get it under the Phase II contract with Gigaclear between September 2016 and February 2017. The Gigaclear solution provides a fibre to the premises solution which should provide higher speeds than the fibre to cabinet solution provided under Phase I.

TOPICS

T1. Victory Room Planning Application.

There was a discussion about whether, in principle BPC should be the applicant for the Victory Room planning application, which would reduce the planning fee by half. Mr. Dickens proposed that in principle BPC should be the applicant; this was seconded by Mrs. Hillerton and carried with 6 members in favour, 1 against and 2 who declared an interest and therefore abstained.

It is hoped that the final plans for submission to WBC will be ready for inspection by the December meeting of BPC.

T2. Bucklebury Meadows.

Despite chasing both Geoff Barrows at DWH and Simon Taylor at Field Seymour Parkes LPP (BPC's solicitor) on more than one occasion there has been no movement towards a transfer.

On December 1st, the West Berkshire Countryside Society, under the guidance of Richard Hubbard will be planting more hedging.

T3. Defibrillators.

The agreement between Heartstart Thatcham and BPC has been approved. The first defibrillator, to be positioned at Peach's Store has been ordered by Heartstart Thatcham. A donation of £1,700, as previously agreed needs to be paid to Heartstart Thatcham. Representatives from Heartstart Thatcham will be meeting Mrs. Hillerton and Mr. Slatford at 9am on Friday 13th November to inspect the Peach's Store site, consider a site at the Bladebone Inn, Chapel Row and to determine the best location for a defibrillator at the Victory Room.

The defibrillator at the Victory Room has funding in place; £1,300 has previously been agreed by BPC, Bucklebury Wolves have agreed funding of £100 and both the Victory Room Committee and Recreation Ground Committee have agreed donations of £150. Dorothy Dugdale has been raising funds for defibrillators in the parish; there was

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uncertainty about how much had been raised to date; an article was included in the last edition of The Oaks giving information about how to make donations. There is interest in a defibrillator in The Slade with a possible location being near Stump Cottage.

Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC spend a further £1,700 on a third defibrillator; this was seconded by Mrs. Clarke and unanimously agreed. Mrs. Hillerton will talk to the new landlord at the Bladebone Inn about the possibility of placing the third defibrillator there.

AH

T4. Review of Parish Assets.

The Clerk reported that the grit bin on Briff Lane opposite Greenacres had been reported to WBC for replacement as it was misshaped and the grit gets waterlogged. The grit bins on Sadgrove Lane and on Carbinswood Lane need to be reported to WBC as they are badly distorted and need replacing. All of these grit bins belongs to WBC.

The grit bin on Pease Hill faces into the hedge and is difficult to open. It was felt that a better location for the bin might be lower down the hill, near the entrance to Bucklebury Farm Park, where it could be positioned to be picked up by the tractor and also used by others more easily. It was agreed that the Clerk will talk to Rupert Hartley Russell about possible options. If the grit bin is to be relocated, a new license will need to be obtained from WBC.

The Bucklebury air raid siren has now returned to its original home in the tower of St. Mary's Church, having been in the collections of local various museums for a number of years.

T4. Cemetery Carols – Monday 21st December.

Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Hillerton will be organising the event. Use of a PA system from Brockhurst School has been secured by Mr. Dickens. Helpers to decorate the Chapel at 10am on Monday the 21st and to clear up at 10am on Tuesday the 22nd December would be appreciated. It was suggested that helpers on the night should be there by 5pm as people arrive early. Steve Beeson has again kindly offered to make the mulled wine and providing the generator.

T5. December meeting of BPC.

The meeting of BPC on Monday 14th December will begin at 7.30pm to allow for seasonal refreshments after the close of the meeting. Mrs. Frankum will provide mulled wine and Mrs. Clarke mince pies.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

P1. 15/02719/HOUSE Denbar, Turners Green.

Erection of detached garage/store to front of house.

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

P2. 15/02838/HOUSE Paxton House, Sadgrove Lane.

Alterations and extensions to dwelling including conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.

In 2010, an application to increase the size of the dwelling by 87% over the "original" was approved on appeal; however whilst the permission was renewed in 2014, it has not been implemented.

This application claims that it is an increase of 28%; however it is uncertain what this figure is based on as the increase is likely to actually be over 100% from the original 1960's building.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC **objects** to this application on the grounds of the increase in size from the original and the increase in massing in a rural setting within the AONB.

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- Planning Decisions made by WBC:
- P3. 15/02288/HOUSE Oak Acre House.
Revised application for proposed garden and pool room following refusal of previous application 15/00597/HOUSE.
 BPC **objected** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P4. 15/02112/HOUSE Marywell, Chapel Row.
Alterations and extensions to dwelling.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 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.
- P6. 15/00296/OUTMAJ Land at Siege Cross Farm, Bath Road (Adjacent Parish).
Outline application for the phased development of up to 495 dwellings; up to 250sqm of Use Class D1 floor space; a new primary school of up to 2 forms of entry; vehicular, pedestrian and cycle accesses; public open space; children's play areas; landscaping; structural planting; new woodland planting; sustainable urban drainage measures including water retention basins; associated ground modelling; and all associated works. Means of vehicular access into the site proposed in full. Matters to be considered: Access – Into the Site.
 BPC **objected** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.
- P7. Planning Appeal Decision: 15/00597/HOUSE - Oak Acre, The Avenue.
Proposed garden and pool room.
 BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** by WBC. However, the applicant took the decision to appeal and the application has been **allowed**.
- P8. Planning Committee and Site meeting for 15/02340/FULD Fifield Farm.
Demolition of existing out-buildings and barn and replacement by proposed erection of a dwelling.
 BPC **objected** to this application which will be considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee for which there is a site meeting on Wednesday 11th November. Mr. Slatford will attend the site meeting. Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Hillerton will attend the Planning Committee meeting, assuming that it is on the 18th November.

REPORTS

- R1. District Councillors Report.
 Councillor Webb reported that Roger Croft has taken over as leader, replacing Gordon Lundie. A new executive member will be appointed shortly.
 The Slade has been closed this afternoon due to a serious water leak and is expected to be closed until the 13th November.
 The final consultation has begun on the Local Plan which includes the allocation of sites and proves a 5 year land supply for development. There are no sites in the parish and no changes to the settlement boundary.
 WBC needs to make huge budget savings over the next 3 years, however there is uncertainty over the budget for next year due to the government grant settlement and an expected care settlement. Consultations have been published on a wide range of possible cuts, including the reduction of school transport and the removal of the Bucklebury to Kennet School bus service. There was a discussion about the "safety" of the suggested walking route; down Long Grove, across the fields and along the A4 before reaching Thatcham.
 A question was asked about why there couldn't be a bridge over the railway at

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Thatcham as the level crossing causes significant delays. District Councillors commented that there were engineering problems at Thatcham due to the proximity of the river and the canal.

R2. Memorial Hall.

Mr. Brims commented that he had not attended the meeting on the 22nd September. The large hole in the entrance track has been raised with the management committee. It was also noted that there is a need for a new picnic bench.

R3. Victory Room AGM (5/11/2015).

The AGM was attended by approximately 12 parishioners, all from nearby houses. The committee has been re-elected with one new member. The final plans for the new hall were not available; however questions were asked about the need for a pavilion on the west end as Bucklebury Cricket Club is unlikely to be returning to the Recreation Ground.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:

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|----------------------------------|---------|---|
| The Victory Room | £81.25 | Rent for 2015 Planning meetings. |
| The Alpha Xperience | £355.00 | Printing of October issue of The Oaks. |
| K. Powell | £12.00 | Oaks delivery: Hatch Lane, Hatch Close & Paradise Lane. |
| Miss. Carol Farmer | £6.00 | Oaks delivery: Roundfield. |
| Barlow and Sons (Hermitage) Ltd. | £186.30 | Slips, canes & protectors for meadows. |
| Helen Pratt | £554.27 | September salary. |

F2. To review current balances and financial position.

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|---|------------|----------------|
| Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: | £31,060.71 | |
| Lloyds Current Account: | £32,401.76 | On 21/10/2015. |
| Scottish Widows Reserve Account: | £37,548.09 | On 1/10/2015. |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Account: | £5,551.72 | On 1/10/2015. |

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

C1. WBC: Consultation on Removal of Bucklebury to Kennet School Bus.

There was a discussion about this proposal from WBC. It was agreed that safety is paramount. The proposed walking route has a rough, muddy surface and is overgrown. Walking is not a realistic option. It was agreed that a representative from WBC be asked to come out and test the proposed route.

Mrs. Hillerton will draft a letter of objection to WBC.

AH

C2. WBC: Consultation on Winter Maintenance Proposals for 2016/17.

The Clerk hi-lighted that WBC is proposing to remove their grit bins and will charge to fill up those belonging to parish councils under one of the cost reduction measures being consulted on. It was agreed that BPC would take on responsibility for the WBC grit bins if this situation were to arise.

C3. WBC: Consultation on Proposed Submission for Housing Site Allocation Development Plan.

BPC has no comments to make on the proposals.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Site Visit from WBC Highways.

Mrs. Clarke asked when the site visit would be to consider traffic passing St. Mary's Church. The Clerk will look into this and include a site visit to look at the entrances near the Cottage Inn onto Broad Lane and the top of Little Lane.

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RT2. Christmas Tree Festival.

Mrs. Frankum reminded members about the Christmas Tree Festival to take place in the Memorial Hall on Sunday 6th December.

RT3. Traffic Regulation Orders at Ramsbury Corner.

Mrs. Cairns said that requests had been made to extend the time period for the current TROs at Ramsbury Corner (they last until the 31/12/2015) either to the end of the Winter or for another year.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

NEXT PLANNING MEETING:

8.00pm Monday 23rd November 2015 Victory Room.

NEXT BPC MEETING:

7.45pm Monday 14th December 2015 Memorial Hall.

CEMETERY CAROLS:

6pm Monday 21st December 2015 Cemetery Chapel.

Signature

Date