

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 14th December 2015 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

John Clarke (Chairman of Victory Room Committee).

APOLOGIES

Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. T. Banks; 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 9th November 2015.
The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 9th November 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.
- M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 23rd November 2015.
The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2015 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mr. Dickens.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- CH1. West Berkshire Countryside Society(WBCS) Working Party in the Meadows.
On the 1st December, the WBCS held a working party in the meadows. Nineteen members helped plant slips for various hedges and cleared encroaching scrub.
- CH2. Defibrillator Working Party.
Mrs. Frankum thanked all the members of the defibrillator working group. Thatcham Heartstart has the defibrillator for Upper Bucklebury, but is awaiting the keypad locked box before it can be installed.
- CH3. Traffic in the Parish.
A site meeting has been held with Glyn Davis (WBC Traffic Management and Road Safety) in Bucklebury village and Upper Bucklebury. Several parish councillors attended the meeting and John Tennant joined the group in Bucklebury village. The following actions were agreed for Bucklebury village:
- The reflective bollards outside of The Old Post Office will be replaced.
 - The "SLOW" painted on the road, approaching the village from the east will be reviewed in the summer for repainting.
 - A new "SLOW" sign will be added to the post with the bend sign on it to the east of the village.
- It was suggested that SID be used before big weddings or funerals (WBC need to confirm the best location for the equipment). It was also suggested that John Tennant have an "A" board made up stating that a service was taking place; WBC would need to be consulted on the siting of such a board.
- In Upper Bucklebury concern had been raised about access from Edglee House, and The Cottage Inn onto Broad Lane as the visibility to the west is poor. It was suggested that the owner of Edglee House cut the conifer hedge. It was also agreed that a "SLOW" sign could be painted in the road opposite 23 Broad Lane.
- Parking at Peach's garage, blocking the footpath was discussed; the owner of the garage

Signature

Date

claims that they own the land to the edge of the road rather than Highways; Glyn Davis is pursuing the matter.

CH4. School Bus to Kennet School.

Mrs. Frankum thanked Mrs. Hillerton for her work in contesting the proposed cut of the school bus to and from Kennet School.

CH5. Christmas Cards.

BPC has sent twelve Christmas cards to people who have worked with the Parish Council over the year.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Flooding outside 39 Berry's Road.

The drain has been jetted, so the problems should be resolved.

CL2. Vanners – Listing.

Information for the listing application for Vanners has been gathered so that the application can now be made.

HP

CL3. Replacement Noticeboards.

The new noticeboards for outside Peach's store and the Victory Room have been ordered and are due to arrive during the week beginning the 21st December.

Mr. Dunkerton agreed to collect them from the Clerk, store them and then install them.

CL4. Ownership of the old Cemetery.

Mrs. Frankum has visited the Public Records Office in Reading and found strong evidence that the old Cemetery was purchased from Bucklebury Estate. Mrs. Frankum will write to Mr. Hartley Russell to this effect.

WF

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. TRO's at Ramsbury Corner.

Mrs. Cairns was thanked for requesting replacement notices for the existing TRO's and extensions to them; they terminate at the end of 2015. As a result, extensions have been agreed by WBC to the end of June 2016, but there has to be some consultation first so they cannot be enforced until the early part of 2016.

Land to the west of Holly Lane which is not part of Bucklebury Common is also being used by 4x4s.

CO2. School Parking.

It was agreed that BPC should continue to monitor this.

TOPICS

T1. Victory Room Planning Application.

The meeting was **closed** for John Clarke, the Chairman of the Victory Room Committee to speak. Drawings and plans of the proposal were circulated amongst councillors and Mr. Clarke commented that not a lot had changed in the general design over the last year. It had been suggested and agreed in principle that BPC should be the applicant for the planning application as the Victory Room is a parish facility.

The meeting was **re-opened**.

Mrs. Hillerton proposed that BPC be the applicant for the Victory Room planning application, this was seconded by Mr. Dickens and carried with 5 members (in total) in favour, 1 member abstaining and 2 members declaring interests because they are on the Victory Room Committee.

T2. Money to be granted during FY15/16 and grants to halls.

St. Martins Club.	The fifth of five grants of £500 each from the Gilroy Trust will be paid this year. In addition it was agreed that BPC would make a grant of £300.
-------------------	--

Signature

Date

Bucklebury Brownies	A request of £50 to £60 for new craft materials has been made. It was agreed that a grant of £60.00 be made in January 2016.
Bucklebury Tennis Club	It was agreed that a grant of £200 be made to Bucklebury Tennis Club for tennis coaching of Year 5 Children at Bucklebury School.
Berkshire County Blind Society	It was agreed that a donation of £75.00 be made.
Victory Rooms	It was agreed that a grant of £5,000 be made to the Victory Room, which is to be funded from the reserves. Mr. Brims and Mrs. Clarke abstained from this decision.
Memorial Hall	<p>The Management Committee of the Memorial Hall has agreed that the most important tasks to be carried out during 2016/17 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbishment of the BMX track (£800), • Refurbishment of the Children’s play area (£800), • Plastering of the brick walls forming the passage from the main entrance area to the Committee Room and in the main hall to remove the utility appearance (£2000). <p>A grant of £850 towards the inspection and insurance of the Playpark/BMX track was requested.</p> <p>The grant made to the Memorial Hall in 2015/16 was for half of the costs of widening and repairing the emergency exit ramps to the rear of the hall, sound deadening in the Committee Room and general redecoration. A grant was made for the playpark/BMX track of £1,785. No work has taken place on the exit ramps or the sound deadening in the Committee Room. No obvious maintenance has taken part on either the playpark or the BMX track, although it has been requested by parishioners during the year.</p> <p>It was agreed that copies of invoices for the work carried out this year should be sought and that when these have been received a grant of £2,000 will be made to the Memorial Hall. A separate grant of £1,785 for the insurance and inspection of the playpark and BMX track was agreed. Concern was raised about the Health and Safety Issues with the ramp at the rear of the hall and issues in the Playpark which are not being addressed.</p> <p>Mr. Dickens will draft a letter to the Memorial Hall Committee requesting copies of invoices for work carried out this year using the BPC grant money prior to any money being released during 2016/17 and raising concern over the Health and Safety issues.</p> <p>It was noted that for the Christmas Tree Festival at the beginning of December, the main hall floor had to be cleaned before the event could be set up, the “loop” system didn’t work and a number of the lights weren’t working.</p>
West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS)	The WBCS carry out a great deal of work in the parish and it was agreed to increase their grant to £1.100 for FY16/17.

BD

The above grants were all unanimously agreed.

Signature

Date

- T3. Bucklebury Meadows.
 The “Deed of Surrender” has been received from DWH’s solicitor and approved by Field Seymour Parks. Field Seymour Parks are now working to confirm the access onto Byles Green.
 Mrs. Cairns raised concern that BPC were running up a legal bill for the transfer of the meadows. The Clerk understood that Field Seymour Parks had confirmed that DWH would pay the conveyance costs and had already paid some money. The Clerk will confirm the situation with Field Seymour Parks. HP
- T4. Defibrillators.
 Heartstart Thatcham has the defibrillator for the external wall of Peach’s store, the keypad locked cabinet is on order and expected in the next 2 weeks. It was agreed that once the cabinet has been received installation can go ahead.
 The Victory Room defibrillator has been agreed by BPC and suitable positions are being discussed.
 The new Landlord at the Bladebone Inn has agreed to host a defibrillator on the outside of the building. Residents of The Slade have agreed they would like one and have identified what they believe to be a suitable location. These latter two will be discussed further at the January meeting. AH
- T5. Cemetery Carols – Monday 21st December.
 Mrs. Frankum asked that all councillors helping be at the Chapel at 5pm because people start arriving early. Those helping to decorate the Chapel or tidy up on the Tuesday were asked to meet at 10am at the Chapel.
 The Ward family who have previously played the keyboard are proving elusive to contact; Mr. Dickens agreed to ask on Thursday, the Head of music at Brockhurst and Marlston Schools if nothing has been heard from the Wards.
- T6. Annual Assembly.
 It was agreed that the Annual Assembly will be held on Friday 20th May at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. A representative from BBOWT will be asked to speak on managing Bucklebury Common. HP
- T7. Proposal to cut the Bucklebury to Kennet School Bus.
 Responses and views on the various budget options had to be submitted to WBC by today. A significant number of objections on the proposal to cut the Kennet school bus are thought to have been submitted.
 On Wednesday 16th December at 7.45am Mrs. Hillerton, Dominic Boeck (WBC portfolio holder for Education) and Mr. Pask will be walking down Long Grove to Kennet School. Both Mr. Pask and Mr. Webb are in support of villagers. A number of those affected by the proposed cut have said that they would be willing to make a financial contribution for the service.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 15/02939/FULD Fifield Farm, Marlston.
Conversion of barn into single dwelling house and demolition of existing redundant ancillary buildings.
 It was unanimously agreed to **object** to this application on the grounds that it is a new build in the countryside and the AONB and outside of any settlement boundary.
- P2. 15/03104/HOUSE & 15/03106/LBC2 Cherry Orchard Cottage, Hatch Lane.
Single storey extension and re-positioning entrance gates. New rooflights and external stair to garage.
 BPC has **no objection** to this application.

Signature

Date

- P3. 15/03056/HOUSE Solina (also known as Dingle Dale), Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).
Extensions to front and rear of property with a new detached garage with loft space over.
 BPC has **no objection** to this application which is felt to enhance the existing property.
- P4. 15/03289/HOUSE Marywell, Chapel Row.
Section 73: Variation of Condition 7 – Licence, of approved application 15/02112/HOUSE – Alterations and extensions to dwelling.
 BPC has **no objection** to this application subject to the WBC ecologist having no objection.
- P5. 15/03292/HOUSE The Paddock, Midgham Green.
Demolition of concrete pre-fab garage and construction of new oak frame garage.
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- Planning Decisions made by WBC:
- P6. 15/02450/HOUSE Turners Green House.
Renovation of existing outbuilding with ground floor extension to garage, new external staircase and alterations to fenestration.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved** by WBC.
- P7. 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 has been **refused** by the Eastern Area Planning Committee.
- P8. 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.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P9. 15/02347/HOUSE Imagine, Upper Bucklebury.
Proposed extension and alterations to bungalow to add first floor, side and rear extensions with internal alterations and removal of conservatory.
Amended plans were received to show the roof design and height reduced on south western elevation.
 BPC **objected** to this application; however it has been **approved** by WBC.
- P10. 15/02113/FULD Elmwood, Marlston Road,
Replacement dwelling and garage.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P11. 15/00646/FUL Greenwood, Hatch Lane.
S73: Variation of condition 2: Approved plans, of planning permission 13/02860/FUL: Proposed replacement dwelling with detached garage – revised proposals.
 BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** by WBC. The applicant has taken the decision of WBC to appeal starting on the 1st November 2015.

REPORTS

R1. District Councillors Report.

District Councillors reported that the appeal to convert The Boot in Stanford Dingley into a private house had been refused.

Signature

Date

- R2. Memorial Hall.
It was reported that the finances of the Memorial Hall are healthy.
- R3. Victory Room
A new member has joined the Victory Room Committee who has requested an extra six months consultation on the future of the hall. This has been refused by the rest of the Committee.
- R4. Commons Advisory Committee.
The meeting was held in the Victory Room without Mr. Hartley Russell. The TROs at Ramsbury Corner were discussed and the continuing misuse of the area by 4x4s.

FINANCE

- F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| C.R. Landscapes | £798.32 | Cemetery maintenance for August to November 2015. |
| Lisa Slatford | £7.50 | Oaks delivery to Mortons Lane and Broad Lane. |
| Sylvia Cornell | £40.00 | Bus shelter cleaning for October, November and December 2015. |
| P. W. Frankum | £9.36 | Various expenses. |
| Helen Pratt | £554.27 | Clerk's November salary. |
| West Berkshire Countryside Society | £1,000.00 | Grant agreed at December 2014 meeting. |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.
Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: £28,551.26
Lloyds Current Account: £31,701.26 On 20/11/2015.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account: £37,548.09 On 1/10/2015.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account: £5,551.72 On 1/10/2015.
- F3. To review the draft budget for FY16/17.
There was a discussion about the draft budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

- C1. Consultation on the change to Post Office Opening in Upper Bucklebury.
The hours of opening of the Post Office in Upper Bucklebury will be reduced in January to 9.00am to 12.30 on Mondays. Due to lack of use on Friday afternoons this session will be discontinued.
- C2. Minutes of Bucklebury Parish Council.
Minutes of BPC covering a period of 4 years have recently been deposited in the Berkshire Record Office. It has been suggested that these should be bound into two volumes, each containing 2 years of minutes at a cost of approximately £65 to £70 per volume. It was unanimously agreed that BPC should request that the minutes be bound. As a result of this, the Clerk asked whether the BPC would prefer minutes to be kept in a minute book rather than a ring binder as they are produced and signed. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the cost of an official minute book.

HP

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

- RT1. Bollards on the Pinch Points in Upper Bucklebury.
Mr. Dunkerton suggested that Mrs. Cornell could be asked if she would consider taking on the cleaning of the reflective bollards at the pinch points in Broad Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask her.

HP

Signature

Date

RT2. Christmas Tree Festival.

This year the Christmas Tree Festival took place on a Sunday in the Memorial Hall. As a result a lot more people attended. The money raised at the event was given to the Newbury Food Bank.

RT3. The Bladebone Inn.

The Bladebone Inn will be opening on Friday 8th January.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

NEXT BPC MEETING:

7.45pm Monday 11th January 2016 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date