

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 11th January 2016 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford; Mr. A. Dunkerton; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. A. Gilbert.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Granting of Dispensation to Discuss Budgetary Matters.

Under the Localism Act, a dispensation was granted to all councillors to discuss matters relating to the budget and therefore the precept.

D2. Declarations of Interest on any Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest on any agenda items.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 14th December 2015.

The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 14th December 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

A planning meeting was not held in December.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. New Noticeboards.

Mrs. Frankum thanked Mr. Dunkerton and his son for erecting the new noticeboards at Peach's store and at the Victory Room.

CH2. Cemetery Carols.

The donations received from Cemetery Carols in the Chapel enabled £103 to be given to each of the charities (Heartstart Thatcham and Cornerstone) after expenses had been paid to the Beeson family for the mulled wine. Thanks were extended to everyone who helped. It is hoped that Brockhurst School will provide the sound system again next year as it made a huge difference.

CH3. The Cottage Inn.

Gary Bush, the Landlord of The Cottage Inn has appointed a manager because his wife is very ill. As a result he will not be holding any celebratory events to mark the Queen's 90th birthday.

CH4. Bucklebury Events Committee.

The Events Committee is holding a meeting on Wednesday at which a celebratory event to mark the Queen's 90th birthday will be discussed.

Tickets for the Burns nights on 23rd January are selling well.

CH5. Vanners Listing.

Mrs. Frankum reported that she had contacted Lady Cumbermere, whose daughter now owns Vanners (having bought it from moter) to inform her that BPC has made an application to Historic England for Vanners to be listed.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Minute Book.

A minute book from Shaw & Sons containing 100 pages would cost £137 plus VAT. It was therefore agreed that BPC will continue to use a ring binder for minutes and have the option to pay for them to be bound when they are sent to the Berkshire Records Office.

Signature

Date

- CL2. Annual Assembly – Friday 20th May 2016.
The Memorial Hall has been booked for Friday 20th May from 7.30pm. The Clerk will invite Alex Cruickshank from BBOWT to speak. HP
- CL3. Vanners.
The application to Historic England for Vanners to be listed has now been completed. Approximately 60 photographs taken by the Planning Officer who attended the site for the most recent planning applications have been sent with the application.
- CL4. Cemetery.
Chris Willet has been asked if he can advise on the best options for the wall around the 1970's Cemetery; however he is understood to be very busy. It was suggested that Jonathon Poole may be able to help if Chris is unable to.
The old part of the Cemetery, around the Chapel is not registered with the Land Registry. Willie Hartley Russell was contacted and said he believed it belonged to Bucklebury Estate. Mrs. Frankum has been to the Berkshire Records Office and copies of minutes and a mortgage for the laying out and provision of a burial ground have been obtained. The Clerk has forwarded this information to Roger Taylor of Hedleys Solicitors who do a lot of work for Parish Councils and he is of the opinion that there is sufficient evidence to put a case together for the Land Registry. He has sent a quote of £500 plus VAT for the application (assuming there are no objectors) with an addition £80 for the Land Registry (on the grounds of lost deeds). It was agreed that the Clerk should instruct Hedleys to carry out the work. Informing Willie Hartley Russell of the application was discussed and it was agreed that BPC should write to him as soon as the application is made to the Land Registry. HP
- CL5. Chapel Row Culvert.
Water is still puddling on the road and not running off onto the Common due to a slight curb. It was suggested that a grating into the gully below might be the best solution. The Clerk will contact WBC about the matter. HP
- CL6. Enforcement.
A question was asked about whether there had been any update from the WBC Enforcement team on Autumn House, Byles Green or Chestnut Cottage in Bucklebury village in relation to the use of agricultural land as domestic curtilage. Mr. Pask said he would respond to this question in his report.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

- CO1. Traffic Regulation Orders(TROs) – Ramsbury Corner.
Replacement signs have been put up where they had been removed, although the TROs actually expired on the 31st December 2015. The new TROs which run for six months have not yet come into effect due to various consultations.
Land to the west of Holly Lane which is not part of Bucklebury Common and is believed to be in different ownership is also being used by 4x4s. There was some discussion about whether the owner was aware or not and who the owner was. Mrs. Cairns agreed to go and talk to the residents of Beggars Folly, the first house on the right as you go into Cold Ash who it is believed own the land.
- CO2. Community Assets.
There has been no progress with the application for Peach's Store to be made a Community Asset. Mrs. Cairns was waiting for a plan of the site from the owners of the freehold via Mr. Shingadia. Mrs. Cairns was under the impression that the owners needed to be notified of the application, however this is not the case; they are notified by WBC once the application has been approved by WBC.
Mrs. Clarke agreed to start preparing the application for the Cottage Inn to be made a Community Asset.

Signature

Date

CO3. Swilly Hole.

Having been empty in early December, the swilly hole is now full of water. The grating in the road near the swilly hole has lifted, but there is some question as to whether someone has done this on purpose to enable more water to flow down, or whether it was caused by the force of the water coming up.

It was noted that there are 3 trees in the gully opposite the Swilly hole; the Clerk will report these to WBC.

HP

CO4. Burdens Heath.

It was noted that where The Ridge used to flood at the southern end of The Slade it has not been flooded this winter. This is the result of work carried out by WBC which was initiated by BPC.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 15/03328/HOUSE Pear Tree Cottage, Byles Green.
& 15/03329/LBC2 *Single storey extension with open deck in the roof space.*
It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application, but did comment that the land to south, shown as being in the same curtilage is agricultural rather than domestic.
- P2. 15/03350/HOUSE Marywell, Chapel Row.
Comprehensive renovations including part single, part two-storey extensions, alterations to existing roofs and fenestration, internal alterations and associated works.
It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P3. 15/03382/HOUSE 37 Mortons Lane.
Conversion of existing loft space to additional habitable accommodation.
BPC has **no objection** to this planning application.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

- P4. 15/03104/HOUSE Cherry Orchard Cottage, Hatch Lane.
& 15/03106/LBC2 *Single storey extension and re-positioning entrance gates. New rooflights and external stair to garage.*
BPC had **no objection** to these applications which have been **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 15/02743/HOUSE Hopgoods Farm Cottage.
& 15/02753/LBC2 *Removal of greenhouse and replace with a summerhouse.*
BPC had **no objection** to these applications which have been **approved** by WBC.
- P6. 15/02959/HOUSE Butlers Orchard, Bucklebury.
Erection of two storey extension to existing dwelling to form residential annex, erection of porch and insertion of four dormer windows to north elevation.
BPC **objected** to this application on the grounds of the increase in size, however it has been **approved** by WBC because more emphasis was placed on the design than the size of the increase.
- P7. 15/02315/FULD Peachs Garage, Long Grove.
Retrospective: Change of use from garage service (sui generis) to residential dwelling.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P8. 15/02838/HOUSE Paxton House, Sadgrove Lane.
Alterations and extensions to dwelling including conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.
BPC **objected** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

Signature

Date

- P9. 15/02719/HOUSE Denbar, Turners Green.
Erection of detached garage/store to front of house.
 BPC **objected** to this application which was **invalid**.
- P10. 15/02593/FUL Midgham Croft Cottage, Midgham Green
Section 73: Removal of Condition 3 – Code for Sustainable Homes of approved reference 13/02955/FUL: Demolition of house and outbuildings. New four bedroomed house. Reconstruction of garage and store to form studio.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P11. 15/02684/HOUSE Birchwood, Burdens Heath.
1st floor side extension to include garage conversion and replace flat roof with a tiled roof.
Amendment: hipped roof, both ends & extension reduced in size.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P12. 15/01560/FULD 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 which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P13. 15/02340/FULD – Fifield Farm, Marlston.
Demolition of existing out-buildings and barn and replacement by proposed erection of a dwelling.
 BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** by the Eastern Area Planning Committee. Their decision has been taken to appeal by the applicants with a start date of 17/12/2015.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC1. Budget.

The Government settlement is worse than has been expected and as a result an additional four million pounds of savings will have to be made. The settlement has been challenged with the 3 MP's who represent the area. Mr. Pask commented that it was difficult to know where else cuts can be made without effecting frontline services.

Enforcement.

The Enforcement team has two officers covering the whole of the area. Last year 600 cases were reported to them of which only 400 were pursued due to staffing issues.

Kennet School Bus.

It is now planned that Dominic Boeck, Graham Pask and Mrs. Hillerton will walk from Upper Bucklebury to Kennet School along the route proposed by WBC on Friday afternoon.

TOPICS

T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

A number of councillors had asked whether BPC were likely to receive a bill from Field Seymour Clarke solicitors for the transfer of the Meadow. The Clerk has confirmed that Simon Taylor was of the opinion that payment had been settled already, but he was going to check the file.

BPC is waiting for vehicular access to the northern entrance off Byles Green to be confirmed.

T2. Defibrillators.

The defibrillator at Peach's store is due to be installed on Thursday 14th January at

Signature

Date

10.30am. The official unveiling of the defibrillator was discussed and it was agreed that this would take place in a few weeks' time when Mrs. Shingadia has returned home. The defibrillator for the Victory Room is on order. To date £1,343 has been raised, including £580 from the Carol service in the Congregational Chapel. It was agreed that Mrs. Hillerton would write a thankyou note to Mr. and Mrs. Eggleton and Mrs. Shelia Kent for organising it.

A question was asked about whether it would be possible for the donations to be matched by Greenham Common Trust and whether Heartstart Thatcham had requested any grants. Mrs. Hillerton agreed to take up this matter with Heartstart Thatcham. The boxes containing the defibrillators have a label on them indicating who owns them and who has funded them, it was agreed that this should include BPC for those in Bucklebury.

There was a discussion about the training courses in CPR and use of the defibrillator. It was felt that it would be beneficial if teenagers were trained. A possibility might be to offer training to the Guides, Rangers and Scouts. BPC agreed to cover the cost of hall rental for any such sessions if required.

FINANCE

F1. To ratify the budget for FY16/17.

The budget (see end of these minutes) was unanimously approved by those present.

F2. To set the precept for FY16/17.

A precept of £25,000 was unanimously approved; this is the same as FY15/16.

F3. Cheques signed by Councillors:

The Victory Room	£70.00	Rent for 2016 Planning meetings.
SSE Contracting Ltd	£18.96	Streetlight maintenance.
Post Office Ltd	£17.36	Streetlight supply 24/9/2015 – 23/12/2015.
Greenbarnes Ltd.	£1,747.78	Peach's & Victory Room noticeboards.
P.W.Frankum	£26.65	Various expenses.
Helen Pratt	£554.27	Clerk's December salary.
1 st Bucklebury Brownies	£60.00	Grant – see Dec'15 minute T2.
Heartstart Thatcham	£1,658.10	Defibrillator for outside Peach's store.

F4. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£24,498.14	
Lloyds Current Account:	£31,060.71	On 16/12/2015.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,548.09	On 1/10/2015.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£5,551.72	On 1/10/2015.

REPORTS

R1. Footpath BUCK 122/1 Hillfoot to Hillfoot Farm.

It has previously been reported that this footpath has become overgrown. It was agreed that Mrs. Clarke would make an inspection of the path prior to potentially organising a working party to clear it.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

C1. Copies of Upstream were distributed.

Signature

Date

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Gate at the Back of the Playpark.

It was noted that the gate at the back of the Playpark has come off its hinges; it was suggested that longer screws are required. This will be reported to Mike Scholl.

RT2. Emergency Training.

CCB have obtained funding to run training on the use of Village Halls and Community Buildings in the case of emergencies. It was agreed that Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Cairns will attend.

RT3. Gate Adjacent to 32 Broad Lane.

Mr. Banks asked if the owners of 32 Broad Lane were aware that the kissing gate was their responsibility. The Clerk commented that she had had a conversation with them and forwarded them information about what they needed to do. It was agreed that this would be forwarded to Mr. Banks.

RT4. Board Walk Below Osgoods Gully.

The state of this board walk has already been reported to WBC because it is dangerous. It was felt that the more people who reported it, the sooner repairs might be made.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

NEXT BPC MEETING:

7.45pm Monday 8th February 2016 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date

Budget

BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL				
BUDGET 2016/17				
Ser.	Item	Budget 2015/16	Expected ecy	Proposed Budget
	General Expenditure	(inflation 1.3%)		
1	Clerk's salary	6,651.18	6,661.24	8,717.76
2	Clerk's expenses	405.20	367.00	288.88
3		-	-	600.00
4	The Oaks	1,543.61	1,000.00	1,200.00
5	Advertisements	-	-	-
6	Annual Audit	607.80	340.00	242.40
7	Insurance	974.32	607.05	688.83
8	Street Lighting	358.37	143.01	145.25
9	Hockett Field	354.55	00.00	80.80
10	Meadows maintenance	12,200.00	222.30	12,200.00
11	Sundry	517.64	300.00	202.00
12	Training	310.59	100.00	300.00
13	General Maintenance	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
14	Bus Shelter cleaning	167.99	160.00	161.60
15	Web site design/maintenance	103.53	-	100.00
16	Rent of halls for meetings etc.	310.59	300.00	140.00
17	Rights of way maintenance	500.00	-	600.00
18	U. Bucklebury Playpark insurance/inspection	1,785.00	1,706.00	1,785.00
19	CCTV Camera	500.00	-	-
20	Noticeboards	-	1,747.78	-
21	Defibrillators	-	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Cemetery & Chapel			
22	Maintenance	2,588.22	1,495.04	1,800.00
23	Clearance work	-	1,000.00	-
24	Interment costs	-	72.00	-
25	Cemetery Wall & Chapel Cocks	1,000.00	-	2,000.00
	Donations / Subs.			
26	BALC (Berks/Leic Association of Local Councils)	350.00	432.43	620.00
27	CPRE (Campaigns Protection Rural England)	100.00	100.00	100.00
28	GLEAM	15.00	15.00	16.00
29	CCB	50.00	30.00	30.00
30	West Berkshire Countryside Society (Pang Valley Conservation Volunteers, Bucklebury Heathland, Pang Valley Conservation & Advice)	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,100.00
	Donations			
31	YOUTH	750.00	800.00	760.00
32	St Martins Club	300.00	300.00	300.00
33	St Martins Club (Gilesey)	500.00	600.00	600.00
34	Berkshire County Blind Society	75.00	75.00	75.00
35	NWN Over 80+ Parcel fund	85.00	100.00	100.00
	Other Expenditure			
36	Parish Plan	100.00	-	50.00
37	Parish Council election expenses	1,500.00	200.00	-
		36,703.59	22,416.04	36,288.28
	Capital projects in parish			
38	Memorial Hall Grant	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
40	Victory Rooms	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
41	Victory Rooms - carried forwards from previous yrs	11,255.95	17,269.95	18,269.95
	TOTALS	54,963.54	40,676.99	68,628.24
	Estimated balances of bank 31/3/2016			
42	Lloyds Treasurers account	15,093.12	22,498.14	
43	Scottish Widows reserves	37,473.02	37,600.00	
44	Scottish Widows Gilroy	5,535.17	5,067.72	
		58,101.31	42,649.81	
	Income			
45	Capital Interest			120.00
46	Cemetery	1,000.00	-	800.00
47	DWH	12,200.00	-	12,200.00
48	Precept	25,000.00	26,000.00	26,000.00
49	Amount to be withdrawn from Gilroy	500.00	600.00	600.00
50	Amount to be withdrawn from reserves			5,000.00
		38,700.00	26,600.00	43,420.00
	Total Income plus Lloyds etc			86,818.14
	Precept:			
	2016			
	2015	25,000.00		
	2014	25,000.00		
	2013	24,500.00		
	2012	24,000.00		

Signature

Date