

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. A. Aldridge.

OTHERS

Stephen Manson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of Interest on any Agenda Items.

Mrs. Hillerton declared an interest in planning application 16/00638/HOUSE for 27 Broad Lane.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Removal of the Bucklebury to Kennet School Bus.

The budgetary constraints have led WBC to make the decision to cut the Bucklebury to Kennet School bus from September 2016. Between April and July 2016, the transitional budget is being used to provide a service which is supplemented by parental contributions. Any service which WBC might provide would cost £684 per pupil, per year, with no discount for siblings.

The meeting was **closed** for Steve Manson to speak.

Mr. Manson has investigated the possibility of the purchase of a minibus to provide a shuttle service to and from Thatcham (either Bradley Moore Square or the gravel carpark opposite the Blue Coat Chapel) from Upper Bucklebury for the pupils of Kennet School. A mini bus is expected to cost in the region of £4,000. There are currently 70 pupils using the school bus who may be interested in a minibus service. It is estimated the minibus service would cost £250 per pupil with a reduction for siblings.

There was a discussion with parish councillors about who would be responsible for the mini-bus, where it would be kept, the possibility of a leasehold vehicle (although this would cost significantly more) and whether it might be possible to enable pupils travelling from Thatcham to Bucklebury Primary School to have places on the return journeys back to Upper Bucklebury. There was a discussion about smaller passenger vehicles belonging to WBC which may be surplus to requirements and whether these might be available. It was suggested to Mr. Manson that he write an article for the May edition of The Oaks.

The meeting was **reopened**.

There was a discussion about how much BPC could afford to support the initiative. There was a feeling that something in the order of £500 could be afforded for each of the next two years would be a starting point.

PS2. Planning Application 16/00605/HOUSE for 39 Roundfield.

For minutes on this application, please refer to the Planning section of these minutes.

Signature .....

Date .....

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

**CR1. Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations.**

Mrs. Frankum reported that an event to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday will be held at Bucklebury Farm Park on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 6.00pm to 9.00pm. This will be subsidised and organised by the Bucklebury Events Committee.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

**CL1. Clearance of Land off Carbinswood Lane.**

The Clerk confirmed, after consulting both Mr. Hartley Russell and the WBC map showing Common land that the land in question is registered Common land. Mr. Hartley Russell has been alerted to the concerns about the clearance which has taken place and the matter has been passed to him as the landowner to deal with.

**CL2. Gate Posts on The Avenue.**

The proximity of the deer warning sign and the left turn sign (into Hungerford Lane) in relation to the new oak gate posts, marking the site of the old wood gate and commemorating the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge has been reported to WBC. They have responded that they have looked at the positioning of the signs but are not willing to move them.

**CL4. Cemetery Registration.**

The Clerk reported that she has returned a "Statement of Truth" on behalf of BPC which will be sent off to the Land Registry for registration of the old Cemetery.

**COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**CO1. Emergency Plan.**

Mrs. Clarke commented that she had written to WBC about whether a simpler plan than the one originally suggested would be sufficient. Once this is known, work on the new plan can proceed.

LC

**CO1. 4x4 and Motorbike abuse of the Common.**

During a second Police operation, a number of motorcycles were stopped; however all of them proved to be legal.

Concern was raised about the usage of 4x4 vehicles on the byway alongside Hillfoot House (BUCK 81/1). Tyre tracks leading to the Pang near the main ford suggest that vehicles are again driving in and out of the river; it was agreed that the Clerk would talk to Sally Wallington about this.

HP

**CO2. Community Assets.**

Mrs. Cairns reported that she has submitted the application for Peach's stores to be made a Community Asset, but needs to get more evidence about the benefit it is to the community to support the application. It was agreed that if each councillor could get support of Peach's stores from neighbours this would strengthen the case significantly.

Mrs. Cairns will draft a questionnaire. There was a discussion about carrying out a survey of those using Peach's stores and the different ways this could be done.

HC/  
All

Parishioners need to understand what a Community Asset is. It was therefore suggested that this is raised at the Annual Assembly and that an article is written for The Oaks;

Mrs. Clarke agreed to do this.

LC

The application for The Cottage Inn to be made a Community Asset will be made once the application for Peach's Store has been determined.

**PLANNING**

Planning applications to be considered:

**P1. 16/00638/HOUSE 27 Broad Lane.**

Signature .....

Date .....

*Demolition of existing single storey side extension and erection of new two storey side extension, front façade renovation and replacement of existing conservatory single storey lean-to extension.*

P2. 16/00605/HOUSE It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.  
39 Roundfield.

*Proposed two storey rear extension creating larger ground floor living space and 2 new bedrooms and bathrooms at first floor level. New front access and parking. Remove brick built garden store and reposition oil tank.*

The meeting was **closed** for Mr. Manson to speak.

Mr. Manson raised concerns about the depth of the extension and that it would extend further than other extensions on that side of the road. He also commented that the existing extensions are similar in style, incorporating mansard roofs, but this extension is different.

The meeting was **reopened**.

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P3. 15/03261/LBC2 Cherry Orchard Cottage, Hatch Lane.

*Carefully strip and set aside plain tile roof covering, remove battens and dispose, inspect roof structure for timber decay and undertake rafter repair/replacement as agreed in similar material. Fit breather underlay and new pre treated tile battens. Reinstate roof covering set aside with matching reclaimed tiles as necessary to replace any breakages.*

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

P4. 16/00150/HOUSE Copperstones, Little Lane.

*Single and two storey rear extension.*

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

P5. 16/00359/HOUSE Dalnuston, Carbinswood Lane.

*Single storey front extension.*

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

P6. 16/00336/FUL Greenwood, Hatch Lane.

*Section 73: Variation of conditions 2: Approved plans, 3: Materials, of permission 15/02274/FUL: Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) and Condition 7 (Ecological mitigation scheme) of approved application 13/02860/FUL.*

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

P7. 15/03356/MINMAJ Hartshill Copse, Burdens Heath (Adjacent Parish).

*Section 73. Variation of condition 2 (time period of operations) of the appeal decision APP/U0300/A/88/93423 into planning application 125420 – Extraction of hoggin from Land adjoining Harts Hill Road, to enable a satisfactory restoration scheme to be agreed, implemented and completed.*

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

Signature .....

Date .....

- P8. Application 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 WBC. The decision of WBC was taken to appeal and the appeal inspector has **allowed** the appeal, thereby granting permission.
- P9. Imagion, Upper Bucklebury.  
 A parishioner has raised concerns to Mrs. Frankum about the proximity of the extension being built at Imagion to properties in Burdens Heath. Mrs. Frankum will visit the resident and check if the extension is being built in accordance with the plans. WF

#### DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

- DC1 The planning application for the solar farm in Stanford Dingley has still not been determined; however an application for a solar farm at Sulhampstead has been refused by the Eastern Area Planning Committee.  
 Mr. Pask was asked to look into the justification for approving planning application 15/02959/HOUSE for Butlers Orchard which was a significant increase in the size of the original dwelling.  
 Councillors asked whether the proposed walk from Upper Bucklebury to Kennet School had taken place with Mr. Pask and Dominic Boeck (WB Councillor for Education). Mr. Pask replied that although the meeting was planned on 3 separate occasions, Mr. Boeck was unable to make the times or dates proposed. Mr. Boeck did attend the meeting held at Bucklebury Primary School.  
 Councillors raised concerns that the WBC budget included an increase in pension contributions even though so many services are being cut. Mr. Pask commented that WBC had little choice on the pension contributions as they are a statutory obligation.

#### TOPICS

- T1. Bucklebury Meadows.  
 The Clerk reported that she has been informed that Andrew Waters, the former tenant of the meadows had very recently returned the statement of surrender to DHW's solicitors. Discussions have started on confirming the access from Byles Green; Field Seymour Parks LPP have prepared a map showing the route of the access and are preparing a statement for Mr. Waters to sign stating that he has used the access, uninterrupted since 1990.
- T2. Cemetery.  
 A new table of fees and updated rules and regulations for the Cemetery has been prepared by the Burial Board. These were approved by BPC and will come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016. It was delegated to the Burial Board to inspect the size of existing memorials on cremation plots and potentially change the maximum size allowed in the new Rules and Regulations.
- T3. Annual Assembly – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016.  
 Heartstart Thatcham will be attending the Annual Parish Assembly and will be carrying out demonstrations. It was agreed that John Clarke should be asked to speak on the progress of the redevelopment of the Victory Room. There was a strong feeling that Mr. Manson should also be present to give a brief summary of the proposal for the minibus service for Kennet pupils.  
 The PCSO Sarah Preston will also be invited to attend.
- T4. Defibrillators.  
 The defibrillator for the Victory Room has been ordered and once the installation details have been confirmed should be ready to be installed.  
 It was agreed that a cheque can be written to Heartstart Thatcham for the defibrillator at The Bladebone in Chapel Row as soon as the site has been checked out.

Signature .....

Date .....

There have been discussions about various sites in The Slade for a defibrillator, each raising various issues, mainly relating to the power supply.

## FINANCE

F1.	<u>Cheques signed since the last meeting:</u>		
	Wellers Hedley	£130.00	Land Registration fee for the Cemetery.
	West Berkshire Council	£770.00	Planning Application for the Victory Room.
F1.	<u>Cheques signed by Councillors:</u>		
	Post Office Ltd	£17.90	Streetlight supply 24/12/2015 – 29/3/2016.
	SSE Contracting Ltd	£18.96	Streetlight maintenance contract.
	BALC	£516.56	Annual Membership.
	Came and Company	£582.77	Insurance.
	S. Cornell	£40.00	Bus shelter cleaning: January, February and March 2016.
	Helen Pratt	£554.27	Clerk's March salary.
F4.	<u>To review current balances and financial position.</u>		
	Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£20,371.29	
	Lloyds Current Account:	£24,039.82	On 18/3/2016.
	Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,585.89	On 1/1/2016.
	Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£5,557.31	On 1/1/2016.

## REPORTS

- R1. District Parish Conference.  
 Mr. Dickens reported that the District Parish Conference had started with a short introduction to the council budget for the year. Consideration was then given to the changing role of councils and how the current employee structure is no longer tenable with fewer and fewer employees. Community spirit needs to be developed. During a discussion, it was suggested that some planning matters could be devolved to parishes (planning lite). There was also a suggestion that parishes could work together more. Mrs. Frankum thanked Mr. Dickens, Mrs. Cairns and Mrs. Clarke for attending. Mrs. Clarke had picked up a copy of "A New Councillor Guide" available from BALC, which she said was very informative. It was agreed that the Clerk would order a copy for each member of BPC and reimburse Mrs. Clarke for her copy.
- R2. Memorial Hall.  
 Mrs. Frankum reported that she had received an email from Mr. Scholl about the AGM of the Memorial Hall in May. At the AGM committee members and trustees are appointed. Mr. Dunkerton has decided that he would rather not stand on the committee. Mr. Dickens agreed to join the committee and stand on the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the period of one year. Mr. Brims will continue to represent BPC.
- R3. Victory Room.  
 Mrs. Clarke reported that the planning application for the new Victory Room has been submitted to WBC.
- R4. School Bus Meeting.  
 Mrs. Hillerton and Mrs. Frankum attended a meeting organised by Mrs. Suzie Poole to discuss the WBC proposals to cut the Kennet School bus. The meeting was for the parents and carers of pupils who catch the existing bus. Various members of WBC and the Chairman of Kennet School Board of Governors attended the meeting at Bucklebury

HP

Signature .....

Date .....

Primary School. Concern was raised by parents that pupils will walk along Harts Hill Road which is considered to be very dangerous. The alternative which would cost £684.00 per pupil per year is too expensive for some parents to afford.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

- C1. CPRE – The Field work news sheet was made available to councillors.
- C2. West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS) - The Upstream magazine was distributed to councillors.
- C3. Network Rail Safety Notice – Notification has been received that from the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016, the overhead lines and associated infrastructure along the Great Western railway should be treated as “live” at all times.
- C7. Thatcham Town Council – The Town Council has agreed to support the continuance of bus services 101, 104 and 105 and wishes to work with those parishes affected. The Town Council has written a letter to WBC and is asking that a meeting be organised to consider the options. Each parish affected has been asked if they can send a representative. It was agreed that BPC should send a representative to any such meeting.

#### ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

##### RT1. Flood Liaison.

Mrs. Clarke commented that she should no longer be on the list as a Flood Liaison representative as Mr. Allison attends all the meetings.

##### RT2. The Ridge.

A resident of The Slade has raised concerns about the trees which are on The Ridge on the south side of the ditch which has been cleared on The Ridge. The resident considered the trees to be of a sufficient size to cause serious injury if not death if a car hit them.

##### RT3. Peach’s Garage Forecourt.

Mr. Dunkerton reported that Glyn Davis (WBC) has written to the garage owner and warned him that unless he receives a response, lines will be painted on the forecourt of the garage to mark the pavement.

##### RT4. Parking by the Saab Garage.

The Police are still looking into this matter.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

**Next BPC Meeting:**

**7.45pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Memorial Hall.**

**Annual Parish Assembly:**

**8pm Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Memorial Hall.**

Signature .....

Date .....