

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 9th May 2016 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford; Mr. A. Dunkerton; Mr. A. Aldridge; Mr. Q. Webb (District Councillor).

OTHERS

Mike Scholl.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

E1. Election of a Chair.

Mr. Dickens proposed that Mrs. Frankum be Chair of BPC; this was seconded by Mrs. Clarke and unanimously agreed.

E2. Election of a Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Clarke proposed that Mr. Dickens be Vice Chairman of BPC; this was seconded by Mrs. Hillerton and unanimously agreed.

E3. Chairman's Acceptance of Office.

Mrs. Frankum signed her declaration of acceptance of office to the position of Chairman.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Memorial Hall.

Mr. Scholl commented that the minutes of the BPC meeting held in December 2015 implied that BPC were not completely happy about how the grant made to the Memorial Hall was being used. BPC replied that because they are publically accountable, they needed to know how the grant was being spent; to resolve this issue, copies of invoices for work carried out using the grant had been requested and subsequently received.

Concern was specifically raised about Health and Safety aspects of the Playpark and BMX track which had not been attended to for some period of time. Mr. Scholl commented that previous RoSPR inspections (prior to the 2016 inspection) had not found any issues of high risk and therefore no work had previously been thought necessary.

It was noted that there had been a number of minor accidents on the BMX track caused by the damaged surface. Mr. Scholl commented that the Memorial Hall Committee had obtained a quote to replace the surface of the BMX track for £5,000 from the company who originally installed it. The surface is composed of compacted stones covered in a finer material. The company also offered an annual maintenance contract for the BMX track.

The ramp on the Emergency Exit to the rear of the Oak Room was supposed to be replaced due to it being impractical for wheelchair users and issues with the concrete slabs with which the ramp is surfaced. It has transpired that Brandt Windows can reinstall the doors closer to the edge of the brickwork, so that they will open further than 90°, thus enabling a wheelchair to negotiate the space available on the ramp more easily. The concrete slabs on the ramp will be removed.

The picnic bench in the Playpark, which has had the plank seats pulled off will be replaced with an oak picnic bench Mr. Scholl has in his garden.

D.T. Leisure will be repairing 2 holes which have been worn at the base of the slide.

Mr. Scholl was asked what the insurance of £838.71 covered. Mr. Scholl thought this covered just the BMX track, but it may also cover the Playpark.

Two members of BPC are on the Memorial Hall Committee, so information should be received by BPC.

Mrs. Frankum thanked Mr. Scholl for coming to the meeting.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

Members reviewed their declarations of interest; no amendments were made.

Mr. Brims declared an interest in planning application 16/00789/HOUSE for 39 Hillfoot having discussed it with the applicant prior to it being submitted to WBC.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 11th April 2016.

The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 11th April 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

Representatives on Outside Bodies

CR1. The following appointments were made to represent BPC on other bodies:

Memorial Hall Committee	John Brims and Barry Dickens.
Victory Room Committee	John Brims and Lindy Clarke.
Commons Advisory Committee	Tim Slatford and Alan Dunkerton. (Reserves: Hilary Cairns and Wynne Frankum).
Recreation Ground Committee	Lindy Clarke.
Chapel Row Patient Participation Group	Barry Dickens.
West Berkshire Heritage Forum	Wynne Frankum, Hilary Cairns, Anne Hillerton and Lindy Clarke.

COMMITTEES AND POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

CR1. The following committee membership and posts of responsibility were agreed:

Burial Board	Wynne Frankum; John Brims; Barry Dickens; Alan Dunkerton; The Clerk.
Planning Committee	All members of BPC.
Hockett Field and Bucklebury Meadow	Wynne Frankum; Barry Dickens; Tim Slatford; Alan Dunkerton; Anne Hillerton; The Clerk.
The Oaks	Wynne Frankum; Lindy Clarke; Anne Hillerton; The Clerk.
Emergency Plan	Lindy Clarke; Wynne Frankum; Alan Dunkerton; The Clerk.
Parish Plan	Lindy Clarke; Wynne Frankum.
Police and the Community	Tim Slatford; Alan Dunkerton; Tim Banks; The Clerk.
Flood Liaison	Piers Allison (as a parishioner and Vice Chairman of the Pang Valley Flood Forum (PVFF)); John Brims.
Footpaths	Lindy Clarke; Tim Banks; Hilary Cairns.
Website	Tim Banks and Ian Pratt.

Signature

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CHAIR'S REPORT

CR1. The Oaks.

Mrs. Frankum thanked the Clerk and Mrs. Clarke for the recent edition of The Oaks, which has been distributed to all of the houses in the parish.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Planning Issues.

The Clerk reported that she had written to the Little Lane residents who converted the flat roof of the dormer window on the front of their property to a pitch roof and suggested that they may need planning permission and advised them to contact the Planning Department at WBC. The residents have advised the Clerk that they had already spoken to the Planning Department and understood that they didn't require planning permission.

It was suggested that the Clerk contact the Planning Department and confirm this.

A small two storey extension is being built at Kilcreggan, Mount Pleasant. No planning application has been made for this property in recent years. It was agreed that the Clerk would consult with the Planning Department about whether or not this was likely to need planning permission.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

CO1. Emergency Plan.

Mrs. Clarke reported that she had received a copy of Theale's Emergency Plan, which she felt would be a useful document to use as a template for Bucklebury. It was agreed that copies would be circulated amongst those on the Emergency Plan Working Group. A meeting of the Emergency Plan Working Party has been organised for the 3rd June.

HP

CO2. Community Assets.

Mrs. Cairns reported that she had carried out a survey at Peach's Store asking users of Peach's how they valued the store and whether they valued it as a service of the community. The results were very supportive. There was a discussion about whether the new evidence should be sent off with the application, or whether to wait for more evidence from the Parish Assembly. It was agreed to wait until after the Parish Assembly at which a brief questionnaire would be distributed to gain more evidence of support for Peach's Store as a community asset.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 16/00789/HOUSE 39 Hillfoot.
Single storey extension to bungalow plus adding 1/2 storey.
It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P2. 16/00859/HOUSE Indala, Burdens Heath.
Proposed rear conservatory.
It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P3. 16/01056/FUL Ivinghoe, Stanford Dingley (Adjacent Parish).
Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling.
The replacement dwelling is 2 stories, with a rendered ground floor, cedar clad 1st floor and flat roof. The site is very visible across the Pang Valley and particularly from Bucklebury Road.
All the applications for Sunridge, Bucklebury Road (a similar location visible from Ivinghoe) with an increase in excess of 85% were refused; this application has an increase of 220% in footprint and 370% in volume. BPC view this as massive overdevelopment of the site. The design is not in keeping with the rural nature of the area. There was also a view that

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- the eastern half of the plot was not within the domestic curtilage having previously contained an orchard. It was unanimously agreed that BPC **object** to this application.
- P4. 16/01063/AGRIC Fifield Farm.
Proposed new agricultural building.
It was agreed that BPC should **comment** on the history of Fifield Farm and that a recent application to demolish barns and build a new dwelling was approved for the site.
- P5. 16/01116/AGRIC Bushnells Green Farm.
Agricultural barn.
It was agreed that BPC has **no comment** to make on this application.
- Planning decisions made by WBC:
- P6. 16/00638/HOUSE 27 Broad Lane.
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.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P7. 16/00523/FULD Marywell, Chapel Row.
Demolition of existing house and construction of a replacement dwelling and associated works.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P8. 16/00172/FULD Kings Copse Bungalow, Southend.
Replacement bungalow.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P9. 15/02076/COMIND Mazelands Farm, Burnt Hill Road, Stanford Dingley (Adjacent Parish).
Construction of a solar energy park to include the installation of solar panels, security fencing, transformer housing, access and other associated works.
BPC **objected** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC1. Councillors had previously questioned Mr. Pask on why the recent planning application for Butlers Orchard (15/02959/HOUSE) had been approved with an increase in footprint of 90%. The justification for approval was based on the previous extensions having been built a significant time ago and when this application was submitted was not considered to be out of keeping with the property.

The new Local Development Plan will be reviewed by inspectors at the end of June/beginning of July.

WBC has obtained £217,000 from the “pot hole fund”; this money is specifically to fill pot holes in local roads. Those present were encouraged to report any pot holes they came across. It was noted that there is a significant delay between the pot holes being surveyed/marked and subsequently being filled. Pot holes which form near already marked pot holes are not filled when the workmen fill the marked pot holes which is frustrating.

Mr. Pask and Mr. Webb took Nick Carter (the Chief Executive of WBC) around Bucklebury and showed him some of the problems in the parish; he hadn’t appreciated quite how many rural roads there are in the parish!

Flooding on Marlston Road beyond Fifield Farm was raised as an issue (this is actually in Hermitage parish).

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TOPICS

T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

There was no update on progress with the transfer.

T2. Annual Assembly – Friday 20th May 2016.

It was arranged that Mr. Banks would purchase wine and orange juice and Mrs. Frankum nibbles. Mrs. Hillerton and Mrs. Dunkerton would be asked to serve the refreshments. An exhibition is being prepared by Kennet School for the replacement Victory Room; hopefully these will be ready in time for the Assembly. A speaker from the Victory Room committee will explain the proposals and be available to answer questions at the end of the meeting.

T3. Bucklebury Vision.

The Clerk reported that there are no more hard copies of Bucklebury Vision. Mike James has kindly found and supplied an electronic draft, however without work this is not of sufficient quality to enable a new print run to be undertaken. It was noted that the statistics at the back of Bucklebury Vision are somewhat out of date and that this might be a sensible time to update them. However, if updates are made there is a concern that the new document might not maintain its standing in terms of Supplementary Planning Policy? It was agreed that advice should be sought from the WBC Planning Department.

T4 Vehicular misuse of the Common.

The Commons Advisory Committee has recommended that the best way forward with vehicular misuse in the area above Osgoods Holding is the use of covert CCTV. It was agreed Mrs. Cairns would email Simon Barnet (BBOWT) about possible management of a camera and use of the images if BPC were to purchase a camera. Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC purchase a camera (costing approximately £435 plus VAT) for covert use on the Common and elsewhere in the parish where the need arises. This was seconded by Mr. Brims and unanimously agreed. HC

It was noted that 4x4 vehicles are using Holly Lane during the evenings and driving over the grass in front of Holly Farm spraying the picket fence with mud. Byway BUCK 81/1 (Briffons, Scotland Corner to Hillfoot) was reported to be in very bad condition and barely passable due to mud and very deep ruts. It was agreed that this should be reported to Elaine Cox. HP

T5. Defibrillators.

The defibrillator at the Victory Room has very recently been installed. It needs to be registered so that the Emergency services will be able to direct people to use it; this should happen over the next few days.

Nick from Heartstart Thatcham will be attending the Annual Parish Assembly with a display and defibrillator where he will be able to talk to parishioners about defibrillators and answer any questions they may have.

A site visit needs to be made to Chapel Row to check exactly where and how the defibrillator will be installed.

A location for the defibrillator in The Slade is still causing problems; a gate post, which has an electricity supply has been suggested as has a barn.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:

The Alpha Xperience	£299.00	Printing of the May edition of The Oaks.
GLEAM	£15.00	Annual membership.
Helen Pratt	£554.27	Clerk’s March salary.

F4. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: £32,465.38

Signature

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Lloyds Current Account:	£21,976.81	On the 20 th April 2016.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,623.32	On the 1 st April 2016.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£5,562.84	On the 1 st April 2016.

REPORTS

R1. Commons Advisory Committee.

Mr. Dunkerton had written a report which was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. In summary, the parking of cars by the Saab garage in the carpark at the top of Briff Lane was being investigated and it was likely a notice would be served on the owners banning them from using the carpark. Work would take place on the surface and the height barriers of the car parks on the Common. It was decided that the area above Osgoods Holding should be monitored by CCTV making any prosecutions much simpler. Mr. Barnett (BBOWT) will liaise with WBC as to whether they have any suitable cameras available.

R2. Victory Room.

The planning application was submitted to WBC approximately 5 weeks ago; however it is still to be registered as there have been a few small problems. The application now includes the car park areas and the play park. As a result WBC and the Victory Room committee (owners of the land in question) have had to be served notice by BPC (the applicant).

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received:

C1. BT Community Fibre Partnership

BT has sent information about superfast Broadband services which they may be able to provide to the parish. It is understood that Gigaclear are providing superfast Broadband to the areas of the parish which don't yet have the service.

C2. Future of the 101, 104 and 105 bus services.

WBC has notified BPC of two options for the above bus services. The first option would not cost any additional funding from the parish and would enable users to spend 1 hour 30 minutes in Thatcham. The second option, requiring an extra minibus and therefore further funding would enable parishioners to spend a maximum of 1 hour in Newbury.

C3. Befriend West Berkshire.

A letter has been received announcing the launch of "Befriend West Berkshire" which will take place on Thursday 19th May between 10am and 12 noon in the Northbrook Street branch of Café Nero. Befriend West Berkshire will recruit and train volunteers to become befrienders to socially isolated people.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Parking by Saab Garage.

A number of local residents have complained about the difficulties caused by the parking in the section of road outside the Saab garage. This is understood to be in hand.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Next BPC Meeting:

7.45pm Monday 13th June 2016 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date