

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Held at the Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Stephen Manson; Peter Smith; David Southgate; Dan Musker (applicant for application 17/00313/HOUSE); PCSO Colin Reeves.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Cairns, Cllr. Aldridge and Robin Ranken.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

The minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by Cllr. Frankum.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

The minutes of the Bucklebury Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were agreed as correct and signed by Cllr. Dickens.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Planning application 17/00313/FUL – 43 Berry’s Road.

This item is minuted under the planning section of these minutes.

PS2. Policing in the Parish.

PCSO Colin Reeves is the PCSO responsible for rural crime, including hare coursing, fly tipping, poaching, rural burglary and offroading, in West Berkshire. PCSO Reeves is very concerned about the condition of the Holly Lane byway (BUCK 11) from Holly Farm to Coles Farm and feels that it is sufficiently dangerous to be closed.

PCSO Reeves would like to see rolling closures of byways. Many people would like to see the byways downgraded but this would meet with significant objection from the green lane movement.

There have been two significant cases of fly tipping in the area; one at Churn Road in Compton where approximately one and a half tonnes of material was dumped and then set on fire and secondly approximately two tonnes of material was dumped at Beenham Valance. In Bucklebury, concrete and asbestos were dumped on byway BUCK 67/5 just off Carbinswood Lane. A fine of £15,000 has recently been imposed on those who dumped 110 tyres on a restricted byway in High Copse (BUCK 18) last autumn.

PCSO Reeves asked if there were any questions for PCSO Sarah Preston who is the Bucklebury PCSO; there were none.

Cllr. Frankum thanked PCSO Reeves for attending the meeting.

CHAIR’S REPORT

CR1. Local Heritage Listing.

The application for local listing of the Pound at Hillfoot is being prepared by Susan Ellis and is nearly ready for submission. Cllr. Frankum is working on the application for the Cemetery Chapel.

Signature .....

Date .....

CR2. Bucklebury Veteran Tree Leaflet.

Cllr. Frankum has spoken informally to Dick Greenaway about funding for the leaflet and understands that the WBCS are happy to pursue funding. The Woodland Trust has given permission for the information they supplied previously to be used again.

The WBCS has created a halo round one of the oak trees featured in the leaflet near Bucklethwaite. Sally Wallington is going to inspect some of the remaining trees on the leaflet with Tim Culley with a view to the Heathland Group creating halos round them.

CR3. Bucklebury Meadows.

Geoff Miles has been updated with the progress which has been made in trying to resolve the outstanding issues surrounding the transfer of the meadows. Cllr. Frankum will continue to keep him updated.

CR4. Westrop Woods.

Westrop Woods (partially in Bucklebury Parish and partially in Cold Ash Parish) have been sold in several lots. Concern has been raised by Cold Ash residents about sections of the wood being fenced off making it impossible to walk on some paths (not Public Rights of Way). The issues are similar to those raised in Carbinswood several years ago. David Edwards Moss has purchased part of the land and has assured Cllr. Frankum that he has no intention of putting up fencing on his land.

CR5. Dog Bin in Fanny's Lane.

Tim Culley has contacted Cllr. Frankum after a contractor cut the gorse at Fanny's Lane. The contractor was significantly hindered by the number of plastic bags of dog poo suspended from the gorse bushes. Mr. Culley wondered if it was possible to have a dog bin in the Fanny's Lane carpark. The matter was discussed but given the precedent this would set for other laybys on the common it was decided to consider alternative courses of action.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Rhododendrons in the Cemetery.

Cllrs. Frankum and Dickens have drawn a plan of the rhododendrons they think should be cut back or removed in the Cemetery. The Clerk will arrange a site visit with them to check the plants against the plan before getting quotes.

CL2. Parking in the vicinity of the Saab Garage.

PCSO Sarah Preston has visited the garage and advised the owner of the issue. A "no parking" notice has now been put on the fence by the road.

CL3. Veteran Tree Leaflet.

Copies of the photographs of all the trees in the leaflet (except the two trees in Westrop Green) have now been sent to Dick Greenaway. Dick Ainsworth is gathering the GPS co-ordinates for all of the trees featured on the leaflet.

CL4. Water.

The main water pipe on Harts Hill burst near the pumping station on Friday evening (10<sup>th</sup> March). Much of Upper Bucklebury was without water for several hours. Once the leak had been identified Thames Water worked hard to fix it and put tankers in Broad Lane to keep the main topped up. However complaints were made to the engineers about the positioning of the traffic light warning signs on Harts Hill.

CL5. Parking for residents of 1, 2, 3 and 4 Roundfield.

A letter has been drafted for the residents concerned, asking them to park in the Ring. A copy of the letter will be sent to Thames Valley Police and Sovereign Housing.

CL6. Thames Water.

Gill Golding from Thames Water has told the Clerk that there are still points to be resolved with the acquisition of the land for the pumping station; however these are not expected to impact on the completion date for the installation of the new pump.

CL7. Chapel Row Culvert.

A drain into the culvert on the south side of the road is still required.

Signature .....

Date .....

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CL1. Footpath BUCK 122/1 Hillfoot to Hillfoot Farm.

Cllr. Clark reported that the original line of the footpath is blocked by fallen trees.

CL2. High speed Broadband.

Cllr. Banks reported that he didn't have an update on progress.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

P1. 17/00313/HOUSE 43 Berry's Road

*Two storey side extension.*

Cllr. Hillerton introduced the application.

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

P2. 17/00369/FUL

Land to the south of Cherry Orchard Cottage, Hatch Lane.

*New stable outbuilding.*

Cllr. Brims introduced this application which he had looked at with Cllr. Dickens. Cllr. Aldridge had also looked at the plans.

The site is 0.58 of a hectare; it was understood that 0.6 of a hectare is required per horse. This application is for 7 stables and 2 store rooms.

It was agreed that BPC would **object** to this application on the grounds that the site is very prominent, it is overdevelopment of a site with existing equestrian use and there is no mention of disposal of effluent. There is a lack of information to support the proposal.

It was noted that no orange notice had been put up at the site.

Planning decisions made by WBC and appeal notifications:

P3. 16/03521/CERTE Marlston Farm.

*Use of land as domestic garden.*

BPC made comments on this application for a certificate of lawfulness which has been **refused** by WBC.

P4. 16/03081/HOUSE Westrop Cottage, Westrop Green.

*Erection of a detached oak framed garage and garden office replacing existing outbuilding.*

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

P5. 16/01193/OUTD Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).

*Outline application for the demolition of Glenvale Garden Centre and associated buildings and replace with 5 x self-build/custom build houses with associated garages using existing access. Matters to be considered: Access.*

BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** by WBC. The applicant took the decision of WBC to appeal and the appeal has now been **dismissed**.

P6. 16/02529/OUTD – Land adjacent to Summerfield, The Ridge (adjacent Parish).

*Outline application for change of use of part of existing agricultural field to residential and the erection of 5 no. detached dwelling houses with ancillary garages, access, parking, landscaping and associated works. Matters to be considered access and layout.*

BPC **objected** to this application. Due to the number of objections, the decision is being considered by the Western area Planning Committee on the 15<sup>th</sup> March. It was agreed that no councillor from BPC will attend.

It is understood that whilst the site is not within the settlement boundary it was submitted and approved for housing development in the Development Plan.

P7. Update on Enforcement Action – Wimble Wood Cottage.

The Clerk reported that photographs of the extension and chalet had been sent to the WBC enforcement team and Lee Goodall will be investigating.

Signature .....

Date .....

P8. Bucklebury Planning Policy.

A small number of comments were made regarding the Planning Policy document drafted by Cllr. Banks. With these changes, the document was approved. The Clerk will put the document into the standard template for policies.

HP

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC1. Budget.

District Cllr. Webb reported that the budget includes a 5% increase in council tax; 3% of which is for adult social care. Transitional funding has been granted to CAB and it has been suggested that some of their offices could be within the WBC office space, whilst maintaining CAB as a completely separate entity.

DC2. Planning.

The planning inspector is due to make his final judgement on the Local Plan in the next week or two. The Local Plan then needs to be adopted at the full council meeting in May. Once this has happened, WBC will be a plan-led authority.

Preparations are taking place for the next Local Plan to last until 2036. Requests for sites have already been published. This Local Plan needs to include 655 new homes per year.

DC3. Boundary Commission.

It is planned that the number of District Councillors in West Berkshire will be reduced to 42 or 43. Whilst parishes will remain as they are the District Council wards will be reorganised. Each District Councillor will represent an electorate of approximately 3,000. Under the current proposal the existing Bucklebury ward is split between 3 wards.

TOPICS

T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

The Clerk reported that Andrew Lehmann is now dealing with the transfer rather than Geoff Barrow. Mr. Lehmann has said he will visit the site to inspect the access in a few weeks time.

Cllr. Slatford commented that Mr. Beeson knows of a contractor in Ashmore Green who may be interested in cutting the hay; he will forward his details to the Clerk. Mr. Beeson has also offered to talk to Mr. Hartley Russell if this is felt to be appropriate.

T2. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

The Memorial Hall committee had drafted an agreement; however there were concerns about some of the wording, including that it should be an agreement rather than a lease.

Amendments were proposed and it was agreed that once Cllr. Brims had made the necessary changes the document would be approved by BPC. Cllr. Dickens will submit the revised document to the Memorial Hall Committee for their approval.

The date for the transfer of management is set to be the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

JB  
BD

T3. Countryside.

Rights of Way.

There were no comments raised about rights of way other than those minuted elsewhere.

River Pang.

It was reported that the state of the bank is no worse than it was 3 weeks ago. Cllr. Clarke will continue to monitor the situation.

There was some discussion about possible options and their advantages/disadvantages.

A large, solid wooden barrier, similar to an Armco barrier, possibly made from old telegraph poles bolted together was suggested. It was agreed that the Clerk would discuss this idea with Sally Wallington.

HP

Signature .....

Date .....

- T4. Bucklebury Vision.  
 Cllrs. Clarke, Cairns and Dickens have now completed gathering the information and making the necessary updates for the revision. Cllr. Clarke has been collating the work. Now the work has been completed it needs to be produced in a format suitable for the website, this may require the services of someone specialising in typesetting. It was agreed that Cllr. Clarke would work with the Clerk and the advice of Ian Pratt to identify the next step. LC  
 Once the work has been completed, it needs to be submitted to Bryan Lyttle at WBC to be endorsed. HP
- T5. Co-option of new Councillors.  
 Four parishioners have now shown an interest in the two positions on BPC. It has been agreed that each should ideally attend two BPC meetings and then submit a brief resume about themselves to the Clerk by the end of March. The resumes will be circulated amongst members who will then decide which of the candidates is the most suitable and send their preferences to the Clerk. All  
 HP
- T6. Spring Common Clearing – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March.  
 There was confirmation of the arrangements for Common Clearing event on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

#### FINANCE

- F1. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:
- |                          |         |   |
|--------------------------|---------|---|
| Post Office Ltd          | £35.79  | Electricity supply for street lights in February. |
| Greenbarnes Ltd.         | £315.72 | Chapel Row noticeboard.                           |
| Bucklebury Memorial Hall | £53.25  | Rent 1/1/2017 – 7/4/2017.                         |
| P. W. Frankum            | £1.79   | Christmas cards.                                  |
| Sylvia Cornell           | £40.00  | Bus shelter cleaning.                             |
| Helen Pratt              | £39.56  | Reimbursement Dec' 16 to Feb '17.                 |
| Helen Pratt              | £554.27 | Clerk's February 2017 salary.                     |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.
- |   |            |               |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: | £33,330.89 |               |
| Lloyds Current Account:   | £34,341.42 | On 20/2/2017. |
| Scottish Widows Reserve Account:  | £37,725.30 | On 1/1/2017.  |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:   | £4,576.93  | On 1/1/2017.  |

#### REPORTS

- R1. Victory Room.  
 The committee are working on a presentation and possibly a video to support funding applications for the rebuild.  
 The Ceilidh raised £750 towards the rebuild.
- R2. Recreation Ground.  
 The Recreation Ground committee have agreed to go ahead and make an application for it to be designated as a Centenary Field. Paul Hendry is to make the application.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- The following correspondence has been received:
- C1. WBC – Governance and Ethics Committee and Advisory Panel.  
 Cllr. Dickens advised BPC that he has asked to remain on the Governance and Ethics Committee.

Signature .....

Date .....

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. School Bus.

It was reported that a full size bus is still being used by WBC to transport children, requiring statutory free transport to Kennet School. It was questioned whether WBC is paying for a full size bus.

RT2. Signs for Shelly Ashman at New Barn Farm.

Cllr. Clarke raised the issue of the signs for Shelly Ashman at New Barn Farm. Members will look out for them and report back.

RT3. Bucklebury Farm Park.

Cllr. Clarke raised concerns about tractor and trailer rides from the Farm Park going through the ford at least twice each afternoon. It was noted that this is only happening whilst the fields are too wet and as soon as they have dried out, the rides will revert back to the deer park.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**Next Planning Meeting:**

**8.00pm Monday 27th March 2017 Memorial Hall.**

**Next BPC Meeting:**

**7.45pm Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 Memorial Hall.**

Signature .....

Date .....