

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 12th March 2018 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. P. W. Frankum(Chair); Cllr. B. Dickens; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. R. Ranken; Cllr. T. Banks; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. A. Aldridge; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. T. Slatford and Cllr. L. Clarke.

OTHERS

District Cllr. G. Pask; District Cllr. Q. Webb; Beth Tayton.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 12th February 2018.

There was some discrepancy about how much money was ring fenced for the Memorial Hall. The Clerk will clarify this and the minutes will be signed at the next meeting of the full council.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee – Monday 26th February 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Planning meeting held on Monday 26th February 2018 were correct and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Bucklebury Toddler Group.

Beth Tayton was invited to speak to BPC about Bucklebury Toddler Group and their need for assistance. The Toddler group is now being referred to as Bucklebury Toddler and Baby Group. There are 5 mums now running the group. The attendance has increased from 8 or 9 last September to around 20 toddlers/babies per session. They have paid for their hall rent and insurance and have approximately £200 remaining. In order to be viable they need between 7 and 9 children at each weekly session.

In the past they have shared some equipment with Bucklebury Pre-school, this equipment has now been bought outright at a cost of £243. As a result Mrs. Tayton asked if BPC could support the group with a donation of £243. It was unanimously agreed that BPC would make a donation of £250 to the group. HP

CHAIR'S REPORT

CR1. Results from a Conservation Project.

Cllr. Frankum reported that she had been given the results of a conservation project by Sally Wallington which was carried out in March 2000. In the project, the number of plant species, at 40 different sites in the parish, were counted. Cllr. Frankum has contacted the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre to see if they are interested in the information.

CR2. The Clerk's Role.

The Clerk will no longer take such a prominent role in projects which BPC wishes to pursue, but will concentrate on the more administrative role.

Signature

Date

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Harts Hill Water Main.

The Clerk reported that Huw Thomas had given an update that: loss of business claims are in hand and businesses are being talked to; the issues with refuse collection on Harts Hill are being discussed and a company with a 53 seater coach has been found to do the school bus run, but concerns have been raised about overhanging trees on the route which are being resolved with WBC highways.

It is understood that the work to replace the Harts Hill main will be started at the end of April.

It was agreed that Cllr. Banks will monitor the work being carried out in Little Lane, which is expected to be complete on the 19th March.

CL2. Management of Projects.

It was agreed that Cllr. Cairns will take on the Streetlight project. She will draft a questionnaire and circulate it for comments.

CL3. Grit bins.

During the recent cold weather, the grit bin in The Slade was completely emptied and more grit was required. Cllr. Cairns obtained more grit from Wallis and Ainsworth in Thatcham.

It was suggested that a councillor should take on responsibility for the grit bins. Prior to the meeting Cllr. Slatford offered to take this role on.

The suggestion was put forwards that all the grit bins should be filled up in the Autumn and some grit should be purchased to refill the bins during the Winter months in case this is required. It was agreed that a possible location for the storage during the Winter was Bucklebury Farm park; Cllr. Frankum agreed to speak to Rupert Hartley Russell about this possibility.

WF

The grit bin in The Slade needs to be replaced as it is damaged. It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase a 200 litre grit bin for a maximum of £75.00.

HP

CL4. General Data Protection Update.

The Clerk reported that NALC have produced a toolkit which the Clerk will work through.

CL5. Purchase of Projector and Laptop.

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should purchase a new laptop and a projector to a maximum total of £1,000.

HP

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

P1. 18/00295/FULD Land adjacent to Thatchers, Chapel Row.

Erection of one 4-bed dwelling with associated car parking.

It was reported that this site was once part of the garden of Thatchers, but has since reverted to agricultural use. Permission for a new access to the site was granted in 2004. The proposal is for a new build, within the AONB and outside of any settlement boundary. The proposal was not viewed as conserving or enhancing the AONB. Chapel Row is not considered a sustainable location; there are only 3 or 4 buses a day during the week and none at weekends.

It was agreed to **object** to this application.

Concern was also raised about the veteran oak tree near the entrance.

P2. 18/00508/PACOU Broad View Farm, The Ridge.

Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for the Change of Use of agricultural buildings to business use (B1 and B8).

Broad View Farm is now being run as a sustainable, organic farm.

BPC has **no comments** on this application.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

Signature

Date

- P3. 18/00171/HOUSE 32 Berrys Road.
Single storey front and side extension.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P4. 18/00100/HOUSE 7 Broad Lane.
Conversion of existing attic to additional bedroom with en-suite with internal alterations and additional parking.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 18/00091/FULD Eliezer Cottage, Zin Zan.
Landscaping/regrading of rear garden, infill pond and relocation of garden outbuildings.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P6. 17/03504/HOUSE 36 Roundfield.
Two storey rear extension.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P7. 17/02859/FULD Wimbles Barn, The Wimbles, Harts Hill Road (Adjacent Parish).
Change of use and conversion of existing barns to a residential dwelling, ancillary store together with residential amenity space, landscaping, parking and associated works.
 BPC **objected** to this application; however it has been **approved** by WBC.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

- DC1. District Cllr. Pask reported that after the recent very cold weather and snow, WBC still has plenty of grit remaining. As a result of the weather the number of serious potholes has increased significantly. District Cllr. Pask encouraged people to report potholes to WBC for repairs. WBC was awarded £500,000 for repairs to potholes. WBC has received funding of £10,000,000 for major resurfacing works over the next five years across West Berkshire. Cllr. Brims asked District Cllr. Pask to quantify this in terms of miles of road being resurfaced as a percentage of the total road miles in West Berkshire.
- Cllr. Dickens commented that, six months ago, he emailed District Cllr. Pask about the faint white lines, obstructed signs and pot holes at Chapel Row making the roads very dangerous, but to date there has been no remedial action. The potholes are a danger to two wheeled vehicles in particular. District Cllr. Pask responded that he understood Cllr. Dickens' concerns and had taken the matter up with officers at WBC.
- It was noted that the area around the trench dug in the newly resurfaced Broad Lane has been resurfaced to the full width of the road for 2m on either side of the trench.

TOPICS

- T1. Common Clearing – Saturday 14th April.
 It was agreed that the skips would be located at the Memorial Hall and on the Green at Chapel Row.
 Cllrs. Aldridge, Cairns, Frankum and Hillerton will make cakes to be served with tea.
 Cllrs. Frankum and Hillerton will serve tea.
 Cllr. Brims will attend the event with his trailer to collect rubbish sacks from along the roadside, particular towards the end of the event and immediately afterwards. JB
 Cllr. Frankum will ask Rupert Hartley Russell if he can attend. WF
- T2. Annual Parish Assembly – Friday 20th April.
 The Clerk confirmed that David Bruce from West Berkshire Brewery is willing to speak at the assembly.

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- Cllr. Banks will purchase wine and fruit juice to be served after the assembly. Cllr. Brims will organise the use of the wine glasses from the Victory Rooms. Cllr. Cairns will purchase nibbles for the evening, but gave her apologies for the meeting. Cllr. Hillerton will organise the serving of the refreshments. TB
HC
- T3. Bucklebury Meadows.
The Meadows committee met on Thursday and considered the Management Plan. It was agreed to explore the possibility of finding a tenant for the meadows. Cllr. Frankum has contacted Andrew Waters' wife (Mr. Waters was the former tenant) to give him the option of a tenancy or to find out if he knows of anyone else who may be interested. Cllr. Frankum has also spoke to Graham Plank to find out if he would be willing to undertake some of the work involved with managing the meadows as a contractor. AH
- T4. Cemetery and Chapel.
Repairs to the Chapel - The quote which was approved and accepted was for cracks on either side of the Chapel, in line with the windows, and the repainting of the windows and door. Since then a third crack has been identified above the door. The quote from All Things Property has been updated to include work on the third crack and has increased from £1,780 to £2,180 (excluding VAT). The new quote was unanimously agreed.
Quote for works to the Chapel, repairs to cracks, painting windows and doors: WF
Cemetery Maintenance – C. R. Landscapes have quoted for a three year contract for the Cemetery as follows: 2018: £1,543.09; 2019: £1,589.38; 2020: £1,637.06 (excluding VAT). This is for nine visits each year and represents a 3% increase year on year. This quote was unanimously approved. HP
Clearance of Scrub in the 1970's Cemetery – Cllr. Frankum has obtained three quotes for the clearance of some of the scrub area in the 1970's Cemetery. These quotes ranged from £620 to £2,950. It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote from Opus Tree Care at £620 (excluding VAT). WF
Levelling of Graves - One quote has been obtained for the levelling of a number of subsided graves. This was for £200, but was dependent upon the contractor obtaining the quote for the clearance of scrub in the 1970's Cemetery. WF
- T5. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.
Playpark Inspections - There were no new issues reported.
Outstanding Work - The repairs to the steps are supposed to be being made this week. Alan Dunkerton and Anoup Puri will be working on some of the smaller repairs. DS
Cllrs. Southgate, Banks and Aldridge will work together to get the boards cut and TB
installed for the new roofs on the multi play/slide unit. AA
RoSPA Inspection - The Clerk reported that the RoSPA inspection will take place in April or May this year.
BMX Track – Two quotes have been obtained; one to resurface the whole BMX track and one to only resurface the humps. It has been suggested that some drainage work would be beneficial and Cllr. Hillerton will get a quote for this work to be done prior to any resurfacing work. AH
- T6. Countryside.
Rights of Way – Cllrs. Brims and Cairns inspected byways 49 and 51 which currently have seasonal TROs on them and reported their condition back to Sallie Jennings at WBC.
The Pang between the fords – Cllr. Brims has met with Graham Plank who has made two suggestions:
1. To insert 6" round posts at 6 feet intervals to a height of approximately 2 feet with a round rail strapped to the posts. The cost of this for approximately 200m would be in the region of £5,000.
2. To install 900mm stock proof fencing along the same stretch with 5" half round posts every 6 feet. The cost of this would be approximately £3,000 to £3,500.
There is a stretch near the small ford where the bank is too narrow to accommodate posts. A possible disadvantage of either option 1 or option 2 is that it may encourage 4x4 users

Signature

Date

to enter the river from the field opposite near the byway ford. In order to stop this it may be sensible to fence this too.

Cllr. Brims will contact the Environment Agency about renewing the permission which had been granted to carry out the works.

FINANCE

- F1. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:
Bucklebury Community Bus £500.00 Donation for FY17/18.
- F2. Cheques signed by Councillors:
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---|
| West Berkshire District Council | £89.90 | Emptying of dog bins on Meadows. |
| Post Office Ltd. | £5.91 | Electricity for streetlights. |
| Jonathon Poole | £6.00 | Oaks delivery to Berry's Road, twice. |
| H. Cairns | £16.80 | Grit for The Slade grit bin. |
| S. Cornell | £40.00 | Cleaning of the bus shelters; January, February and March 2018. |
| Bucklebury Community Bus | £1,000.00 | Donation for CCTV on the bus. |
| Helen Pratt | £66.15 | Reimbursement: November '17 to March '18. |
| Helen Pratt | £554.27 | Clerk's salary for February 2018. |
- F3. To review current balances and financial position.
- | | | |
|---|------------|------------------------------------|
| Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: | £76,374.62 | |
| Lloyds Current Account: | £81,377.67 | On 20 th February 2018. |
| Scottish Widows Reserve Account: | £37,736.73 | On 1 st January 2018. |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Account: | £4,578.32 | On 1 st January 2018. |

REPORTS

RT1. Victory Room.

The committee has now gained Charity Incorporated Status, such that members of the committee have some level of protection should there be a claim made against them.

The plans have been split into two phases as some funding has maximum levels of project cost. The first phase is expected to cost between £250,000 and £300,000. Under The Good Exchange, match funding has been extended until 30th June 2019. The Oak Room at the Memorial Hall benefited from a substantial grant from WREN; unfortunately this is not available for the Victory Room.

The following fund raising events have been planned: a quiz night on 21st April, a car boot sale on the 17th June and a Spanish evening on the 21st July.

RT2. Memorial Hall.

The Memorial Hall committee met on the 19th February. They are expecting to have funds of just under £12,000 at the end of March 2018. By the end of March 2019 this is expected to have dropped to just under £7,000 due to the lack of income from the Pre-School.

It was agreed that hire rates would be increased by 10% from 1st April 2018.

The Pre-School have been allowed use of the hall until the end of March to clear their assets. KATS will be taking over the some of the Pre-School storage space.

A marketing committee of Mike Scholl, Mike James, Mike Bodsworth, Julie Baker and someone from KATS is to be formed.

The WiFi facilities in the hall will be maintained, but the contract with Grundon will be terminated.

Mr. Scholl is investigating the possibility of the organisation gaining Charitable Incorporated Status.

The AGM will be held on 21st May 2018.

Signature

Date

RT3. Recreation Ground.

There has been discussion on the activities intended to be carried out on a “recreation ground”. There is a view that the activities don’t include sports for all ages; however it has now been agreed that the ruling of no over 16 football on Bucklebury Recreation Ground is to be lifted, such that all ages can play, but any such formal booking must be approved by the committee.

Whilst there is a dog bin in the Victory Room carpark, there is a problem with dog fouling on the Recreation Ground; however there is no signage in place.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Playpark.

Cllr. Hillerton commented that official litter and CCTV signage is required at the playpark.

AH

RT2. Bucklebury Pre-School.

The final sale of pre-school items on the 17th March was a success and a vast amount was sold.

RT3. Future of The Oaks.

Combining The Oaks and the Church magazine has been discussed but it is understood that the Church magazine is organised by Tara Duffy, who is currently unwell.

RT4. Bucklebury Vision.

It was agreed that the latest draft would be sent to WBC for review.

HP

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Future Meetings:

Next Planning Meeting:

8pm Monday 26th March 2018.

Date of next BPC meeting:

7.45pm Monday 9th April 2018.

Common Clearing:

2pm Saturday 14th April 2018.

Annual Parish Assembly:

8pm Friday 20th April 2018.

Signature

Date