

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. B. Dickens (Chairman for this meeting); Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. T. Banks;
Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. A. Aldridge; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. R. Ranken; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted and approved from Cllr. P. W. Frankum; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. T. Slatford and District Cllr. Q. Webb.

OTHERS

District Cllr. G. Pask; Mr. and Mrs. Spores (High Barrow, Paradise Lane); Mr. Robertson (representing the applicant of application 18/00989/HOUSE); Mr. Pocock (applicant of application 18/00667/HOUSE).

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

E1. Election of a Chair.

Cllr. Banks proposed that Cllr. Frankum be Chair of BPC for 2018/19. This was seconded by Cllr. Hillerton and unanimously agreed.

E2. Election of a Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Cairns proposed that Cllr. Dickens be Vice Chair of BPC for 2018/19. This was seconded by Cllr. Aldridge and unanimously agreed.

E3. Chairman's Acceptance of Office.

Cllr. Frankum will sign the declaration of office when she has returned from holiday.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. 18/00989/HOUSE – Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue.

This item is minuted under the Planning Section of these minutes.

PS2. 18/00866/FULD – Site of Former Abbey View, Paradise Lane.

This item is minuted under the Planning Section of these minutes.

PS3. 18/00667/HOUSE – Corner Croft, Little Lane.

This item is minuted under the Planning Section of these minutes.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

Cllr. Aldridge declared an interest in planning application 18/00866/FULD for the site of Abbey View; he is an immediate neighbour.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Monday 10th April 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 10th April 2018 were a true record and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 24th April 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Bucklebury Planning meeting held on Monday 24th April 2018 were a true record and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

Signature

Date

REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

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

Memorial Hall Committee	Cllr. Brims; Cllr. Dickens.
Victory Room Committee	Cllr. Brims; Cllr. Clarke.
Commons Advisory Committee	Cllr. Slatford; Cllr. Cairns.
Recreation Ground Committee	Cllr. Clarke.
Chapel Row Patient Participation Group	Cllr. Dickens.
West Berkshire Heritage Forum	Cllr. Frankum; Cllr. Southgate; Cllr. Cairns.

COMMITTEES AND POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The following committee membership and posts of responsibility were agreed:

Burial Board	Cllr. Frankum; Cllr. Dickens; Cllr. Brims; Cllr. Southgate.
Planning	All members of BPC.
Hockett Field and Bucklebury Meadow	Cllr. Slatford; Cllr. Frankum; Cllr. Dickens; Cllr. Banks; Cllr. Hillerton.
Playpark and BMX track	Cllr. Hillerton; Cllr. Cairns; Cllr. Southgate.
The Oaks	Cllr. Clarke; Cllr. Frankum; Cllr. Hillerton; Cllr. Ranken.
Flood Liaison	Cllr. Brims; Cllr. Clarke.
Footpaths	Cllr. Cairns; Cllr. Banks.
Website	Cllr. Banks.
Gritbins	Cllr. Slatford.

It was agreed that nobody would have responsibility for the Parish Plan or the Police and the Community because there is no activity involved with either area at the current time. The Clerk will be responsible for monitoring these areas and councillors will be allocated responsibility when required and as appropriate.

CORPORATE DOCUMENTS

The following corporate policies were reviewed and no councillors raised any issues:

- Code of Conduct
- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations
- Financial Reserves
- Communications Policy
- Donations to Charities
- Freedom of Information Publication Scheme
- Planning Policy
- Pre-Planning Consultation Letter
- Web Policy.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CR1. Common Clearing (14th April 2018).

Cllr. Frankum wished to thank all councillors who attended the spring Common Clearing event which was attended by a record 60 parishioners.

Unfortunately there were issues with the skips being collected; the skip at Chapel Row was only collected on the 26th April, after a number of phone calls. A significant amount of rubbish accumulated around the skip which Cllr. Brims kindly took to the tip.

There will have to be further discussions on whether a skip can be sited at Chapel Row

Signature

Date

for the autumn Common Clearing event, if it can't be collected on time. This is the second time that there have been significant problems. Cllr. Brims commented that in the past Aldermaston Skips have booked collection dates as well as delivery dates at the time of ordering. The Clerk will discuss this with Simon Barnett from BBOWT who organises the skips for Common Clearing.

HP

CR2. Annual Assembly.

All those who attended the Annual Assembly were thanked for attending. Unfortunately there was not a good attendance by parishioners, which was a pity as the speaker, David Bruce from West Berkshire Brewery, was very good. He came with free beer which was sampled by parishioners during his talk and gave out an invitation to all those present of a tour of West Berkshire Brewery which the Clerk will organise.

HP

CR3. Parked Cars at Peaches.

There is still concern over cars parked between the disused petrol pumps and Broad Lane. Cllr. Frankum will speak to the garage managers again.

WF

CR4. HEAP update (Historic Environmental Action Plan).

BPC has been contacted by Sue Ellis about a HEAP update and Cllr. Frankum has offered to help in any way possible.

CR5. Communication.

Councillors were asked to copy the Chair on any emails sent to the Clerk so that if for any reason the Clerk cannot attend a meeting, there is someone else who is aware of who should be attending a meeting and whether quorum can be reached.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Statement of Governance.

The Clerk circulated the Statement of Governance prior to the meeting. BPC resolved to agree the Statement of Governance.

CL2. Accounting Statement.

The Clerk circulated the Accounting Statement for the year ending 31st March 2017 with supporting documents. BPC resolved to approve the Accounting Statement.

CL3. Alderton Claim.

The Clerk advised councillors that, after Mr. Alderton's claim for his costs associated with his Certificate of Lawful Use of Existing Development (CLUED), DAC Beechcroft have advised that they will reject his allegations and confirm that as he discontinued the claim, he is responsible for BPC's costs.

CL4. Proposed Extinguishment/Diversion and Creation of Public Footpaths in Westrop Green.

The Clerk circulated an email from Stuart Higgins about the extinguishment of several footpaths in Westrop Wood and the creation of new footpaths. Cllr. Cairns visited the footpaths concerned and spoke to Dr. Edwards-Moss who is the landowner concerned and has public rights of way on three sides of the domestic curtilage of his property, through other land he now owns. Whilst Cllr. Cairns understood Dr. Edwards-Moss's request and supported it, BPC resolved to object to the proposal.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 18/00910/HOUSE Gamekeepers Lodge Farm, Hawkridge Hill (Adjacent Parish).
Demolition of outbuilding, construction of house extension and garden store.

It was noted that as a result of this proposal the outbuilding will become a part of the house.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC **object** to this application.

Signature

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- P2. 18/00953/FUL Travellers Rest, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).
Retrospective erection of 14 no storage containers
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P3. 18/00989/HOUSE Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue.
Section 73A: Variation of condition 2 'Plans approved' of previously approved application 12/01439/HOUSE: Relocation of main entrance, new link to garden room and removal of outbuilding (REF 11/01230/HOUSE consent 4.10.11; partially implemented).
 The 2016 planning approval for this site is for an estimated additional 440m². This application is for an approximate additional 567m² and would represent an increase of 89% on the existing. Whilst it is not known what the 1948 footprint of the property was, it is understood that it was extended in the 1970s.
 The meeting was **closed** for Mr. Robertson to speak.
 Mr. Robertson commented that the applicant was only in the position of submitting another application because there is a covenant on some of the land which prevents building and the owners of the covenant are not willing to relinquish it. As a result, the proposed extensions have been moved to the opposite end of the building.
 The meeting was **reopened**.
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC **object** to this application and would prefer to see the size of the extension be restricted to the size allowed in the 2016 application.
- P4. 18/00866/FULD Site of Former Abbey View, Paradise Lane.
Proposed new dwelling with associated parking and amenity.
 In 2017, a proposal was submitted to demolish the bungalow and replace it with a two/three bedroom house of 167m²; this was approved. This application is for a much larger replacement house of 187m² with 4 bedrooms. The orientation of the proposed house is altered by 90° in this application such that its impact on High Barrow and White Lodge is much more significant.
 The meeting was **closed** for Mr. Spours to speak. Mr. Spours commented that the base slab of Abbey View is approximately 2m higher than that of High Barrow and as a result the windows of the proposed new house at both ground floor and first floor level would directly overlook the windows of High Barrow.
 Mr. Aldridge also commented that the Design and Access statement is incorrect because the original bungalow was only 55m².
 Concern was also raised about drainage, as there are already problems in the immediate area with excess water.
 The meeting was **reopened**.
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC **object** to this application.
- P5. 18/01054/HOUSE Woodside, Long Grove.
Demolish the existing conservatory and replace with a single storey rear extension. Build a chimney stack and a new front porch
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- P6. 18/00667/HOUSE Corner Croft, Little Lane.
Erection of a summer house with decking and veranda to the side within the garden.
 The meeting was **closed** for the applicant to speak.
 Mr. Pocock commented that this application was required because the proposed summer house will be in front of the building line.
 The meeting was **reopened**.

Signature

Date

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

- P7. 18/00417/HOUSE Hopgoods Farm, Hopgoods Green.
Construct replacement garage.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

Planning decisions made at appeal:

- P8. 16/02922/OUTD Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).
Outline application for the demolition of garden centre and replace with 4 x custom build dwellings – Matters to be considered: Access.
BPC **objected** to this application which WBC **refused**. The Planning Inspector has now **dismissed** the appeal, so the application is **refused**.
- P9. 17/02619/HOUSE Marlston Farm.
Single storey gable extension to the front façade with cat-slide ground floor extension to the west, east and south elevations with the associated removal of existing external stairway.
BPC **objected** to this application which WBC **refused**. The Planning Inspector has **upheld** the appeal, so the application is now **approved**.
- P10. 17/02535/HOUSE Autumn House, Byles Green.
Garage roof extension.
BPC **objected** to this application which was **refused** by WBC. The Planning Inspector has **dismissed** the application.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

- DC1. Thames Water – replacement of the Harts Hill water main.

The over ground temporary pipe to carry the water up Harts Hill is now in place. Another letter has been delivered to residents updating them that work on the new pumping station will start on the 21st May. Cllr. Pask commented that WBC filled all of the major pot holes on the diversion route prior to work commencing. It was noted that some of the diversion signage is bizarre. It was reported that no work appears to be taking place and questions were asked about why the road has to be closed. Cllr. Banks commented that he was waiting for a call from Annie Chinbuah from Thames Water.

- DC2. Roads.

Cllr. Pask reported that the system for reporting pot holes to WBC had failed, but was now back up and running.

In a number of locations locally, where the surface has been replaced (Common Hill), no white lines have been painted on the surface; this is because the new surface will be surface dressed with tar and chippings prior to the white lines being painted.

- DC Charging for Green Wheelie Bins.

Parish councillors questioned the logic of WBC in imposing a charge for green wheelie bins. It is understood that if there is a 45% uptake of the scheme, it will make a saving of £900,000. This was questioned in terms of the additional administration costs and the additional fly tipping which will require tidying up.

TOPICS

- T1. Bucklebury Meadows.

Trees – Cllr. Frankum and Cllr. Slatford have met with Arthur Cullen (the WBC tree officer) to discuss the trees in and around the meadows.

Bat boxes – Whilst looking at the trees, it was noted that there are a number of bat boxes in the trees. Cllr. Frankum will contact the Berkshire Bat Society and ask if they can inspect the boxes.

Cutting the hay – Peter Cane has agreed to cut the meadows and the Hockett in late July, in return for the hay.

Signature

Date

T2. Cemetery & Chapel.

Chapel – The work to repair the cracks in the Chapel is complete. Painting the window frames and the inside of the Chapel have also been completed.

Clearance work – Cllr. Brims and Cllr. Frankum have met with Ron Tanner of Opus Treecare about clearing the rest of the scrub. Cllr. Frankum has also spoken to C. R. Landscapes about quoting for the same work.

Memorial markers – Two quotes have been obtained to repair approximately ten memorial markers. It was resolved to accept the quote for £1,130 plus VAT from A. B. Walkers. HP

Cast Iron Memorial Markers – The cast iron memorial markers have been discussed with Peter Cane. Stainless steel rods could be connected to the memorial markers and used to install them firmly into the ground. Peter Cane has quoted £492 to modify four markers and install them back into the ground. It was resolved to ask Peter Cane to carry out the work on four markers with a view to doing more as the need arises. HP

T4 Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

Weekly inspections – No new issues have been identified.

RoSPA Inspection – The Clerk will forward the RoSPA inspection to all councillors.

Maintenance Work – Steve Beeson has removed the static horse for refurbishment which will involve the replacement of some of the wood and powder coating the metal work. The blue, igloo climbing frame needs to be wire brushed off and then painted; this work would be ideal for a working party.

Various options are being considered for the BMX track; tarmac on the whole course, or tarmac on just the humps. A questionnaire has been drafted and placed in Peaches stores and The Cottage In to understand what users (and parents) might prefer. Separately, a company who lay tarmac and recycled plastic surfaces are being consulted. AH

T5. Countryside.

Rights of Way – PCSO Colin Reeves has suggested that the humps and bumps near byway 56 and the fishponds should be flattened to reduce their appeal to 4x4 users. The Clerk has advised that this is a matter for the Commons Advisory Committee, Willie Hartley Russell and BBOWT to determine.

Off-Roading on the Common – Generally it has been fairly quiet.

Progress on work between the fords – It is understood that the Environment Agency will grant permission for the proposed works (fencing and posts in the river around the fords) within the next 24 hours.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors:

BALC	£582.97	Membership.
CCB	£30.00	Membership.
CPRE	£100.00	Membership.
Post Office Ltd	£11.00	Streetlight electricity (2/3/18 to 1/5/18).
Playsafety Limited	£163.80	RoSPA inspection.
The Alpha Xperience	£32.50	Printing for the annual assembly.
All Things Property	£2616.00	Repairs & painting in Chapel.
Helen Pratt	£101.99	Willis & Ainsworth grit & bin for The Slade.
Helen Pratt	£554.27	Clerk's April '18 salary.

F2. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£84,931.12	
Lloyds Current Account:	£75,559.32	On 20/4/2018.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,737.66	On 1/4/2018.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£4,578.43	On 1/4/2018.

Signature

Date

REPORTS

R1. Chapel Row PPG.

Cllr. Dickens reported that a great deal of paperwork is generated by each visit to Accident and Emergency at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading. Efforts are being made to reduce this and to do more things electronically. There have been a number of incidents of prescription requests taking time to process; changes are being made and the dispensary is now open during lunchtimes. Experiments with using different sides of the dispensary reception have found that it is better to use the left side (as approached by patients).

R2. Victory Room.

Cllr. Brims reported that the quiz night was attended by 74 people and made a profit of £750. A Spanish night is being organised for 21st July. Emma Bridgewater mugs have been commissioned to commemorate the birth of Prince Louis. These will be sold at £15.00 each (to parishioners) by the Bucklebury Events Committee and profits will be donated to the Victory Room.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Thames Water.

Questions were asked about the leak on Briff Lane, which has caused its closure. It was noted that the traffic lights at the junction of Briff Lane and Burdens Heath are not reactive to traffic. Cllr. Banks agreed to contact Annie Chinbuah at Thames Water to obtain answers to these points. The solution for getting pupils down to Thatcham using a hired coach and the BCB minibus is working well.

TB

RT2. Grass at the top of Little Lane.

The grass opposite Peaches Garage at the top of Little Lane has not been cut. It also needs reseeding in places. Questions were asked about the cutting regime.

HP

RT3. Break in to outbuilding in The Slade.

It was reported that there had been a break in to an outbuilding in The Slade. The intruder threatened a resident before leaving in a white Suzuki jeep with a black cover.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Future Meetings

Planning Meeting:

No Planning meeting in May.

BPC Meeting:

7.45pm Monday 11th June 2018 Memorial Hall.

Signature

Date