

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. P. W. Frankum (Chair); Cllr. B. Dickens; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. A. Aldridge; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. T. Banks; Cllr. A. Hillerton; District Cllr. G. Pask; District Cllr. Q. Webb; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

OTHERS

Mr. J. Sopp; Dr. D. Edwards-Moss.

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received and approved from Cllr. T. Slatford and Cllr. R. Ranken.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Planning application 18/02348/FULD for 69 Roundfield.

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

PS2. Footpaths in Westrop Green.

Dr. Edwards-Moss was expecting BPC to discuss the proposal to change the footpaths in Westrop Green. However, this has been delayed until the November meeting, when BPC can revisit the decision it took at the meeting in May 2018. The Clerk will circulate the original email about the proposed changes.

HP

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Frankum.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Bucklebury Beerfest.

Cllr. Frankum thanked all of the Victory Room committee who organised the Bucklebury Beerfest which took place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

CH2. Harts Hill Road.

Thames Water has completed the replacement of the water main from Thatcham to Upper Bucklebury. Harts Hill Road was re-opened on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr. Hillerton will write to Annie Chinbuah (Thames Water) and thank her for being so helpful assisting with organising the transport of school pupils to and from Thatcham during the road closure.

CH3. West Berkshire Heritage Forum.

West Berkshire Heritage Forum has asked for a donation of £50 from each of its members to cover ongoing costs. It was resolved that BPC would donate £50 to the forum.

CH4. Area Policing.

Questions were asked about Police presence in the parish. It was agreed to invite PCSO Sarah Preston to the next BPC meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Bucklebury Vision (The Village Design Statement).

The Clerk will contact Paula Amorelli (WBC Planning Dept.) for an update on the

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- process for ratification of the new version.
- CL2. WBC Library Contribution.  
WBC has contacted all of the parishes within West Berkshire and requested voluntary contributions towards the West Berkshire libraries for FY18/19. The usage figures for Bucklebury show that there was a lower use of the library by Bucklebury residents in 2017/18 than in the previous year. BPC resolved to donate £1,850 (using S137 powers) to the libraries for this financial year.
- CL3. Seasonal TRO's  
The majority of byways on the Common, and Holly Lane will be covered by a seasonal TRO from 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019. This will make it illegal to use motorised vehicles with three or more wheels on these routes.
- CL4. Donation to Pang Valley Flood Forum (PVFF).  
The PVFF has asked for a donation of £100 to cover ongoing costs. It was resolved to make a donation of £100.
- CL5. Change of Name of Community Council for Berkshire(CCB) to Connecting Communities in Berkshire.  
It was unanimously agreed that BPC supported the name change of CCB to Connecting Communities in Berkshire.
- CL6. Extinguishment of Rights of Way.  
**Burgess Copse** – Various groups of people have been consulted on this right of way; the circular route that used the path in question has been changed so that it uses recorded routes on the definitive map. It has therefore been agreed not to pursue this route any further.  
**Sadgrove Farm/Osgoods Holding** – There is a path from byway BUCK 50/1 (continuation of Sadgrove Lane eastwards) immediately after the boundary of Sadgrove Farm (BUCK 150/1) and there is another route northwards immediately before Osgoods Holding which meets BUCK 150/1; this latter route, whilst walked more than the path adjacent to Sadgrove Farm is not on the definitive map. It was agreed that the Clerk will raise this route with Stuart Higgins (WBC Rights of Way).
- CL7. Newbury Weekly News Over 80's Parcel Fund.  
The Newbury Weekly News has contacted BPC about the Over 80's Christmas Parcel fund. It was agreed that BPC will donate £100 for the distribution of Christmas Parcels to the 80s in the parish.
- CL8. River Barn Cottage.  
There was a working mill at River Barn until the 1960s. The water wheel with some of the buckets, which is believed to have been cast in Bucklebury Foundry; the mill mechanism and the grinding stones are all understood to be still in place, however, the surrounding building is in poor condition.  
It was agreed that the site would be raised with West Berkshire Heritage Forum to ensure that any work at the site is carried out conscientiously.
- CL9. Request for donation to Bucklebury Guides.  
Bucklebury Guides have asked for a donation of up to £300 to cover the cost of new resources. It was unanimously agreed that BPC would make a donation of £300 to the Guide unit.
- CL10. WBC District Parish Conference.  
The next District Parish Conference will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr. Dickens agreed to attend on behalf of BPC.

**PLANNING**

Planning applications to be considered:

- P1. 18/02348/FULD 69 Roundfield.  
*Proposed new dwelling and new front dormer to existing dwelling. New front vehicular access for shared off road parking. Rear extension to*

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*existing dwelling.*

The meeting was **closed** for the applicant Mr. Sopp to speak.

Mr. Sopp explained the history of the application and that this application is different to the previously approved application in that the new dwelling and the extension on the existing house extend further into the garden. The oil tanks have also been moved to the bottom of the garden as research had proved that it wasn't possible to position them as on the previous plans.

The meeting was **reopened**.

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

P2. 18/02455/HOUSE

10 Mortons Lane.

*Proposed rear conservatory.*

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

P3. 18/02253/FUL

The Cottage Inn.

*Continued change of use of paddock o ancillary use for Public House to provide over spill parking, one off events and family gathering place, including the retention of a children's animal pen and play station.*

The Cottage Inn is a community pub which is also an Asset of Community Value. There is one letter of objection to this application which whilst supporting the ancillary use, objects to the siting of the children's play station. Cllr. Brims proposed that BPC would support ancillary use of the field for the current landlord, but that any future landlord would have to reapply. A question was asked about whether the field could be made into a recreation field. It was unanimously agreed that BPC would support an application for temporary ancillary use of the paddock for a period of five years. As a result, it was agreed that BPC **object** to the current application.

P4. 18/02341/HOUSE

1 Berry's Road.

*Single storey rear extension.*

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P5. 18/01905/HOUSE

Heathgate, TheAvenue.

*Single storey and two storey extensions and internal/external alterations to existing dwelling, following demolition of existing outbuilding.*

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

P6. 18/01913/HOUSE

Hillfoot House.

*New double garage and replacement shed.*

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

P7. 18/01896/HOUSE

52 Broad Lane.

*Single storey extension, basement and new garden building to rear.*

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

P8. 18/01809/FULD

82-83 Roundfield.

*Proposed alterations and single storey rear extension to existing pair of semi-detached houses, and development of one attached house, a pair of semi-detached bungalows and one detached bungalow, with access and landscaping.*

BPC had **no objection** to this application; however, it has been **refused** by WBC.

P9. 18/00928/HOUSE

Dingley Cottage, Southend (Adjacent Parish).

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

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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

DC1. Constituency Boundaries.

The official word was that the Constituency Boundaries, as proposed by the Boundary Commission, were unlikely to go ahead. However, on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, the Boundary Commission submitted a proposal to MPs to include the current Bucklebury Ward into the Reading West Constituency.

DC2. Roads.

WBC will be carrying out an audit of the roads in Chapel Row which should identify any issues.

There has been a request from a resident that Berry's Road be resurfaced.

It was noted that a lot of tree work has been carefully carried out along Burdens Heath/The Ridge.

DC3. Market Square, Newbury.

Questions were asked concerning the Market Square in Newbury where all the cobbles are being dug up, having only been laid a few years ago. District Cllr. Pask will make enquiries.

DC4. Bayer Building.

District Cllr. Pask reported that Bayer building on Turnpike Road is being converted into approximately 180 flats.

TOPICS

T1. Pension for the Clerk.

Various options available to BPC for the clerk have been explored. The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is an average life earnings scheme which can be opted into. A small group, led by Cllr. Brims have carried out research and proposed that this would be the most satisfactory option. The contribution made by BPC to the scheme would currently be 14.3% of the Clerks salary, with the Clerk paying a further 5%. Cllr. Dickens proposed that BPC should invite the Clerk to join the LGPS, this was seconded by Cllr. Hillerton and unanimously agreed.

T2. Countryside.

**Posts in the Pang** – It was reported that there has been a motor bike entering/leaving the Pang via the bank between the posts and the ford, before coming out/going in via the ford.  
**Application to the Environment Agency (EA)** – An EA officer has been assigned to the case and has requested more details about the proposals. It is understood the cost will be £40.00.

**Rights of Way** – It was reported that repairs have been made to the surface of byway BUCK 48/2 (Byles Green to Sadgrove Lane).

**Off Roading on the Common** – Reports are beginning to be made of off-road vehicles using the Common; however, this is still legal (until the seasonal TROs come into effect) providing they are on byways and not damaging the surface.

T3. Bucklebury Meadow.

There is to be a Meadows meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October.

Two of the oak trees planted in the meadows are not thriving and will be replanted by Richard Hubbard. Cllr. Southgate and Helen Relf are understood to have suitable specimens.

Cllr. Frankum is contacting a contractor about cutting the hedges.

T4. Cemetery and Chapel.

**Cast iron grave markers** – The four cast iron grave memorials which were unsafe (or had been removed for safety reasons) have been repaired and reinstated by Pete Cane.

**Cemetery Carols** – Cemetery Carols will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. Cllr. Dickens will liaise with Brockhurst School about borrowing the PA equipment.

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It was agreed that the collection would be split between the Bucklebury Community Bus and West Berkshire Foodbank.

**Cemetery working party** – The next Cemetery working party is planned for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. *(This has been moved to Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December).*

**Centenary of end of WW1** – The Revd. Gadsby has invited parish councillors to attend the service of remembrance at St. Mary's Church on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.55am. Several parish councillors agreed to attend the service. Cllr. Hillerton commented that she was hoping to organise a cascade of poppies at the Victory Room for the 11<sup>th</sup> November with each Bucklebury Primary School pupil making a poppy and inviting parishioners to add poppies if they wish.

T5. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

**Update on weekly inspections** – No new issues have been identified with the equipment. A litter bin positioned close to the picnic bench has been requested; litter is often left around the bench. It was agreed that the Clerk could order a new bin up to a value of £100. Emptying of the bin will initially be carried out during inspections of the playpark. The fence posts between the playpark and the carpark have rotted and are now very wobbly. It was agreed that BPC should budget to replace this part of the fence in the next financial year.

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T6. Common Clearing – 13<sup>th</sup> October.

Cllr. Brims agreed to bring his trailer to collect filled rubbish sacks and move them to skips.

T7. Grit Bins.

**Grit bin for junction of Turners Green and Briff Lane** – It was resolved to purchase a new grit bin for a maximum of £90 ex VAT for the junction of Turners Green and Briff Lane.

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**Grit bin refilling** – The Clerk reported that Willis and Ainsworths are offering to top up all grit bins and will work with multiple parishes giving bulk discount. Parishes need to provide maps showing the location of bins and approximately how much is needed to fill each bin. It was resolved that Willis and Ainsworth be asked to refill all the grit bins.

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## FINANCE

F1. Completion of external audit.

The Clerk advised the council that the external auditors had completed their audit for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and had found no matters raising concern.

F2. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

SSE Contracting Ltd	£19.97	Streetlight maintenance contract.
Bucklebury Memorial Hall	£92.85	Rent for meetings 1/8/18 to 31/12/18.
The Alpha Xperience	£306.80	October edition of The Oaks.
Bucklebury Tennis Club	£200.00	Grant for coaching.
Peter Cane	£485.00	Repairs to cast iron cemetery markers.
Sylvia Cornell	£40.00	Bus shelter cleaning; July, August & September '18.
Helen Pratt	£554.27	September '18 salary.

F3. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£88,522.40	
Lloyds Current Account:	£78,411.53	On 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2018.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,738.60	On 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2018.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£4,578.54	On 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2018.

F4. Six monthly report of expenditure against budget.

The Clerk presented a report of the expenditure for the first six months of the financial year. No issues of concern were raised.

## REPORTS

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RP1. Memorial Hall.

There are possibly two new users of the hall.

Bucklebury Tennis Club are interested in the possibility of using part of the hall facilities in lieu of the wooden shed used as a clubroom; adapting the old pre-school store is being looked into. Rearranging the gentlemen's toilets, so that there is an externally accessible toilet is also being considered.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Byway BUCK 13/1 (Byway ford to Marlston Road).

It was reported that a burnt-out vehicle had been moved onto the byway.

RT2. Victory Room Phone Kiosk.

Cllr. Clarke reported that the defunct phone kiosk at the Victory Room car park has finally been removed.

RT3. Bucklebury Beerfest.

Cllr. Brims thanked all those who helped at the Beerfest and commented that there would be a party to thank everyone.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

**Future Meetings:**

**Next Planning Meeting:**

**8pm Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.**

**Date of next BPC meeting:**

**7.45pm Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

Signature .....

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