

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Sgt. Nick Emanuel (Thames Valley Police).

APOLOGIES

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Policing.

Sgt. Emanuel reported that he has replaced Sgt. Alan Hawkett who has been promoted. Whilst Sgt. Emanuel reported that he grew up locally, he also commented that his knowledge of the area is improving. He is responsible for the area covering Hungerford, Lambourne around the edge of Thatcham and out to edge of Pangbourne and as far south as Aldermaston and Brimpton. PCSO Sarah Preston remains the PCSO allocated to the Bucklebury area.

Sgt. Emanuel gave the crime figures for the last 8 months, broken down into violent crime (with and without injury), residential burglaries, shed and outbuilding burglaries and vehicle crimes. Generally, it was noted that these were very low in the parish.

Cllr. Frankum thanked Sgt. Emanuel for attending the meeting.

During December, there will be a campaign against drink driving and drug driving.

PCSO Colin Reeves, the rural crimes PCSO will soon be a full-time police officer; PCSO Joe Gibson will be taking over the role of rural crimes PCSO.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Frankum.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Pease Hill Closure.

Gigaclear have extended the closure of Pease Hill for a further four weeks because of the poor weather. Cllr. Frankum has contacted Bob Bosley, at WBC because given the weather conditions, the excuse is considered inadequate. Whilst there were closure notices in place there was nothing to indicate that the Farm Park was open; this has now been rectified.

CH2. BPC Noticeboard at Peaches Store.

The frame of the BPC noticeboard at Peaches Store is in need of sanding down and varnishing or staining. Cllr. Banks agreed to take on this task.

TB

CH3. River Barn Cottage.

Cllr. Frankum visited River Barn cottage with Sue Ellis and Helen Relf. It is not

Signature .....

Date .....

considered worthy of local listing, but Sue will contact Coalbrookdale Museum, Ironbridge, which already has some equipment from the foundry, to ask if they might be interested in the machinery and is also contacting The Old Mill Society. Cllr. Brims has agreed to take photographs of the property (subject to permission to access the site) so there is a record for any future planning applications.

JB

CH4. Morton's Chapel.

There is concern about condition of John Morton's chapel in Turners Green. Since it has not been used for 2 years, we understand it becomes the property of the Congregational Chapel Society. Cllr. Southgate reported that the neighbour has had the boundary wall on the west side of the Chapel rebuilt. Questions were asked about who is or are the trustees. It was agreed that Cllr. Frankum would contact the Congregational Chapel Society.

WF

Questions were asked about whether an application should be made for the Chapel to be locally listed to give it some level of protection should be put on the market for possible conversion into a dwelling. Cllr. Frankum will contact Sue Ellis about making an application.

WF

CH5. Lifetime Achievements Awards.

Two nominations were put forwards for WBC Achievement Awards. Both of the nominees, Graham Plank and Helen Relf were awarded Highly Commended in the Lifetime Achievement category. The nominators, Cllr. Frankum and Cllr. Brims, along with the nominees and their families were invited to the presentation ceremony. Cllr. Frankum commented that it was a very pleasant and special evening. Cllr. Brims was thanked for all his hard work in the nomination for Graham Plank.

Cllr. Brims commented that it would have been nice if the award ceremony had been more community focused, rather than happening before a regular council meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Charity Information.

The Clerk reported that the charity information for the Hockett Field Charity (called Bucklebury Playing Field) and the Recreation Ground Charity (called Bucklebury Recreation Ground) has become very out of date. BPC members are trustees of both charities and the Clerk is trying to obtain the necessary information to update the entries.

HP

CL2. Welcome Packs.

The contacts, listed on the list of organisations in the parish, need to confirm that they don't object to having their contact details distributed. Confirmation that BPC can distribute this information needs to be obtained (and kept) before the new lists can be put into the Welcome Packs; however, it transpires that for the majority of organisations only phone numbers are listed (rather than email addresses) making the task less straight forwards.

CL3. Clerk's Pension.

The Clerk reported that she has contacted the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund who administer the Local Government Pension Scheme in Berkshire and obtained the necessary forms. The start date of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 was agreed.

CL4. Bucklebury Primary School.

Bucklebury Primary School are holding a Community Learning Week during January with the theme of "Inform, Instruct, Inspire." The aim is for the young people to think about jobs and what they may aspire to in the future. Councillors were asked to consider suitable people.

CL5. Loneliness and Isolation Conference.

Richard Benyon MP and CCB have organised a conference, on Loneliness and Isolation, to take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at the Fairclose Centre, Newtown Road, Newbury. The aim is to bring together as many interested groups, organisations and individual people as possible and look at the initiatives which are taking place to help reduce

Signature .....

Date .....

loneliness and isolation.

CL6. Mineral Extraction from Harts Hill Quarry.

Notification has been received that hoggin will be extracted from the Harts Quarry, starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.

MONEY TO BE GRANTED

PS1. The Clerk reported that no applications for grants had been received. The following membership subscriptions and or donations were agreed for the financial year 2019/20:

Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC)	Approximately £600.
Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)	£100.00.
Green Lane Environmental Action Movement (GLEAM)	£15.00
Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB)	£30.00
West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS)	£500.00
St. Martins Club	£250.00
Bucklebury Community Bus	£500.00
NWN Over 80's Parcel Fund	£100.00
Youth	£600.00

It was suggested that a donation should be made to CCB in addition to the membership; it was agreed that the Clerk would contact CCB to clarify some of the work they are involved in.

HP

PLANNING

There were no planning applications to be considered.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

- P1. 18/02870/AGRIC Land north of Holly Cottage, Kiff Green (Adjacent Parish).  
*Infill agricultural building.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application; WBC has determined that a **planning application is required.**
- P2. 18/02748/HOUSE 35 Broad Lane.  
*Single storey front and rear extensions. First floor roof extension to create habitable accommodation.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P3. 18/02695/HOUSE Solina, Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).  
*Construction of timber garage smaller in footprint and height than the previously approved garage and roof storage.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by BPC.
- P4. 18/02459/HOUSE 36 Mortons Lane.  
*Demolish existing rear conservatory and construct new orangery extension.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 18/02341/HOUSE 1 Berry's Road.  
*Single storey rear extension.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P6. 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 existing dwelling.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

Signature .....

Date .....

- P7. 18/01948/FULD Site of former Abbey View, Paradise Lane.  
*Proposed new 4 bedroom detached dwelling with associated parking and amenity.*  
BPC **objected** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.
- P8. 18/02106/HOUSE Avalon, Bucklebury  
*Extension to existing chalet bungalow and internal alterations to reconfigure layout and fenestration.*  
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P9. Bucklebury Vision.  
Paula Morelli (WBC Planning Policy Officer) has returned some comments on the draft of Bucklebury Vision sent to her earlier in the year. Cllr. Southgate will add these comments to the document and reformat it. Comments were made about the copyright information on the maps which the Clerk will clarify. The Clerk will confirm with WBC whether any additional reviews of the document have to take place before it can be used.

DS  
HP  
HP

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

- DC1. WBC Budget for FY19/20.  
A consultation is currently taking place on the proposed budget for FY19/20. This will close on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December.
- DC2. Trees and Planning Applications.  
District Cllr. Webb suggested that councillors might want to consider any trees of value when planning applications are being reviewed or expected for a site and request TPOs if it is felt to be appropriate. In a very local case a developer removed trees on a Sunday prior to any TPOs being placed on them.
- DC3. Social Media.  
It was suggested that BPC might want to consider adding statements about social media to the Standing Orders.
- DC4. WBC Head of Highways.  
Mark Edwards, who has been head of highways for a number of years will be leaving WBC at Christmas, having served the whole of West Berkshire for much of his career. Jon Winstanley, who is a member of the highways team, has been appointed as his successor.
- DC5. New Development at Greenham Common.  
Small areas of land at New Greenham Park can be redeveloped without planning permission from WBC; there are restrictions on what redevelopment can take place.
- DC6. Bushnells Green Farm.  
Cllr. Brims asked if the Agricultural Report on the planning application at Bushnells Green Farm could be made public. District Cllr. Pask commented that they weren’t made public because they are likely to contain commercially sensitive information. Cllr. Brims commented that in this instance the applicant has not had sight of the content of the Agricultural Report. District Cllr. Pask agreed to follow this up.

GP

TOPICS

- T1. Tree Surveys.  
Tree surveys should be carried out on all the trees, on land, owned by BPC to ensure they do not pose too great a risk to those using the land; this is a condition of the insurance. In order to do this, each tree needs to be inspected, tagged, its condition noted and any works required with a suggested timescale documented.  
It was resolved that trees on all land owned and managed by BPC should be surveyed. Some trees are on boundaries and it is possible their ownership is split between BPC and the adjacent land owner (Meadows and Hockett). It was resolved that in the first instance trees on boundaries should be surveyed and if work is required adjacent landowners should be contacted.

Signature .....

Date .....

Cllr. Frankum has spoken to Bee Tree Services and the Clerk has spoken to Tree Surveys and JP Handy Forestry. Quotes will be obtained from each for the surveys to be carried out.

T2. Bucklebury Meadow.

Notes from the Bucklebury Meadow meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018 were circulated for information.

Richard Hubbard has co-ordinated the planting of two new oak trees, to replace the two unhealthy trees in the meadow.

After a site meeting on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November with Olly Morris, he has quoted to reduce the height of all of the hedges and trim them. He commented that it will cost more this year than in future years as they have not been cut for a number of years.

It was resolved to accept his quote to reduce the height of the hedges of £450 plus VAT and to trim the hedges at a cost of £38 per hour plus VAT.

WBCS will cut the rough grass and bracken around the periphery of the meadows between the edge of the hay cut and the hedges, in scallops.

Olly Morris has quoted £250 to replace the gate post between meadows 2 and 3, including fittings where required; it was resolved to accept this quote.

T4. Hockett Field.

After the site visit, Olly Morris has quoted £350 plus VAT to cut the hedges in the Hockett field and £430 plus VAT to level off the dirt mounds of the old bike track.

It was agreed to accept the quote for the cutting of the hedge and make a decision about the levelling off of the dirt mounds at the January meeting. *Olly phoned in late December to say he had the necessary equipment in use and proposed levelling the dirt mounds.*

*Cllr. Frankum agreed this could go ahead.*

T5. Cemetery and Chapel.

**Cemetery working party (8<sup>th</sup> December at 10am)** – Rhododendrons near the main gate were cut back.

Cllr. Brims carried out an inspection of memorials and found a number requiring attention. A quote will be obtained to make the necessary repairs. A number of graves have subsided and need to be filled; Cllr. Frankum has spoken to C. R. Landscapes to get this work done.

It was agreed that the next working party would be held in February 2019.

**Cemetery Carols, 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm** – It was agreed that those decorating the Chapel would meet at 12noon on the 17<sup>th</sup> December and that those clearing up after the event would meet at 10am on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Those helping at the event were asked to arrive as close to 5pm as possible as people tend to start arriving early.

Cllr. Frankum asked for a volunteer to store half of the jars used for night lights; Cllr. Slatford volunteered.

T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

**Update on weekly inspections** – No new issues have been raised.

**Donation for the BMX Track** – A donation of £5,000 has been received, from an anonymous donor for work on the BMX track; this was the result of an article in The Oaks on proposed work on the BMX track. This donation is from a trust fund and had to be paid to a charity; thus, it has been paid to the Memorial Hall. It is understood that some members of the Memorial Hall Committee are minded to use this donation to offset the funds used to refurbish the BMX track several years ago. It was agreed that the Clerk would talk to a representative of the donor and clarify the intent of the donor.

T7. Annual Parish Assembly – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Victory Room.

There was a brief discussion on possible speakers for the Annual Assembly. Two suggestions were made: the new Senior Land Manager for BBOWT and Jon Winstanley.

T8. Countryside.

**Posts in the Pang** – No problems have been reported of vehicles in the Pang.

**Rights of Way** – No issues with Rights of Way were reported.

Signature .....

Date .....

## FINANCE

- F1. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:  
Peter Cane £50.00 Branding of meadow gates and branding irons.
- F2. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:  
West Berkshire District £1,850.00 Donation for running of libraries (S137).  
Council  
Richard Hubbard £12.99 Manure & compost for meadow oaks.  
P.W.Frankum £74.66 Mulch for meadow trees and cups for carols.  
Helen Pratt £554.27 Clerk's November salary.  
Post Office Ltd. £5.68 Street light power for November.
- F3. To review current balances and financial position.  
Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: £83,567.02  
Lloyds Current Account: £87,981.52 On 20<sup>th</sup> November 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. Draft Budget for FY19/20.  
The Clerk had circulated a draft budget prior to the meeting which was discussed.

## REPORTS

- RP1. Memorial Hall.  
Bucklebury and Marlston Horticultural Society holds three evening meetings during the winter, normally on a Friday evening. When they attempted to book the hall, they were informed that all Friday evenings had been booked for 2019 as were the majority of other evenings. At the Memorial Hall committee meeting, KATs representatives suggested that they could give up a limited number of their Monday evening bookings including the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 29<sup>th</sup> April. It is understood that the Memorial Hall committee are asking the Horticultural Society whether they can hold meetings on a Thursday in 2020. It was agreed that a balance needs to be struck between commercial use of the hall and community use.
- RP2. Commons Advisory Meeting.  
Cllr. Cairns circulated a report from the Commons Advisory prior to this meeting. Parking, outside the Saab garage was raised as an issue but no discussion on the matter took place.

## ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

- RT1. Dogs at Foxhold.  
It was reported that any actions of the dog warden have made no difference to the situation. Sgt. Emanuel offered to send a PCSO to talk to the dog owners; this was considered a good solution.
- RT2. Mats in the Chapel.  
It was agreed that the Clerk would order rubber backed mats for the Chapel to reduce the slip hazard on the tiled floor when wet.
- RT3. Poppies.  
One large British Legion poppy remains attached to a post as you enter Chapel Row from Upper Bucklebury. Cllr. Brims agreed to take this poppy down.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

**Cemetery Carols:** 6pm Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December.  
**Date of next Planning Committee:** No Planning meeting in December.  
**Date of next BPC meeting:** 7.45pm Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Signature .....

Date .....