

MINUTES OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 11th February 2019 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. P. W. Frankum (Chair); Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. T. Banks; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. A. Aldridge; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received and approved from Cllr. R. Ranken, Cllr. B. Dickens, Cllr. T. Slatford, Cllr. H. Cairns and District Cllr. G. Pask.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 14th January 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Frankum.

M2. Planning Meeting.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Bucklebury Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 28th January 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Frankum.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Trail Riders.

A parishioner has contacted Cllr. Frankum about the Chair's report in the February 2019 edition of The Oaks which states that many of the byways are closed to vehicular traffic. The parishioner correctly commented that many of the byways are closed to vehicular traffic with three or more wheels; thus, allowing motor bikes to use them. He requested that something be put in the next edition of The Oaks; however, by the time that is published, the TROs will have expired and the byways will be open to all vehicles. The February 2019 edition of The Oaks on the website has been updated to reflect that the byways are only closed to vehicles with three or more wheels.

The parishioner belongs to the Trail Riders Fellowship and suggested that someone from the Fellowship attend the next BPC meeting. It was agreed that Cllr. Frankum would invite someone representing the organisation to the next meeting.

It was noted that the byways in Oxfordshire, which have TROs on them over the winter are closed to motor bikes as well as other motorised vehicles.

WF

CH2. Planning Meetings.

It has been suggested that Planning Meetings should start at 7.45pm rather than 8pm. This was generally viewed favourably and it was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the March BPC meeting.

CH3. Thanksgiving Service for the late Gill Brooke.

Despite the snow, the thanksgiving service for the late Gill Brooke was very well attended. There was a discussion about whether or not an article should be written for The Oaks; it was agreed that Cllr. Frankum will include a paragraph in the Chair's report of the next edition of The Oaks about the contribution Gill made to the community and particularly the fact that she is understood to have been the first female member of BPC.

CH4. Best of Bucklebury Weekend – 22nd and 23rd June 2019.

Bucklebury Events Committee is progressing the plans for the "Best of Bucklebury" weekend in June. This will be a celebration of life in Bucklebury and currently includes a flower festival in the church, an art exhibition in the Victory Room, recitals, bell

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ringing, a photographic competition in the Oak Room and a BBQ with live music at the Cottage Inn.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Common Clearing and Litter Picking

The Clerk has contacted WBC for hire of the litter picking equipment for the spring and autumn Common clearing and litter picking events. Unfortunately, only 3 adult litter picking sets (30 litter pickers etc) are available on Saturday 13th April, but there are even less the weekend before and the following weekend is Easter. The autumn litter picking event was scheduled for Saturday 12th October, but this has been changed to Saturday 5th October due to availability of the litter picking equipment and the clash with the Bucklebury Beer Fest.

CL2. Purchase of Litter Pickers.

In order to ensure there are sufficient litter pickers at the spring litter picking event, the Clerk has investigated the cost of litter pickers; they are between £10 and £15 each including VAT. It was agreed that the Clerk should order 50 litter pickers, 50 pairs of gloves and 50 hi-vis jackets in an assortment of sizes, so that BPC is no longer dependent upon WBC for the equipment. Storage for these items was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact Mike Scholl and inquire whether they can be stored in the shed next to the Committee Room.

CL3. Grit Bins.

All of the grit bins, with the exception of the two in The Slade were filled on 28th January (the Monday before the snow). By Sunday 10th February the grit bin on Sadgrove Lane was completely empty.

It is understood that the grit bin at the bottom of Bucklebury Alley (which was thought to be in Cold Ash and therefore wasn't checked or refilled) has either been stolen or moved further up Bucklebury Alley. According to the WBC map, it was actually in Bucklebury parish. However, it is used by the residents of Westrop Green in order for them to get out when it snows.

It was agreed that the grit bins be refilled. A note will be delivered to each of the houses situated in the close vicinity to the bin on Sadgrove Lane, suggesting that they monitor the usage of the grit bin and that the grit is only for use on the public highway and will not be filled again this winter. HP

It was suggested that the grit bins be clearly labelled with Bucklebury Parish Council and that there is clear indication on the bins that the grit is only for use on the public highways. Cllr. Southgate will investigate the possibility of a stencil. DS

CL4. Bucklebury Vision.

The most recent draft of Bucklebury Vision has been sent to Paula Amorelli at WBC who, it is understood will co-ordinate the consultation.

PLANNING

There were no planning applications to be considered.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P1. 18/03253/HOUSE Wayside, Hatch Lane.

Section 73A: Variation of Condition 3 – Materials, of planning permission reference 17/03252/HOUSE (Single storey front extension, dormer roof alterations and first floor extension).

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

P2. 18/03252/HOUSE Hilliers, The Avenue.

Ground level swimming pool with automatic safety cover surrounded by natural stone paving. Plant room to be housed in 1.83 x 2.2m shed. Pool to be heated by outdoor air source heat pump located behind plant room.

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- BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P3. 18/03238/HOUSE Avalon, Bucklebury.
Demolition of outbuildings and construction of replacement garage/carport/workshop/garden store.
 An amendment was submitted for this application which moved the garage, such that it was slightly further away from the boundary. BPC **objected** to both the original application and the amendment; however, the amended application has been **approved** by WBC. It is understood that the applicant will be submitting a revised application which relocates the garage building to the south side of the site.
- P4. 18/03226/HOUSE Black Barn, Kiff Green (Adjacent Parish).
Section 73A: Variation of condition 5: Restrictive garage use, of planning permission 17/01870/HOUSE.
 BPC submitted **no comments** on this application which was **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 18/03021/HOUSE Ramsbury House, The Ridge (Adjacent Parish).
Single storey breakfast room extension.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P6. 18/02947/FULD 82-83 Roundfield.
Proposed new detached bungalow following demolition and erection or modification and refurbishment of the existing pair of 3 bed semi-detached houses to form a pair of 2 bed semi-detached houses, including access and landscaping.
 BPC **supported** this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P7. Bushnells Green Farm 18/01470/FULD.
 The Eastern Area Planning Committee visited the site on the 30th January. It is understood that the application will be heard by the committee at it's meeting on Wednesday 27th February. Cllr. Brims requested that WBC be informed that BPC will be speaking at the committee meeting in favour of the application. HP

TOPICS

- T1. Tree Inspections.
 At the January BPC meeting, it was agreed that a second quote should be sought for the inspection of the trees on land belonging to the parish. The Clerk has contacted Bee Tree Services who have confirmed that they can carry out Health and Safety inspections of trees. They have requested maps showing where the trees, which need to be inspected are located in order to supply a quote. HP
- T2. Bucklebury Meadow.
 No work has taken place in the meadows. Arrangements are being made for a meeting in of the Meadows Committee in March.
- T4. Hockett Field.
 OJM Farm Contracting have cut the hedges around the edge of the Hockett. Cllr. Frankum has asked them to quote to sew wild flower seed in the area of barren ground where the bike track has been flattened.
- T5. Cemetery and Chapel.
Memorial repairs - Cllr. Brims met with AB Walker and they have submitted a quote to make repairs to eleven memorials. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a second quote for the repairs. HP
Reservations in the old Cemetery – The Clerk reported that she has recently had an enquiry about the interment of ashes in the old Cemetery in a reserved grave. An advance payment (in the 1950s) was made for the interment in addition to the reservation of the

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grave.

Cemetery working party – It was agreed that the next Cemetery working party would be on the 9th March.

T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

Update on weekly inspections – Cllr. Hillerton reported that there were no new issues with the equipment or the ground.

BMX Track – Odin Manners has apologised for not submitting a quote for the work on the BMX track. To return the BMX track surface to good condition, he is of the opinion that it is four day’s work and will cost in the region of £1,200. The surface dressing, which was left in a heap when it was last surfaced, has unfortunately gone hard and is no longer viable.

Cllr. Southgate inquired whether the drainage issues were going to be resolved. Cllr. Hillerton commented that she is still to speak to Odin about sorting it out.

T8. Countryside.

Posts in the Pang – The posts in the river, slightly upstream of the ford, are still deterring 4x4 users from driving up the river.

Rights of Way – There was strong support for exploring the possibility of extending future seasonal TROs on the byways to include motor bikes. The Clerk will pursue this with Sallie Jennings (WBC Rights of Way team) and District Cllr. Pask.

HP

FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting.

CR Landscapes	£4,212.00	Deposit for bench, rhododendron treatment and clearance of scrub.
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F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

The Alpha Xperience	£310.94	February edition of The Oaks.
Post Office Ltd.	£5.44	Electricity for streetlights (3/1/19-1/2/19).
OJM Farm Contractors	£420.00	Trimming Hockett field hedge.
Willis and Ainsworth	£282.96	Grit for grit bins.
P.W.Frankum	£1.85	Card.
Helen Pratt	£523.79	Clerk’s January salary.
Berkshire Pension Fund	£145.77	Pension contribution.

F4. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£37,679.03	
Lloyds Current Account:	£45,328.77	On 18 th January 2019.
Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows.	£37,831.00	On 18 th January 2019.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,738.60	On 1 st July 2018.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£4,578.54	On 1 st July 2018.

REPORTS

RP1. Gigaclear Installation in Morton’s Lane.

At the beginning of February, Richard Welsh (WBC) and representatives from Gigaclear met with some residents of Morton’s Lane about the proposed installation of the fibre cables in Morton’s Lane. It was agreed that work to lay new cables would not commence until all other options had been explored.

It is understood that all of the properties have BT fibre cable laid to them and it may be possible for Gigaclear to use these (if necessary). An alternative route through back gardens is also being considered.

RP2. Victory Room.

The Ceilidh held on Saturday 9th February was very successful and everyone had a good time. The next event will be the Wine Tasting with The Wine Man from Yattendon on Saturday 23rd March. Half of the tickets for this event have already been sold.

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A smaller project to revamp the Victory Room is now being considered and explored with a maximum cost of £250,000. This enables more grant funds to be accessed (many have a maximum project total of £250,000). Cas Clay and Cllr. Brims have met with Chris Bolton from the Good Exchange and he has agreed to match funds of £50,000. The reduced project will require a new planning application and more detailed pricing will need to be carried out.

RP3. Memorial Hall.

Mike Scholl has contacted BPC to find out what funding, for the Memorial Hall, may be available from BPC. It was noted that the Memorial Hall committee has not claimed any of the funds set aside for its use over the last two years. In total BPC has funds of £7,000 for the Memorial Hall, which have accumulated from the budget of the last two years. The budget for the next financial year has already been set and the precept request had to be submitted to WBC by the end of January.

It was noted that the Memorial Hall Committee doesn't carry out any fund raising of its own to cover costs and that no grant applications have been made for the maintenance work which they wish to carry out.

BPC supports the Memorial Hall being available for local community groups in preference to commercial hirers, however, it was noted that in order for the hall to balance the finances, there has to be some commercial users.

It was agreed that any funds BPC makes available to the Memorial Hall Committee should be for capital projects and not day to day running costs.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Leak on Harts Hill Road.

There appears to be a water leak in Harts Hill Road just below the entrance to the quarry. The Clerk will report this to Thames Water.

HP

RT2. Planting on the Recreation Ground.

The Cubs and Beavers are keen to plant some bulbs in the Recreation Ground under the trees. Cllr. Aldridge asked who needed to be contacted; Cllr. Clarke suggested an email be sent to her as secretary of the Recreation Ground Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date of next Planning Committee: 8.00pm Monday 25th February 2019.
Date of next BPC meeting: 7.45pm Monday 11th March 2019.

Signature

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