

MINUTES OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Mr. and Mrs. Pye (applicants for planning application 19/00824/HOUSE); Mr. B. Unamba-Oparah.

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received and approved from Cllr. R. Ranken, Cllr. J. Brims, Cllr. H. Cairns, Cllr. T. Slatford, Cllr. A. Aldridge, District Cllr. G. Pask and District Cllr. Q. Webb.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Planning application 19/00824/HOUSE for Upwey, Burdens Heath.

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

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Frankum.

M2. Planning Meeting – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Bucklebury Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Dog Bins.

Cllr. Frankum has received a request for more dog bins. She pointed out that there is an ongoing cost to getting dog bins emptied and that there are issues with siting them.

CH2. Welcome Packs.

Work on the Welcome Packs is underway and they will soon be available.

CH3. Recycling.

At the last meeting, it was suggested that BPC investigate the possibility of additional recycling facilities. This will be on the agenda for the May meeting.

CH4. Internal Audit.

Cllr. Frankum reported that Erica Tipton is unavailable to carry out the internal audit until after the Annual Assembly. It was agreed that Cllr. Clarke would organise garden tokens in appreciation of her work.

CH5. Councillors after the Election.

Due to a clerical issue, Cllr. Hillerton withdrew her nomination form for the election on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May; however, she is still very willing to be a parish councillor. It was suggested that Cllr. Aldridge, who did not submit a nomination form, may be willing to give independent planning advice to BPC on an as needed basis.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Nominations for Parish Council Elections.

Four nominations were received for the four seats in the Bucklebury East Ward (John Brims, Lindy Clarke, Robin Ranken and Bernard Unamba-Oparah). In the Bucklebury

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West Ward, five nominations (Tim Banks, Hilary Cairns, Barry Dickens, Tim Slatford and David Southgate) were received for the seven seats, leaving two seats vacant.

CL2. Bucklebury Vision.

The consultation on the revised version of Bucklebury Vision will take place after the elections on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May, once the period of purdah is over.

**PLANNING**

P1. Bucklebury Tennis Club.

Bucklebury Tennis Club has asked if BPC would consider being the applicant for the planning application for the new club house at the Memorial Hall. At the planning meeting, it was agreed that BPC supported the application. It was agreed that BPC would be willing to be the applicant.

Planning applications to be considered.

P2. 19/00450/HOUSE Manor View, Hopgoods Green.

*Replacement of timber framed garage and store.*

It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application on the grounds that it would tidy up a mess; however, it was noted that there was very little information on the plans.

P3. 19/00572/HOUSE

Vanners.

& 19/00573/LBC2

*Swimming pool and pool house – Relocation of previously approved.*

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

P4. 19/00824/HOUSE

Upwey, Burdens Heath.

*Demolition of existing garage, stores and lobby, construction of replacement garages and open plan kitchen with additional first floor bedrooms.*

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P5. 19/00267/HOUSE

Woodlands, Hatch Lane.

*Part conversion of existing garage, new side dormer and 2 no. velux windows, new bi-fold doors to rear and internal alterations.*

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

P6. 19/00221/FULD – Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane.

*Demolition of Glenvale Garden Centre and replace with 1 dwelling, retaining the existing entrance onto Hungerford Lane.*

BPC had **no objection** to this application which is being considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April. It was agreed that both Cllr. Brims and Cllr. Dickens would be registered to speak.

P7. 18/01470/FULD - Bushnells Green Farm.

*Retention of existing timber lodge as farm worker accommodation. Supported by new and additional evidence. Non compliance with condition 12 of approved 13/03014/FUL.*

BPC **supported** this application which has been considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee who voted in favour of the applicants. It will now be considered by the Area Planning Committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> April. A site visit will be made on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 9am. It was agreed that Cllr. Brims would attend the site meeting.

Planning Decisions made on Appeal:

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 **supported** this application which was **refused** by WBC. The applicant took this decision to appeal and the appeal has now been **dismissed**.

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TOPICS

T1. Speeding in the Parish.

Cllr. Clarke reported that she had spoken to District Cllr. Pask and he is following up on options. A retired policeman has been appointed to take on Alan Dunkerton's role; he will be in post from the 1<sup>st</sup> May. Bucklebury will then move up the priority list in terms of speed surveys.

Cllr. Southgate questioned whether there was any answer on the possibility of parish councillors using hand held speed guns (as is carried out in some Wiltshire parishes).

Cllr. Southgate will contact Jim Weems (the Local Police Area Commander) and Jon Winstanley (Head of Highways at WBC) to explore this possibility.

Questions were asked about when the next SID training session will be carried out.

Cllr. Clarke proposed a working group, open to parishioners to look at speeding across the whole parish. An article will be printed in The Oaks inviting parishioners to become involved.

A request was made for the police speed van to visit Broad Lane again; this site was absent from the WBC data. District Cllr. Pask will talk to Glyn Davis and request this site be added.

DS

HP

LC

GP

T2. Common Clearing.

Cakes will be provided by Cllr. Cairns, Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Hillerton, Cllr. Southgate and Cllr. Frankum. Cllr. Hillerton will help Cllr. Frankum serve teas after the litter has been collected.

A question was asked about how often the road from Upper Bucklebury to Chapel Row is litter picked by Veolia and whether it could be organised before the Autumn Common Clearing event.

HP

T3. Annual Assembly.

The Annual Assembly will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May in the Victory Room. Jon Winstanley, head of Highways and Countryside at WBC will be the guest speaker. Cllr. Banks agreed to purchase drinks and Cllr. Frankum will organise nibbles.

Cllr. Dickens reported that he has invited Paul Gomm (the Practice Manager at the Chapel Row Surgery) to give a ten minute update on the recent patient survey.

T4. Bucklebury Meadow.

Notes from meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> March were circulated prior to the meeting.

It was agreed to accept Alex Cruickshank, from Sundew Ecology's quote for £450 to carry out an ecology report on the meadows.

It was agreed that the quote from Tree Surveys should be accepted for the Meadows, the Cemetery, the Hockett Field and around the Playpark.

A new, very inconspicuous gate has been inserted into a boundary fence into meadow 1 (the southern meadow), which doesn't have public access. In opening the gate, the replanted hedge has been damaged. It was suggested that Cllr. Slatford should talk to the resident concerned.

TS

HP

TS

T4. Hockett Field.

Olly Morris has been asked to quote to flatten the deep tractor ruts and seed the area where the bike humps were prior to it being reseeded with wild flower seed in the autumn.

WF

T5. Cemetery and Chapel.

A very productive workparty took place in the Cemetery on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. A bonfire, lit on the Saturday was kept in over the weekend and into Monday which enabled the majority of the large root balls to be disposed of. It has been suggested that wildflower seed be sewn in the recently cleared area, although concern was raised that it wouldn't thrive due to the tree cover. C R Landscapes have been asked to quote to level out the cleared area and to sew grass seed. It is intended to manage the area by strimming it once a year.

WF

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Cllr. Frankum commented that she is willing to continue helping on the working parties in both the Cemetery and the meadows.

A number of compliments have been received on the maintenance of the Cemetery.

T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

**Update on weekly inspections** – Cllr. Hillerton reported that there were no items requiring attention.

**BMX Track** – Work on the BMX track has now been completed and the surface is now in good condition, ready for the summer season.

The smaller trees overhanging the area have been cut back.

T8. Countryside.

**Rights of Way** – It was noted that there have been reports of a limited number of 4x4s on the Common, but these have been on legally open byways.

**Off-roading** – Motorised vehicles (probably motorcycles/trail bikes) have been using the area on the Common above Osgoods Holding. There have also been reports of motorcycles being ridden dangerously (to other road users) in The Slade area.

Questions have been asked about the small rising bollards which have been placed at either end of byway 11/1 and 11/2 (Holly Lane between Holly Farm and Coles Farm), and the purpose they serve given how small they are. It is understood that they have been installed by WBC and are low enough to enable a cart to go over them, but too high for a 4x4 vehicle.

## FINANCE

F1. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting.

Fox Fencing	£1,968.00	Fencing around the Fred Dawson Playpark.
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F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

SSE Contracting Ltd.	£19.97	Streetlight maintenance.
West Berkshire District Council	£66.18	Emptying of the dog bins for FY18/19.
Odin Manners	£1250.00	BMX track resurfacing.
Sylvia Cornell	£40.00	Bus shelter cleaning, Jan, Feb and March 2019.
L. Slatford	£19.50	Oaks delivery.
Helen Pratt	£356.22	Domain name hosting and 30 x litter pickers and gloves.
Helen Pratt	£523.79	Clerk's March 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:	£37,427.72	
Lloyds Current Account:	£43,212.82	On 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2019.
Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows.	£36,895.76	On 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2019.
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.

## REPORTS

RP1. Horticultural Society.

Cllr. Frankum reported that John Smart (Chairman of the Horticultural Society) has reached an arrangement with the Memorial Hall Committee about the dates for Society meetings for the 2019/20 season (enabling speakers to be booked). However, the Society would like to book meetings for 2020/21 in order to arrange the meetings and produce the schedule, but it is understood that the booking system for the hall is not set up to book the hall this far in advance. In order to run the Summer Show, the hall complex is required for the Friday evening and the Saturday.

RP2. District Parish Conference.

Cllr. Southgate reported Jon Winstanley (Head of Highways and Countryside) had spoken about the upgraded train service. Superintendent Jim Weems spoke about county lines

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(criminal exploitation of children and young people by gangs and organised crime networks to sell drugs). County lines are often using isolated locations and are becoming more active in West Berkshire Villages along the M4 corridor.

#### ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Constituency Boundaries.

A question was asked about whether there is any news on the possible inclusion of the existing Bucklebury Ward into the Reading West Constituency.

RT2. Anti-social Dog Ownership.

A councillor reported that neighbours are being inconvenienced by barking and suffering unpleasant smells from dog excrement due to an excessively number of dogs being kept in a relatively small dwelling. It was agreed that investigations would be made on what could be done.

RT3. Grass at the top of Little Lane.

It was reported that the grass on the triangle, at the top of Little Lane is regularly cut by Keith Arnold; it was agreed that the Clerk would write and thank him.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

<b>Date of next Planning Committee:</b>	<b>7.45pm Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019.</b>
<b>Common Clearing:</b>	<b>2pm Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019.</b>
<b>Annual Parish Meeting:</b>	<b>7.45pm Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the Victory Room.</b>
<b>Date of Annual BPC meeting:</b>	<b>7.45pm Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019.</b>

Signature .....

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