

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 9th September 2019 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. B. Dickens (Chairman); Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. T. Banks; Cllr. B. Unamba-Oparah; District Cllr. G. Pask; Mrs H. Pratt (Clerk).

OTHERS

Mr. and Mrs. R. Tayton; Mr. and Mrs. R. Chadwick.

APOLOGIES

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Updates to Register of Interests.

There were no updates to the register of interests.

D2. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

Cllr. Cairns declared an interest in application 19/02129/HOUSE for Hartlands, Burdens Heath.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Planning application 19/02129/HOUSE for Hartlands, Burdens Heath.

The minutes for this item are listed in the planning section of these minutes.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 12th August 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of BPC held on Monday 12th August 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

CH1. Youth Provision.

Cllr. Dickens is attending a meeting about Youth Provision in Berkshire and the possibility of a Youth Service. The meeting is aimed at identifying what the issues are and what it may be possible to achieve. There is to be a follow up meeting on the 9th October.

CH2. Iron Age Boundary Markers.

Cllr. Dickens reported that Mrs. Frankum had commented that the bank which marks the parish boundary through Blacklands Copse and across Harts Hill Road is believed to be Iron Age. As such it was suggested that BPC might want to consider marking it. Cllr. Hillerton agreed to investigate this further.

AH

CH3. Welcome Packs.

Welcome Packs haven't been delivered to new residents for at least 18 months. It was agreed that these should be reduced to a more generic postcard, welcoming people to the parish and pointing people to the website where there would be a new page containing information for new residents. Cllr. Banks agreed to produce the information for this page.

TB

A question was asked about how we identify where residents have changed.

CH4. Rabbits in the Meadows.

A resident of Little Lane, whose land backs onto the meadows, has contacted BPC about rabbits which are posing a problem. Her email states that it is the landowner's responsibility to control rabbits.

Signature

Date

The view of the BPC was that rabbits are part of rural life. The meadows are managed for the benefit of wildlife. It was suggested the residents might like to invest in some rabbit proof fencing. The Clerk will respond to the resident.

HP

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Upper Bucklebury Bus Shelter

The broken Perspex panel in the bus shelter has been replaced.

CL2. Tree Inspections.

The tree inspection reports for the Hockett, the Meadows, the Cemetery and the playpark have now been received. The Clerk will contact Roger Malloy about quoting for the work.

HP

CL3. Grit Bins.

Permission has been granted by WBC to place a grit bin at the Briff Lane, Turners Green cross roads. A spreadsheet has been developed to show the state of each grit bin and how much grit is being used from each bin so that BPC knows which bins are most heavily used. It was agreed to implement a rolling programme of replacing damaged grit bins because they have a limited life. They are under £100 each and it was agreed that two new bins would be purchased this year (one replacement and one new). It was agreed that Willis and Ainsworth would be used to fill up the bins when needed. The Clerk, Cllr. Slatford and Cllr. Southgate will determine which bin to replace.

HP
TS
DS

CL4. West Berkshire Brewery.

When David Bruce spoke at the Annual Assembly in 2018, he offered a tour of the brewery. Despite a number of attempts to organise this, it hasn't happened. The brewery has now suggested that we suggest three or four weekday evenings or Saturday afternoons which might be suitable. The Clerk will pursue this.

HP

CL5. Bucklebury Vision.

WBC completed the consultation on the revised version of Bucklebury Vision and had a number of comments. These have now been incorporated and the latest version has been sent back to WBC. WBC has responded that the changes have to be clearly identified and once this has been done, it should be possible to sign it off. Cllr. Dickens will email Paula Amorelli at WBC and say that a version with changes hi-lighted is problematic to produce.

BD
DS

Cllr. Southgate has produced an electronic copy with changes identified; this has been sent to WBC.

CL6. External Audit.

PKF Littlejohn LLP, the external auditors, have now completed their external audit and have not found any issues of concern. Notification of this will be on the website and noticeboards shortly.

HP

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered:

P1. 19/02129/HOUSE Hartlands, Burdens Heath.

Single storey and first floor extensions and new roof over garage for domestic storage.

This application has three separate components: the addition of a first floor in the garage and the raising of the roof by approximately 1m, a single storey extension to the rear for a family room, and a separate 2nd floor extension to a bedroom. The bedroom extension may reduce light to the dining room window of Glenville, the property to the west.

The meeting was **closed** for the applicant and neighbours to speak.

Mr. Chadwick, the applicant commented that the house had previously been extended with the addition of the kitchen, dining room and the garage to the front of the property.

Mr. Tayton, the neighbour commented that it is customary for applicants to

Signature

Date

consult their neighbours when they are submitting a planning application. Mr. Tayton said that he objected to the plans; Hartlands and Glenville were originally mirror images of each other, they had considered extending the bedroom in the same way as the current proposal, but didn't due to the impact it would have on the neighbours. The increase in the height of the garage will make it look like a separate residence in front of the existing and will be visible from Fanny's Lane

The meeting was **reopened**.

It was agreed that BPC **objects** to this application because of the loss of light to Glenville from the proposed bedroom extension.

P2. 19/02097/FUL

St. Crispins Farm, Chapel Row.

Section 73: Variation of condition 2 'approved plans' and 3 'materials' of previously approved application 18/02034/FUL: Section 73: Variation of condition 2 'approved plans' and 3 'materials' of previously approved application 17/01905/FUL: Demolition of the existing house and replacement with a simplified form with double pitched roof.

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

P3. 19/02125/HOUSE

Ramblers, Little Lane.

New porch and single storey side extension.

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P4. 19/01669/HOUSE

Littlebourne, Bucklebury.

Installation of dormer window in lieu of roof light on North elevation and lean-to store on North elevation in lieu of garage.

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

P5. 19/01751/LBC2

Wallins, Westrop Green.

Like-for-like replacement of timber windows in the bathroom and lounge.

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

P6. 19/01448/HOUSE

Stag Cottage, Turners Green.

Single and first floor extensions to the side and rear of the property with landscaping.

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

P7. 19/01711/CERTE

1 Donnington Close.

The Lodge is a three bedroom bungalow which has been let on the open market for over five years. The property has been uninterruptedly tenanted for almost five years by the same tenant.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which WBC has determined to be **lawful**.

P8. 19/01668/FULD

82-83 Roundfield.

Proposed demolition of existing pair of semi-detached houses, and development of two houses, a bungalow, and a detached garage.

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

P9. 19/01657/HOUSE

Briff Well, Little Lane.

New detached 3 bay car port and store.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which was **approved** by WBC after an amendment was received incorporating a hipped roof.

P10. 19/01216/HOUSE

Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue.

Section 73A: Variation of Condition 2 – Approved Plans, of approved reference 12/01439/HOUSE.

Signature

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

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

DC1. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).

A TPO has now been placed on the boundary hedges including the trees between Orchard Gate, Little Lane and the meadows in Upper Bucklebury. It is understood that three separate comments have been received by WBC on the proposed TPO. It was agreed that BPCs support of the TPO should be sent to WBC.

HP

DC2. Recycling.

District Cllr. Pask reported that he had visited GreenFest at Hampstead Norreys. He reported that he has spoken to Jana Little in Thatcham who runs a "dropoff" point for some items which TerraCycle recycle. Pringle tubes are one of the most difficult pieces of packaging to recycle. District Cllr. Pask will liaise with Cllr. Cairns.

DC3. Unusual Vehicle Movements.

Councillors were asked to look out for unusual vehicle movements and if necessary report them to the police on 101.

DC4. Speeding.

District Cllr. Pask reported that Thames Valley Police (TVP) works differently to Wiltshire Police in terms of working with the community on speeding. Questions have been asked of TVP about what they can do to assist with deterring speeding.

DC5. Gigaclear.

Gigaclear contractors are back working in the area on installations. Earlier contractors have carried out installations of cables, but some of the work was of insufficient quality and the correct easements were not in place. Lynne Wilson has recently taken over responsibility for Gigaclear at WBC. Cllr. Banks asked for contact details of Lynne Wilson.

TOPICS

T1. Common Clearing – Saturday 5th October.

It was agreed that Cllr. Hillerton and Cllr. Cairns would organise the refreshments for Common Clearing. Cllr. Clarke, Cllr. Southgate, Cllr. Hillerton and Cllr. Cairns will provide cakes.

It was agreed that the Clerk would ask Steve Beeson and Rupert Hartley Russell whether they could come out with trucks to collect the sacks of rubbish and any larger items.

T2. Recycling in the Parish.

Cllr. Cairns reported that Bucklebury Primary School is very interested in being involved with any recycling projects. It was noted that whilst Tetra packs are not collected for recycling on the kerbside, they can be taken to the tip and recycled there.

A company in Cold Ash recycles some types of bottle tops; conversations are taking place as to whether BPC may be able to work with them.

T3. Speeding in the Parish.

The speeding working group has met and identified the following areas of concern: Broad Lane, Chapel Row, Harts Hill, Burdens Heath and the village. It was agreed that more speed limits were undesirable and unenforceable. The first stage of the of the speed awareness campaign run by WBC is the use of Speed Indicator Devices (SID); this is being explored given that BPC has three recently trained councillors. The Police run community speed watch programmes in other areas and it is possible the Police may do so now in West Berkshire; this is being explored. In the village, there is a problem with volume (and possibly speed) of traffic, particularly during term time at school drop off and collection times. A letter will be sent to Brockhurst and Marlston House School and Elstree School asking if they might consider school transport options.

The next working group meeting will take place on Monday 30th September at 8pm at Westville, Little Lane.

Signature

Date

- T4. Bucklebury Meadows and the Hockett Field.
 The Clerk has contacted Bucklebury Estate via email to resolve the wayleave for the water at the same time as the access from Byles Green, however nothing has been forthcoming from the Estate.
 Advice will shortly be sought about getting sections of the hedges around the meadows laid; hopefully it will be possible to get some the work done this winter.
- T5. Cemetery and Chapel.
 The Clerk reported that she will be meeting Carl Rivers about the siting of the bench in the 1970s Cemetery next week.
 Cllr. Cairns and the Clerk have met and started planning this years Christmas Carols in the Cemetery. The event will be held on Monday 16th December. Andrew Aldridge has already agreed to make ginger biscuits for the event.
 It was suggested that donations collected at the event be split evenly between Bucklebury Community Bus and Young People and Children First (a Thatcham based charity helping prevent disadvantaged young people from becoming homeless). This will be confirmed at the October BPC meeting.
- T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.
Update on weekly inspections – Cllr. Hillerton reported that no new issues had arisen during weekly inspections of the playpark.
Refurbishment of the igloo climbing frame – A date still needs to be set for the working party to carry out the work on the climbing frame.
Bus shelter – The art teacher who lived at Chapel Row and had offered to help with repainting the youth shelter has moved to Devon. A parent has now offered to help and there is a plan in place to repaint the shelter in the spring.
- T7. Countryside.
Rights of Way – Briff Lane to Roundfield – Cllr. Cairns has spoken to Simon Edwards at Sovereign Housing who own the path. He still hasn't heard from the contractors who should have cut back the vegetation.
Broad View Farm bridleway 54A – The alternative route to BUCK54A/1 is being considered by Cold Ash PC on the 10th September. It is understood that there are a number of parties unhappy about the proposed route.
The Common – Misuse of the Ramsbury Corner area by 4x4s continues.

FINANCE

- F1. Cheques to be signed by Councillors since the last meeting:
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| PKF Littlejohn LLP | £240.00 | External audit. |
| C.R. Landscapes Ltd. | £1,271.46 | Cemetery grounds maintenance. |
| Bucklebury Memorial Hall | £337.05 | Playpark grounds maintenance. |
| Connecting Communities in Berkshire | £32.00 | Membership. |
| Post Office Ltd. | £10.88 | Streetlight power 4/6/2019 – 1/8/2019. |
| Helen Pratt | £523.79 | Clerk's August salary. |
| Berkshire Pension Fund | £155.19 | August pension contribution. |
| Helen Pratt | £54.72 | Microsoft subscription. |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.
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| Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: | £46,768.19 | |
| Lloyds Current Account: | £50,011.65 | On 20 th August 2019. |
| Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows. | £36,903.41 | On 20 th August 2019. |
| Scottish Widows Reserve Account: | £37,741.43 | On 1 st April 2019. |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Account: | £4,578.89 | On 1 st April 2019. |

CORRESPONDENCE

Signature

Date

C1. Burdens Heath path.

An email has been received from a concerned resident of Burdens Heath about the dangers posed to the elderly and young by the traffic. In the past there has been the suggestion of a pavement over the ditch. It was agreed that improving the path parallel to Burdens Heath on the Common should be explored. Access points to the path would need to be considered.

REPORTS

RP1. Parking outside the Saab Garage and the Panel Beaters.

Parking outside the Saab Garage and the panel beaters is frequently obstructing the highway and causing problems. Essentially, the businesses have outgrown their sites, however BPC is keen to encourage local businesses. It was suggested that a way forward may be for both businesses to negotiate with the church use of the carpark behind All Saints Church. Cllr. Dickens agreed to have a conversation with the businesses.

BD

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. 11th Bucklebury Beerfest – Saturday 12th October.

Cllr. Brims requested more help for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. All profits raised will be for the redevelopment of the Victory Room.

RT2. Task Summary Form.

Cllr. Southgate circulated a task summary form which could be used for monitoring progress and ensuring a clear audit trail for work items.

RT3. Dog Bin on Broad Lane.

Cllr. Hillerton reported that she had received requests from parishioners for a dog bin in the vicinity of the Memorial Hall. Members of BPC were not against the idea. Cllr. Hillerton will consider locations for the bin which will be discussed at the October meeting.

AH

RT4. Bucklebury Community Bus.

The original bus driver has resigned her post and a new bus driver has been found. The new driver is willing to drive for uses of the bus other than to and from school, although obviously there will be a cost incurred.

RT5. Covenants on Morton’s Lane gardens.

A resident of Morton’s Lane has asked about whether there are covenants on the landscaping of front gardens. One of the house owners is converting a lawned area to hard standing for parking a vehicle.

RT6. Building Work at Littlebourne.

It was reported that the builders at Littlebourne in the village are still being noisy and working unsocial hours. District Cllr. Pask commented that WBC planners had not been stipulating a condition on working hours in planning approvals.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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| Date of next Planning Committee: | 7.45pm Monday 23rd September 2019. |
| Common Clearing: | 2pm Saturday 5th October 2019. |
| Planning Training: | 7.30pm Monday 7th October 2019. |
| Date of Next BPC meeting: | 7.45pm Monday 14th October 2019. |

Signature

Date