

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 9th December 2019 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. B. Dickens (Chairman); Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. A. Hillerton;
Cllr. T. Slatford; Cllr. T. Banks; Cllr. R. Ranken; District Cllr. G. Pask; Mrs H. Pratt (Clerk).

OTHERS

Mr and Mrs Evans (applicants of 19/02973/HOUSE for Beechlyn, The Slade).

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received and approved from Cllr. D. Southgate, Cllr. P. Spours and
Cllr. B. Unamba-Oparah.

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.

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

PUBLIC SESSION

PS1. Planning application 19/02973/HOUSE for Beechlyn, The Slade.

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

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 11th November 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of BPC held on Monday 11th November
2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

M2. Extra Ordinary Meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council Minutes on 25th November 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of BPC held on Monday 25th November
2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 25th November 2019.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Bucklebury Planning Committee meeting which
took place on Monday 25th November 2019 were a true reflection of the meeting and they
were signed by Cllr. Brims.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Thatcham Town Council.

Cllr. Dickens reported that he had met with Cllr. Cole from Thatcham. Car parking in
Thatcham was free of charge on Saturday 7th December in order to encourage people to
visit Thatcham. Free parking after 3.00pm is being discussed.

Thatcham Town Council has recently appointed a service manager to look after various
services including litter picking. It was suggested that BPC might want to look at this
provision for providing a litter picking service on Harts Hill Road.

The Events Manager for Thatcham Town Council, John Sackett is looking at celebrations
for VE day. He may be able to offer help some help to the Events Committee. Cllr.
Ranken agreed to pass this information on to Wynne Frankum.

CH2. Parishioners Volunteering.

There are one or two signs of members of the parish stepping forwards and taking on
small roles in the community.

CH3. Roads.

Cllr. Dickens commented that the road though Chapel Row is in a particularly bad state,
with a bad pot hole approximately 20 meters beyond the bus shelter towards Chapel Row
Surgery. This has been reported to WBC and the response received was that it would be
considered in a future road maintenance programme. An apparent not so positive attitude

Signature

Date

from WBC Highways was noticeable.

Cllr. Cairns commented that a pothole in Tylers Lane, which had caused damage to a tyre, had been repaired.

CH4. 4x4s on Closed Byways.

Cllr. Dickens commented that a Section 59 had been issued to a driver of a 4x4 with a vehicle on the Common at Ramsbury Corner over the weekend. A second vehicle was abandoned on the Common at the same time.

CLERK'S REPORT

CL1. Defibrillators.

Heartstart Thatcham currently carry out the inspection of each of the three defibrillators in the parish on a regular basis. The local guardians will need to take on this role; Heartstart Thatcham are willing to come out and familiarise the new guardians with what needs to be checked and answer any questions. Cllr. Banks agreed to be a guardian for the Peach's defibrillator.

HP

CL2. Annual Assembly – Friday 15th May 2020.

It was agreed that arrangements should be made for the Annual Assembly to be held in the Victory Room on Friday 15th May, assuming it is available.

Cllr. Cairns agreed to ask the WBC Veolia manager to speak on recycling. It was agreed that Dr. Lennox and/or Mr. Gomm be asked to give a 10 to 15-minute update on the surgery.

HC

HP

CL3. Grit Bins.

The Clerk reported that Willis and Ainsworth have introduced a service charge of approximately £20 to fill each grit bin, excluding the grit. The Clerk suggested only requesting that the bins which are less than half full be filled. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Rivar and enquire whether they offer a service to fill grit bins.

HP

It was agreed that if Rivar don't offer a better service, an order be placed with Willis and Ainsworth for 3 new grit bins and to refill the grit bins as the Clerk suggested.

CL4. Flood Warden.

It was unanimously agreed that Piers Allison be the Bucklebury Flood Warden and represent BPC on the Pang Valley Flood Forum (PVFF).

GRANT APPLICATIONS & MEMBERSHIP

GA1 The only application for a grant for FY20/21 was from Bucklebury Tennis Club for £200 to assist with funding for the tennis coaching of the Year 5 pupils from Bucklebury Primary School. The cost of this coaching is normally split between BPC and the Friends of Bucklebury Primary School. This application was unanimously agreed.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered.

P1. 19/02942/HOUSE 42 Mortons Lane.

Upper storey extension to form new bedroom and conversion of existing garage into new family room.

There was a discussion about this application which resulted in BPC **objecting** to the application on the grounds of massing.

P2. 19/02973/HOUSE Beechlyn, The Slade.

*Replace the flat roof dormers to the front and rear with gable end dormers. The dormer at the front will overhang the front elevation and be supported on oak stilts. Remove the porch and build a small single storey extension on the eastern elevation. An oak framed garden room is to be built on the western elevation on an existing foundation in place of a historic extension which was never built. Remove the central chimney and breast. A timber framed veranda connecting the rear kitchen entrance and the garden room. The meeting was **closed** for the applicants to speak.*

Signature

Date

It was noted that the oak framed garden room will be timber clad facing the road in order to fulfil the ultra-violet light regulations.

The meeting was **reopened**.

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

Planning decisions made by WBC:

- P4. 19/02565HOUSE Bucklethwaite.
Single storey side and rear extension.
BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.
- P5. 19/02476/FULD 82 Roundfield.
Section 73: Variation of condition 2 'drawings' to enlarge single storey attached annex at plot 1 of previously approved application 19/01668/FULD: 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.
- P6. Bucklebury Vision.
It has now been confirmed that the revised version of Bucklebury Vision has been ratified by WBC; it is now available on the Bucklebury Parish Council website.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- DC1. District Cllr. Pask commented that work was ongoing to combat the 4x4s on the Common, but that he would give more detail under that agenda item.

TOPICS

- T1. Recycling in the Parish.
Two larger bins for plastic bottle lids have now been placed at the Memorial Hall and the Victory Room.
Posters have been placed on the parish noticeboards advising people of the initiative.
Cllr. Cairns reported that she has 5Kg of bottle tops to deliver to the Cold Ash based recycling company. HC
- T2. Speeding in the Parish.
The Speed Indicator Device (SID) has been used in Chapel Row, Broad Lane, Burdens Heath and in the Village. The data showed that more than 25% of users were speeding through Chapel Row and along Burdens Heath. As a result, WBC will be using black boxes to measure speed for more prolonged periods of time which can also result in letters being sent to speeding drivers. It was suggested that SID be used again in other locations to raise awareness of the issue.
A poster competition is being run in Bucklebury Primary School, which will result in the winning posters being put up through the parish to encourage people to stop speeding.
The speeding working group will be meeting again in January.
- T3. Combating Loneliness.
It was originally agreed to organise a coffee morning for the last Friday in the month, however neither the Oak Room nor the Memorial Hall are available due to block bookings, so the coffee mornings will run on a Thursday, with the first one being in February.
The Clerk has contacted CCB about initiatives to combat loneliness, which as well as offering suggestions on good practice may provide some funding. AH
A request was made that BPC support the venture by covering the rent of the hall for the first six months, should there be insufficient funds raised by the sessions; this was HP
unanimously agreed. FM

Signature

Date

- T4. Bucklebury Meadows and the Hockett Field.
It was agreed that the clerk would contact the Hedge Laying Society in Reading to get advice on getting some sections of the hedge laid. HP
- T5. Cemetery and Chapel.
Cemetery Carols will take place on Monday 19th December at 6pm. The Chapel (and Cemetery) will be decorated from 10am on the Monday morning. All those councillors attending were asked to arrive as close as possible to 5pm and preferably by 5.30pm as people tend to arrive early.
- T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.
Update on weekly inspections – Cllr. Hillerton reported that there were no issues with the playpark.
- T7. Countryside
Rights of Way – No issues have been identified with any Rights of Way.
4x4 Issues on the Common – District Cllr. Pask reported that Heras fencing is now restricting access to the majority of byways which have TROs on them. If the Heras fencing is damaged, it should be reported to Gerry Hammersley at WBC. District Cllr. Pask commented that he was pleased that the Police had been able to respond quickly enough to catch the offenders at Ramsbury Corner at the weekend.
The 4x4 issues on the Common will be considered by the Commons Advisory Committee which is meeting next week.
It is anticipated that the TROs will come into place at the end of September next year rather than the end of October; however, this means that they will end earlier in the spring.
Posts in the River Pang – Whilst the second set of posts have been installed in the Pang adjacent to the main road ford, quad bikes are still using the area.

FINANCE

- F1. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:
- | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--|
| OJM Farm Contractors | £180.00 | Second set of posts in the Pang. |
| Sylvia Cornell | £40.00 | Cleaning of the bus shelters in October, November and December 2020. |
| Joanna Hale | £30.00 | Cleaning the Chapel for a funeral. |
| Hilary Cairns | £90.92 | Bins for plastic bottle tops and paper cups for the carols. |
| Helen Pratt | £523.79 | Clerk's November salary. |
| Berkshire Pension Fund | £155.19 | November pension contribution. |
- F2. To review current balances and financial position.
- | | | |
|---|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received: | £54,496.82 | |
| Lloyds Current Account: | £55,610.67 | On 20 th November 2019. |
| Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows. | £36,904.98 | On 20 th September 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. |
- F3. Draft Budget for FY20/21.
The Clerk circulated a draft budget prior to the meeting.
There was a discussion about the contribution to the West Berkshire Countryside Society. It was suggested that they be invited to have a stand at the Annual Assembly. There was a question about the cost of the works they do in the parish; the Clerk will enquire.
It was noted that no donations have ever been made to the Chapel Row Community Transport Service run by Georgina Cardy; it was agreed that Cllr. Clarke would ask Georgina Cardy. LC
There is £5,000 ring fenced for capital projects at the Memorial Hall. It was agreed to add a further £2,000 to this total in FY20/21 with the intention that it is used on the

Signature

Date

project to improve the toilets. It was further suggested that if the Memorial Hall Committee made an application to The Good Exchange for donations for the project, any funds raised would be matched.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Burns Night.

Bucklebury Events Committee have organised a Burns Night to be held at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 18th January at which a 3-course meal will be served. Tickets are available from Julie Brims.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Date of next Planning meeting:	7.45pm Monday 27th January 2020.
Date of next BPC meeting:	7.45pm Monday 10th February 2020.
Common Clearing:	Saturday 28th March 2020.

Signature

Date
19/66