

Minutes of a meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council

held at the Victory Room, Bucklebury on

Monday 13th June 2022 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. P. Teal; Cllr. J. Allum; Cllr. R. Ranken; Cllr. P. Spours; Cllr. H. Cairns; District Cllr. G. Pask; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).
Three members of the public including John Munro-Ashman.

1 **Election of Chairman for this meeting.**

It was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Spours would chair the meeting.

2 **Apologies.**

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr. B. Dickens, Cllr. J. Brims and Cllr. D. Southgate.

3 **Declarations of Interest.**

3.1 **Register of Interests.**

Councillors were reminded to advise the Clerk of any changes needed to their declarations of interest.

3.2 **Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.**

There were no declarations of interest in any agenda items.

4 **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council held on Monday 9th May 2022.**

The minutes of the Annual meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by Cllr. Spours.

5 **Chair's Report.**

5.1 **Memorial Hall.**

Cllr. Spours reported that he had attended the AGM of the Memorial Hall and will continue to attend their meetings despite a hostile reception. It was agreed that Cllr. Spours and the Clerk would work on producing a service agreement with the Memorial Hall committee to reduce friction with BPC.

6 **Clerk's Report**

6.1 **West Berkshire Council Bus Survey 2022.**

The Clerk reminded councillors about the WBC bus survey.

6.2 **Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).**

One of the learning outcomes for CiLCA is on GDPR. Costs of £36 were approved for the Clerk to attend an eLearning session about GDPR run by the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC).

6.3 **Appreciation for carrying out the Internal Audit.**

It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase flowers to the value of £50 for the internal auditor in appreciation of the work carried out.

7 **Planning.**

7.1 **Planning applications which BPC has been consulted on by WBC.**

7.1.1 **22/01218/HOUSE – Kings Copse House.**

Replacement entrance gates.

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

7.1.2 **22/01258/HOUSE – Conygree, Carbinswood Lane.**

Side extension.

This application is not visible from neighbouring properties. It was agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.

7.1.3 **22/01325/FUL & 22/01324/LBC2 – Brockhurst School, Marlston House.**

Adaptation and extension of the existing school theatre to create new classrooms and a multi-purpose pavilion.

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

7.1.4 **22/01320/HOUSE – Conamore, The Slade.**

Removal of roof structure, raising all external walls and forming new roof structure to provide living accommodation. Alterations to front fenestration including relocation of entrance and new

Signed

Date

2022/25

oak entrance canopy. Alterations to rear fenestration including removal of conservatory and sunroom.

This application does not increase the existing footprint of the dwelling. It is understood that following concerns from neighbours about the roof of the garage, an amendment is expected changing the garage roof design.

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

The applicant commented that they had moved into to the property in August 2021 and needed to make the property safer and more suitable for their family.

The meeting was **reopened**.

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

7.2 To receive planning decisions received from WBC:

7.2.1 **21/03222/FUL – Middle Wood, Hatch Lane.**

Installation of Glen Farrow GF175 Biomass Boiler and “40ft” log drying container. Section 73 application to remove conditions 5 (nil import of lumber) and 6 (benzo [a]pyrene) of approved application 21/02398/FUL.

BPC made comments on this application which has been considered by the Eastern Area Planning committee and **approved** with conditions on the amount of lumber which can be imported.

7.2.2 **21/03174/FULD – Garage adjacent to 9 Donnington Close.**

Conversion of two garages/stores to a one-bedroom flat including external alterations.

BPC **supported** this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

7.2.3 **21/03191/FULD – Broad View Farm, The Ridge.**

Replacement of existing dwelling.

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

7.2.4 **22/00684/HOUSE – Eliezer Cottage, Zin Zan.**

Proposed side porch extension with extended en-suite and dormer over.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

7.2.5 **22/00764/FUL – The Bladebone.**

Kitchen extension.

BPC **supported** this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

7.2.6 **22/00918/FULD – Ivinghoe (Stanford Dingley Parish).**

Replacement dwelling and landscape enhancements.

BPC **objected** to this application which has been **refused** by WBC.

7.3 Adjacent Parish Applications.

There are no new applications within 200m of the parish boundary.

7.4 Emerging Local Plan.

Cllr. Allum reported that Paul Gorriup has carried out the ecology survey and has discovered four endangered species in the vicinity of THA20. Bats are being monitored in two separate locations and lots of activity has already been recorded. It was agreed that the work Paul Gorriup is carrying out needs to be revisited and potentially extended.

There has been a rumour that WBC has changed the phasing of the traffic lights on the A4 to reduce traffic flows.

Questions have been raised about whether THA16 and THA17 (including Harts Hill Quarry land to the west of Harts Hill Road adjacent to the parish boundary) are included within THA20. It is understood that THA16 and THA17 were considered to be unsuitable and not developable.

8 **District Council Business.**

District Cllr. Pask reported that at the Annual Meeting of WBC, Tom Marino was appointed to the Exec Committee replacing Hilary Cole.

Newbury Scouts are understood to have £5,000 of funding for planting trees and are looking for projects. It was agreed that District Cllr. Pask would put them in touch with Cllr. Allum who is working on a project to replace the avenues of oak trees in Bucklebury (from Chapel Row to The Manor and from Nuttage House to the Manor).

9 **Co-option of a new councillor to the East Ward.**

Two parishioners were interested in the vacant position, however, one has withdrawn his current application, but remains very interested should a vacancy arise in the future.

John Munro-Ashman introduced himself to BPC. He has lived in the parish all his life and wants to become more involved. He farms New Barn Farm and is a tenant of Bucklebury Estate.

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Munro-Ashman be co-opted on to BPC.

10 **Risk Assessments.**

These have been deferred until the July meeting of the council.

11 **Parish Council Website.**

The Clerk will arrange for all the files on the existing website to be copied across to the new website.

12 **Bucklebury Meadows and The Hockett Field.**

Quote for entrance to meadows from Morton's Lane.

A quote has been received for the work to improve the access to the meadows from Morton's Lane for wheelchair users. The quote, of £1,695 excluding VAT, was accepted providing it meets with the specification given. Cllr. Teal will contact the contractor and confirm this.

Hockett Field Wild flowers.

The Clerk has contacted Pete Cane and, subject to having access to the right pieces of equipment, is able to carry out the ground preparation and sowing of wild flower seeds in the Hockett field.

13 **Cemetery and Chapel.**

There was a discussion about the trees which are leaning on the wall of the Cemetery from the common side. Cllr. Allum reported that Willie Hartley Russell has given his permission for a 3m strip to be cleared around the outside of the Cemetery wall.

14 **Memorial Hall surroundings**

14.1 **Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.**

Cllr. Southgate reported that he has fixed one bolt and tried to tightened another on the bowl. He has contacted the company who supplied the bowl about a new set of bolts. It was agreed that Cllr. Southgate and Cllr. Munro-Ashman would install the new bolts. Whilst items raised in the RoSPA report need to be addressed, it has been realised that the slide is wearing thin where it receives most wear. There was a discussion about possible solutions including the use of a fibreglass kit through to completely replacing the slide. The Clerk and Cllr. Southgate will investigate options.

Cllr. Spours reported that Mike Scholl would like BPC to provide a recycling bin in the play park. BPC were against this idea because ideally, people should be encouraged to take their rubbish home.

14.2 **CCTV at the Memorial Hall.**

A Members bid has been made for half of the cost of an updated CCTV installation at the Memorial Hall. The proposed CCTV installation at the Memorial Hall will be dependent upon the broadband facility. The CCTV installation quote received uses the existing CCTV cables, which may need to be replaced if the quality of the images is not sufficiently good.

15 **Wellbeing Coffee mornings.**

A successful coffee morning was held in May. The next coffee morning will be on 30th June at 10.30am.

16 **Environment.**

16.1 **Street lights.**

BPC resolved to remove the five streetlights in the Burdens Heath area at a cost of £2,298.70. It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter for residents living in the immediate area, explaining why BPC was taking this action and include the AONB dark skies policy.

16.2 **Conservation Area Appraisal.**

Cllr. Clarke reported that comments are still awaited from WBC on the Bucklebury Conservation Area Appraisal document. District Cllr. Pask will chase this up.

16.3 **Speeding in the Parish.**

Cllr. Southgate will work on getting SID operational in the parish over the next two months. Training was included in the package purchased with the SID Gen5-pro which needs to be organised.

Signed

Date

2022/27

16.4 Recycling in the Parish.

Cllr. Cairns reported that plastic bottle tops continue to be collected from around the parish for recycling.

16.5 Bucklebury Common.

Cllr. Teal raised the issue with the various incursions which are taking place on the Common by 4x4s and motorbikes. The Police will only take action if they are aware of the incursions, which must be reported either via 101 or the Thames Valley Police website.

17 **Finances.**

17.1 Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Post Office Ltd	£90.96	SSE Streetlight cost 2/4/2022 to 1/6/2022.
Bucklebury Memorial Hall	£175.00	50% of the cost of grass cutting from 21/3/22 to 9/5/2022.
GLEAM	£15.00	Membership.
Triangle Management Company Ltd.	£100.80	Dog bin emptying April, May and June 2022 at the Memorial Hall.
Salaries, pension contributions and expenses	£892.16	May 2022 salaries, pension contributions, annual assembly expenses and SLCC membership.

17.2 To review current balances and financial position on the 13th June 2022.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£21,021.86	
Lloyds Current Account:	£22,904.92	On 20 th May 2022.
Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows:	£35,450.50	On 20 th May 2022.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£32,752.35	On 7 th April 2022.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£4,580.27	On 7 th April 2022.

17.3 Annual Governance Statement.

Following completion of the internal audit, the Annual Governance Statement was circulated to members prior to the meeting. It was resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement and it was signed by Cllr. Spours (the Chairman of the meeting).

17.4 Annual Accounting Statement.

The Annual Accounting Statement was circulated to members prior to the meeting. It was resolved to approve the Accounting Statement for the year ending the 31st March 2022 and it was signed by Cllr. Spours.

18 **Reports.**

18.1 District Parish Conference.

The District Parish Conference was attended by Cllr. Allum, Cllr. Dickens and the Clerk. The main focus of the conference was on climate change and in particular car sharing and wild flower verges.

19 **Round Table Comments.**

19.1 Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr. Allum reported that he had received complaints from 5 parishioners because BPC had not organised any events for the Jubilee. It was noted that parishioners were able to organise their own events and that a "Best of Bucklebury Event" is planned for next year.

19.2 Verges.

It was noted that the vegetation in Tylers Lane and on Brocks Lane is obstructing sight lines.

20 **The meeting concluded at 9.30pm.**

Date of next meetings:

Next Planning meeting: Monday 23rd May 2022 at 7.45pm - Victory Room.

Next BPC meeting: Monday 11th July 2022 at 7.45pm - Victory Room.

Signed

Date
2022/28