

Minutes of a virtual meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council Planning Committee held via Zoom on Monday 22nd February 2021 at 7.45pm.

Present: Cllr. J. Brims (Chairman); Cllr. B. Dickens; Cllr. P. Spours; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. F. MacCallum; Cllr. T. Slatford; Cllr. B. Unamba; District Cllr. G. Pask; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

Others: Five parishioners.

Apologies: There were no apologies of absence.

Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

P1. Update on the Working Group about the Proposed NE Thatcham Development (SP17).

Cllr. Dickens reported that he had had a virtual meeting with Cllr. Brims, Cllr. Southgate, Mr Beeson, Mr. Powell and Mr. De Lara at which it was agreed that everyone was of the same mind about the way forwards. Mr. De Lara had prepared an initial project plan.

The priority is to form the independent group, comprising of Mr. Beeson, Mr. De Lara, Mr. Powell, two members of BPC (Cllr. MacCallum and Cllr. Spours) and a small number of co-opted parishioners.

The role of the group will be to oversee, co-ordinate and steer the efforts to object to the development of SP17. Specialist parishioners and consultants will work with the group as necessary. The group will work with neighbouring parishes in a similar position and maintain open communication channels with Thatcham Town Council. Communication with parishioners and some from the wider area needs to be maintained. BPC will be updated at the monthly Planning Meetings by representative councillors and at the full BPC meetings if necessary.

Cllr. Dickens will be attending a press interview with ITV Meridian on Tuesday 23rd February about the proposed development. He is also writing an article for the 'Penny Post' which will be published on Thursday 25th February.

Planning Applications WBC has consulted BPC about:

- P2. 21/00189/HOUSE The Dell, Byles Green.
& 21/00190/LBC2 *Detached outbuilding.*

It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application subject to the outbuilding remaining ancillary to The Dell.

- P3. 21/00281/LBC2 Wallins, Westrop Green.

Removal of poorly executed (non original) existing painted porch structure over front entrance door, comprising Oak posts and 4x2 studwork; replacement with traditional Oak Frame structure of similar size and proportions, plus reinstatement of clay tiled roof.

Whilst BPC had **no objection** to this application, there was a discussion about the proposed porch bisecting the windows on either side of the front door.

Round Table Comments:

- RT1. Bike Track.

Cllr. Southgate reported that managing the closed bike track at the Memorial Hall was a very unpleasant experience at the weekend. The track is closed due to the COVID pandemic after consultation with WBC who have assisted with barriers to block the track.

Groups of individuals are visiting the bike track and insisting on using it, even though there is clear signage stating that it is closed. Some of the individuals visiting the track are abusive to councillors when they are told

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that the track is closed.

Cllr. Brims commented that it is not right that councillors are taking the brunt of this behaviour; it should be being dealt with by the Police. Some of the incidents have been reported to Thames Valley Police who have responded and said that if there is abuse towards councillors (or members of the public), it should be reported on 999. A request has been made for the Police to check the bike track when they are passing. There are two separate issues for the Police to deal with: the breaching of the COVID regulations and the abusive behaviour. A group of the individuals who are visiting the bike park have electric dirt bikes, these are causing significant damage to the surface and need to be banned. It was agreed that the current signs need to be updated to include the exclusion of electric bikes.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Next BPC Meeting:	Monday 8 th March 2021 – 7.45pm.
Next Planning Committee Meeting:	Monday 22 nd March 2021 – 7.45pm.
Annual Parish Assembly:	Thursday 6 th May 2021 – 7.45pm.

Signature.....

Date.....
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