

Minutes of a meeting of Bucklebury Parish Council Planning Committee  
held at the Victory Room, Bucklebury on  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.45pm.

1 **Present:**

Cllr. B. Dickens (Chairman); Cllr. P. Spours; Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. P. Teal; Cllr. R. Ranken; Cllr. J. Munro Ashman; Cllr. J. Allum; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. A. Hillerton; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

Two members of the public.

1.1 **Apologies.**

Apologies of absence were received and accepted from Cllr. J. Brims.

2 **Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

3 **Public Session.**

3.1 **EduCafé.**

A parishioner introduced the EduCafe which provides a free community space for people to meet up in Newbury Library on a Wednesday from 11am to 2pm and share free tea and cake. The initiative was set up by two local business ladies who managed to secure funding from WBC to provide free tea and cake for weekly meetings, for between 20 and 40 people, for three years.

From the very first session the numbers of people attending has vastly exceeded the expected numbers and there are generally between 100 and 180 people joining the sessions. At each Wednesday session, there are specific areas: chatty corner (free conversation classes), knit and natter (producing dolls for children in need) and a parent village where parents and grandparents can get together with babies and toddlers and benefit from various visitors focusing on baby/toddler activities.

Some funding has been secured from GWR for the free conversation classes to include trips to various cities in the south.

Plans are being considered to roll out the EduCafe into the rural communities. In the early summer there were pop-up sessions in Hungerford, Theale and Thatcham libraries. Whilst the Thatcham sessions were well supported, they were hindered by the lack of toilet facilities in the library.

A three-year plan is being developed for the EduCafe. Support from volunteers interested in fundraising and with links into local rural communities would be welcomed.

4 **Approval of minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on the Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022.**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

5 **Planning applications received from WBC:**

5.1 **22/02453/HOUSE – Chapel Row House.**

*Extensions and alterations to existing house.*

This application represents approximately a 35% increase in footprint of the 1930s house.

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

The agent commented that the application modernises the house to take advantage of the site and the views into the Pang Valley. The extensions are broadly in keeping with the style of the original house.

The meeting was **reopened**.

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

Signature.....

Date.....

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- 5.2 22/02340/HOUSE – Kennel Barn, The Slade.  
*Single storey rear extension. Insertion of rooflights to front and rear elevations. Insulation and render to existing brick elevation.*  
 It was unanimously agreed that BPC has **no objection** to this application.
- 5.3 22/02265/FULD – Land adjacent to Pine Lodge, Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).  
*Proposed new house.*  
 Having considered the plans for the proposed new house, it was agreed that BPC has **no comment** to make on this application.
- 6 **Review of applications within 200m of the parish boundary.**  
 No new applications have been registered on the WBC website which BPC wish to comment upon.
- 7 **Update from the NE Thatcham Working Group.**  
 Cllr. Spours reported that planning consultant Andrew Black has been appointed to represent BPC on the Reg 19 consultation when it is published. A walk around the THA20 site and lunch are planned. New members are needed for the working group to carry out the following:
- To arrange a public meeting in late November
  - To look at the traffic implications
  - To work on communications with the wider parish (Facebook, the website)
  - To look at what consultation WBC carried out at each stage.
- 8 **Round Table Comments.**
- 8.1 Website.  
 There is an informal target to have the new website live by Christmas and preferably before.
- 8.2 Playpark.  
 Councillors were asked to inspect the playpark over the weekends of 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> October and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> November.
- 8.3 Cemetery Carols.  
 Cllr. Hillerton has arranged the compere and the keyboard player. The Clerk will make arrangements for the keyboard and power, lighting and mulled wine provision.
- 8.4 Bucklebury Community Bus.  
 The existing trustees of the Community Bus have all been trustees since the group started when they were parents of children attending Kennet School, six years ago. Now, none of the trustees have children at Kennet School and all wish to resign. However, they have struggled to recruit new trustees over the last six months. Four potential trustees have recently volunteered. The employed driver of the bus then gave notice, so a new reliable driver is needed. Approximately 40 children use the bus for transport to and from school each day.
- 8.5 Cottage Inn Fireworks.  
 The landlord of The Cottage Inn has asked for permission for the fireworks in the middle meadow on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October. This was agreed, subject to the company putting on the display providing a copy of their public liability insurance cover and a full risk assessment.
- 8.6 Improvements to the Morton's Lane entrance to the meadows.  
 The improvement works have been completed and councillors were pleased with the result. A little more top soil is needed in one place.
- 8.7 SID Training.  
 Cllr. Southgate reported that he is intending to organise some SID training for the coming weekend (29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> October).
- 8.8 CCTV at the Memorial Hall.  
 Cllr. Dickens reported that he is awaiting a session with the electrician on how to operate the CCTV.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Next BPC Meeting:	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 – 7.45pm (Victory Room).
Next Planning Committee Meeting:	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 – 7.45pm (Victory Room).
Signature.....	Date..... Planning Committee 2022/19