

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 6th April 2009

PRESENT

Mrs. W. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. B. Dickens; Mr. P. Brook; Mr. D. Heslop; Mrs. L. Clarke;
Mr. J. de Lara; Mr. H. Hind; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. G. Pask; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mr. S. Beeson; Mr. T. Slatford.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th March 2009 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

MATTERS ARISING

There are no matters arising not covered elsewhere in the minutes.

PLANNING

P1. Broad View Farm.

Mr. Pask reported that he was disappointed with the decision on the latest application for Broad View Farm. However WBC planning officers have indicated that in many cases if a need can be shown and supported for an agricultural application, no full application for planning permission is required.

P2. Bucklebury Saab Garage.

The Clerk reported that she had written to Mr. Edwards (WBC), but had to date not received a response.

P3. The Old Cottage, The Avenue.

A letter has been received from Mr. Dray (WBC Planning Officer) stating that the Enforcement Team is currently working with the applicant to rectify the situation regarding the location of the summer pergola.

Plans submitted for approval:

- P4. 09/00350/FULD The Cottage, Greens Old Farm.
&
09/00351/LBC Change of use of barn to residential accommodation. Development of existing 1 bedroom cottage and adjoining barn into a 3 bedroom dwelling. BPC have **no objection** to this application.

Planning applications determined:

- P5. 09/00218/AGRIC Broad View Farm, The Ridge.
Extension to existing agricultural building.
BPC **objected** to this application, however it was determined that a **full application is not required.**
- P6. 08/02282/HOUSE Kings Copse House, Southend.
Alterations, improvements and minor extensions to existing dwelling house.
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved.**
- P7. 09/00124/HOUSE Mulberry House, Carbinswood Lane (Adjacent Parish).
Demolition of former stable block and the erection of a swimming pool house.
BPC had **no objection** to this application however it has been **refused.**
- P8. 08/02274/FUL The Cottage, Fifield Farm.
Retrospective – Alterations and extensions to cottage and change of use of car park to residential cartilage.
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved.**

Signature

Date

- P9. 08/02187/FUL Osgood Holding, Sadgrove Lane.
Change of use to include grazing for horses. To erect a stable and hay barn consisting of three loose boxes, tack room and hay barn and food storage area.
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P10. 08/02372/HOUSE Bucklebury Lodge, Chapel Row.
Minor extensions and alterations to existing house; Construction of new garage block with room over. (Existing garage and sheds to be demolished).
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P11. 08/02351/FUL Bucklebury C of E Primary School.
Removal of existing 1m high metal gates and fence panel (1 double, 1 single gate) and erection of new 1.8m high metal gate (green) double gates, single gate and fence panel.
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P12. 08/02198/FUL Red Hill View, Briff Lane.
Erection of a machine store with bat loft over and new field access.
BPC **objected** to this application on the grounds of over development and the increase in traffic on Briff Lane, however it has been **approved**.

DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS

Dc1. Local Development Framework.

Mr. Pask reported that a new draft of the Local Development Framework will shortly be going out for consultation. It is understood that the settlement boundary around Upper Bucklebury remains in its current position. There are a number of major sites being discussed, none of which directly affect Bucklebury. Mr. Pask offered to talk about planning in a little more detail, this was well received and it was agreed that planning would be discussed at the June meeting.

Mr. Dickens enquired as to whether there were any plans for Thatcham to grow northwards; Mr. Pask responded that plans for growth were around sustainable locations.

Dc2. Local Strategic Partnership

Ways in which communities can reduce their carbon footprint are being considered, including recycling and energy use, parish councils are likely to be involved in this.

S1. Schools. Nothing to report.

ROADS

R1. The Ridge.

Mr. Dickens reported that he had sent reports to WBC regarding the pot holes on the Ridge which have since been marked for repair.

R2. Ford Sign.

Mr. Dickens has reported to WBC the road sign at Bucklebury Ford which has been knocked down.

R3. Tylers Lane.

The Clerk reported that the lower stretch of Tylers Lane was due to be resurfaced on 1st April.

HALLS

H1. Memorial Hall.

Mr. Hind reported that the Finance and General Purpose Committee had reviewed the rates which now need to be approved by the Management Committee. They are

Signature

Date

reviewing replacing the front doors of the existing hall, such that they will ultimately match with that on the annex.

H2. The Annex.

Progress is being made with plastering, plumbing and wiring. Progress with the roof is now awaiting delivery of the steel roofing tiles. The name of the new hall will be The Oak Room.

The Oak Room will be official opened by Richard Benyon MP on Friday 12th June for invited parties. The Oak Room will be open for parishioners to view on Saturday 13th June.

MAINTENANCE

M1. Cemetery.

The remaining roots have been ground out and the area reseeded. Two small yew trees have been found growing adjacent to the area in which the roots have been removed. Other shrubs growing around the yews will be cut back to encourage the yews to grow. The path behind the Chapel is being reinstated by C.R. Landscapes during April.

WF

M2. Cemetery Chapel.

Unfortunately on Tuesday 31st March, two local youths were caught on camera, throwing stones at the Chapel. A number of windows and roof tiles have been broken as a result. This vandalism has been reported to the Police. The Clerk will work with the insurance company to get the damage fixed. Mr. Beeson will work with the police to try and identify the individuals. There has been at least one other incident of stones thrown at windows in recent weeks.

HP
SB

M3. Oak Trees in Bucklebury Meadow.

Mrs. Frankum reported that two of the three Oak trees planted by DWH are lose. She has reported this to Stephen Reeves of DWH who has agreed to look at the trees and also the sign about the Meadows by Byles Green Farm.

SR
WF

M4. Ownership of Bucklebury Meadows.

The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from Jeremy Davey (WBC) that the fields comprising Bucklebury Meadows will now pass directly from DWH to BPC, and not to WBC for one year as had been previously expected. The land will transfer once the wild flower seeding has taken place.

HP

PUBLIC PATHS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pp1. Byway 67 past Tomlins, Coxs Lane.

Mrs. Frankum reported that byway 67 should pass immediately in front of Tomlins, however the byway sign in Cox's Lane has disappeared. The byway has become overgrown and the land in front of Tomlins has been landscaped. This has happened over approximately the last 10 years. The current owner has indicated to a local resident that there is no public right of way along byway 67. Mr. Pask agreed to speak to a footpaths officer regarding the byway. Mr. Beeson is drafting a letter to be sent to WBC.

GP
SB
HP

Pp2. Veteran Tree Leaflet.

Mrs. Frankum has written and thanked Dick Greenaway and Jill Butler for their efforts in producing the Veteran Tree Leaflet and the walk to launch the leaflet on Sunday 29th March. The walk was very successful with around 75 people.

Pp3. Broad Lane Line of Oaks.

Mrs. Frankum stated that there was a view that the oak trees along Broad Lane and onto the Ridge are a continuation of the Oak trees along The Avenue. Mrs. Frankum will ask Dennis Gower and Dick Greenaway if it is possible to record these trees with a view to potentially getting TPOs put on them.

WF

Signature

Date

06/75

- Pp4. The Common.
The Clerk will print and laminate a number of warning notices regarding the use of 4x4s and flytipping. Plans are being made for a day of concerted effort on the Common by the Police and WBC wardens. HP
SB
- Pp5. Bucklebury Hay Meadows.
A small number of local residents are using the access to the hay meadows between 20 Broad Lane and Edglee, Broad Lane. This is not a public right of way. It was agreed that Mrs. Frankum will put up a notice to this effect and padlock the gate. WF
- Y1. YOUTH. Nothing to report.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- Ga1. Parish Assembly.
The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Friday 8th May at 8pm in the Memorial Hall. Karen Davies from FWAG will be the main speaker with several local people giving brief updates on various parish projects. Refreshments will be served by Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Brook and Mr. Heslop. LC
PB
DH
- Ga2. Allotments.
The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Bucklebury Estate indicating that a number of allotments are let throughout the Parish, and whilst there are none available at present there are former allotment sites which could be cleared. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond and enquire about the siting of current and former allotment sites. HP
- Ga3. Annual Meeting of BPC – Monday 11th May.
Mrs. Frankum passed on her apologies as she will be away at the Annual meeting of BPC in May. She stated that she and Mr. Beeson are willing to continue in their positions.
- Ga4. The Oaks.
It was agreed that there would be a working party of Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Clarke, Christine Ewing and Mrs. Pratt to consider how The Oaks may be improved in future. This will include looking at magazines produced by other parish councils. The working party will have a report ready for the June meeting. WF
LC
HP
- Ga5. Donations to Charities.
It was agreed that charities requesting support fall into two general categories:
1. Charities which help maintain the diversity of the environment of the Parish for all parishioners to enjoy.
2. Charities which benefit individual people within the parish.
It was agreed that in principle charities falling into the first category should be supported, however those falling into the second category should be investigated a little more before money is donated to them. There was some discussion around the maximum percentage of the precept which should be donated to charity. It was agreed that Mr. Brook, Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Brims would draw up guidelines to be used when making donations to charities for the September meeting, to come into effect for the financial year 2010/11. PB
LC
JB
- Ga6. Common Clearing.
Spring Common clearing is booked for Saturday April 25th at 2pm. The Clerk handed out posters to advertise the event. Mrs. Dickens is organising refreshments after and is drafting in several other local people. HP
- Ga7. BALC Membership.
The Clerk had details of BALC (Berkshire Association of Local Council), membership of which will cost BPC £326.24 for the year. Advantages of this include access to training for members and advice on any legal, financial or procedural matters. Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC join BALC for a trial year and review the benefits before

Signature

Date

renewing for a second year. This was seconded by Mrs. Clarke and carried with one objection. The Clerk will find out about the planning course which is running in the near future.

HP

Ga8. Working with your Council – Clerk training.

The Clerk requested that BPC cover the cost of training for her to do the “Working with your Council” course run by the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks). The Cost of the course is £135.00. Mr. de Lara proposed paying the cost of the course and the Clerks expenses; this was seconded by Mrs. Clarke and carried with one abstention.

HP

PARISH PLAN

Ppl1. Plans for the Parish Plan.

Mr. Brook reported that he had met with Mr. Beeson and arranged a handover of the Parish Plan and the next immediate steps. Mr. Brook will contact Sarah Ward and gather information from her regarding ways forwards. Mr. Brook will contact the previous volunteers who helped last time in and try to enlist the help of new people (possibly from Mortons Lane). An article will go into the Autumn edition of The Oaks asking for anyone interested in helping to come forwards. The initial thought is that the update will be produced as an addendum to the existing Parish Plan.

Mr. Brook is in the process of reformatting the action register and reviewing the open actions.

PB

FINANCE

F1. Balances:

Lloyds Treasurers Account	£52,612.70	At 20/3/09.
Scottish Widows Call Account	£27,698.93	At 1/1/09.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Bequest Account	£4645.35	At 1/1/09.
Scottish Widows Memorial Hall Extension Fund	£80,778.33	At 23/3/09.

F2. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:

Bucklebury Construction	£21,968.75	Interim certificate no. 2 for Memorial Hall Annex.
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F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Absolutely Tree and Hedge Care Ltd.	£205.00	Cemetery stump grinding and reseeded.
Southern Electric Contracting Ltd.	£26.39	Streetlights 2009, Q1 charges.
Mrs. S. Cornell	£35.00	Bus shelter cleaning 2009 Q1.
Berkshire County Blind Society	£60.00	Donation.
One World One Camera	£287.50	Memorial Hall Annex framed pictures.
Access Architects Ltd.	£2,122.95	50% of RIBA stages H,J,K and L.
Tricorn Consultants	£287.50	Structural report for block wall between Memorial Hall and Annex.
Mrs. H. Pratt	£442.34	Clerks March Salary and Q1 expenses.
Mr. R. Kent	£50.00	Cemetery Superintendents 2009 Q1 salary.
Bucklebury Construction	£23,750.00	Memorial Hall Annex.
Bucklebury Tennis Club	£250.00	Donation.

Signature

Date

- F4. Budget for 2009/10.
 The Clerk reported that an error had been made in the budget for 2009/10 which means that the donation to FWAG has been reduced from £600 to £100 in 2009/10. It was agreed that this should be reinstated. The Clerk suggested that funding for the Hockett Field, Meadows Maintenance and Maintenance of the Pang could all be reduced by £300 to £200 thus producing £900, which is sufficient to cover the extra required for the donation to FWAG and membership of BALC. Acceptance of this suggestion was proposed by Mr. Heslop, seconded by Mr. Dickens and unanimously agreed. HP

CORRESPONDENCE

- C1. Reading Singles Homeless Project.
 An update from the above project has been received with information about a sleepover in April at the Majesky Stadium to raise awareness of the homeless.
- C2. West Berkshire Learner Achievement Awards 2009.
 Mrs. Frankum suggested that Leana Jury be put forwards for the above award. This was agreed and Mrs. Frankum will pursue the nomination which has to be complete by Friday 10th April. WF
- C3. GLEAM.
 A newsletter and renewal of membership forms have been received. Mr. de Lara proposed renewing the membership at a cost of £10.00; this was seconded by Mr. Dickens and unanimously agreed. HP
- C4. Toddlers.
 The Clerk reported that a letter had been received thanking BPC for their grant and assistance with placing the order for the new mats.
- C5. Bucklebury Water Mill Restoration Project.
 Mrs. Clarke reported that she had received a letter from Alastair Mc Oran-Campbell requesting that BPC write a letter supporting the restoration of the Water Mill Project for a Lottery Bid. It was agreed that in principle BPC support the restoration and such a letter be written. Mrs. Frankum will draft the letter. WF
 HP

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

NEXT MEETING:	Monday 11th May 2009
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLOWING DATES:	
Saturday 25th April 2009 2.00pm	Spring Common Clearing Event
Friday 8th May 2009 8.00pm	Annual Parish Assembly

Signature

Date