

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Held at the Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 11th May 2009

PRESENT

Mr. S. Beeson; Mr. P. Brook; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. D. Heslop; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. J. de Lara;
Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. Q. Webb; Mrs. H. Pratt(Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mrs. W. Frankum; Mr. H. Hind; Mr. B. Dickens.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

- E1. The Clerk reported that Mrs. Frankum was willing to stand as Chair. Mrs. Frankum was proposed as Chairman by Mr. Brims, seconded by Mr. de Lara and unanimously agreed.
- E2. The election of Mr. Beeson as Vice-Chairman was proposed by Mr. Heslop, seconded by Mr. Brook and unanimously agreed.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th April 2009 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mr. Beeson.

MATTERS ARISING

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

PLANNING

- P1. Mobile Homes.
The Clerk was asked to enquire of WBC whether planning permission is required for mobile homes, as often used during home improvements. HP
- P2. Enforcements.
There are a number of properties with enforcement actions outstanding against them in the parish. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Graham Tandy (WBC) and ask for the status of each one. HP
- Plans submitted for approval:
- P3. 09/00587/LBC Cob Hatch, Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).
& Alteration and extension to existing dwelling.
09/00584/HOUSE BPC have **no objection** to this application.
- P4. 09/00375/FUL Smallholding between Copse Cottage and Merryfield, Kiff Green.
Demolish all existing buildings and construct barn.
BPC **object** to this application as it is a new development in an AONB and appears to be out of proportion and inappropriate for the site.
- P5. 09/00543/HOUSE Windrush, 39 Broad Lane.
Demolition and rebuild of hall/cloakroom with additional en-suite bathroom above.
BPC have **no objection** to this application.
- P6. 09/00341/HOUSE 30 Chapel Row.
Two storey and single storey extension to rear of house, replacement of current enclosed front porch with larger porch.
BPC have **no objection** to this application.
- P7. 09/00357/HOUSE Chadwell, Chapel Row.
2 storey extension to front providing enlarged hallway and second bedroom. 2 storey extension to rear providing enlarged living area and allowing en-suite to second bedroom.
BPC have **no objection** to this application.

Signature

Date

- P8. 09/00350/FULD The Cottage, Greens Old Farm.
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:

- P9. 09/00351/LBC The Cottage, Greens Old Farm.
Change of use of barn to residential accommodation. Development of existing 1 bedroom cottage and adjoining barn into a 3 bedroom dwelling. BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.

- S1. Schools. Nothing to report.

ROADS

- R1. Broad Lane.
Mr. de Lara reported that all of the changes to the signage which had been agreed with Mr. Garratt(WBC) had now all been completed. It was agreed that BPC would formally write and thank him for meeting with BPC to discuss these changes and managing the implementation. It was also agreed that BPC should request the figures from the speed survey carried out during April. HP
- R2. Junction of Byles Green and Cemetery Road.
The Clerk will chase WBC regarding the repairs to be made to this junction. The planned work was put on hold towards the end of the last financial year due to funding. It was agreed that the work would take place during the financial year 2009/10. HP
- R3. Road between Bucklebury Village and Briff Lane.
The road between the Village and Briff Lane has been patched. However it is expected that heavy rain will quickly break it down. It was agreed that the Clerk will ask Mr. Garratt about the long term plan for this stretch of road. HP
- R4. Holly Lane between Holly Farm and Haycroft.
Mr. Heslop reported that this section of the lane is little more than gravel. It was agreed that Mr. Heslop would check its current state and then report it to Streetcare if necessary. DH

HALLS

- H1. Memorial Hall Improvements.
It looks likely that the Memorial Hall Improvements committee has managed to raise more funds than are going to be required for the annex. Mr. Slatford asked whether the money which BPC are donating to the Improvement fund is tied to the extension to the Memorial Hall or to improvements. The Clerk will check the minutes. HP
It was agreed that Mr. Jeremy Brooke be asked to attend the June meeting to update BPC on the financial position and any restrictions or clauses which may exist on any remaining monies. HP

MAINTENANCE

- M1. Cemetery Chapel.
Mr. Beeson reported that the police have arrested and bailed the local youth who caused the damage to the Chapel.
The Clerk is in the process of filling out the insurance claim and it was agreed that the insurance company would manage the repairs. The excess on the insurance is £250, which we may be able to reclaim at a later date.
It was suggested that we should consider the option of toughened glass in the panes being replaced. HP

Signature

Date

- M2. Bucklebury Meadow – Oak trees.
Mr. Beeson reported that he had inspected the new oak trees with Roger Malloy. Mr. Malloy stated that the staking is in line with current thinking.
- M3. Bucklebury Meadow – Line of the footpath.
Mr. Beeson reported that he had spoken to Paul Hendry who had sent him a detailed map showing the footpath in the meadow (where the footpath is in reality) and not in the area between the Mortons Lane gardens and the meadow as Jon Thomas had indicated. When Mr. Thomas returns to work he will look into the matter. SB
HP

PUBLIC PATHS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Pp1. Byway 67
Prior to the meeting Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Frankum and Mr. Beeson had agreed to contact the residents of Tomlins to discuss the action which BPC wish to take. Once this meeting has taken place, BPC will write to WBC. LC
SB
WF
- Pp2. Broad Lane line of Oak trees.
Prior to the meeting Mrs. Frankum had spoken to Norma and Mike Smyth who have offered to record the trees in question.
- Pp3. TPOs on Oak Trees.
To date there has been no update regarding the TPOs on either the new oak trees in Bucklebury Meadow or the oak trees between Mortons Lane and Byles Green. It was agreed that Mr. Beeson would chase this up with Paul Hendry (WBC). SB
- Pp4. Common Clearing.
Mr. Beeson thanked the Clerk for organising a successful Spring Common Clearing session. There was a discussion around reducing the number of skips to two; removing the one at the Commons Crossroads which tends to get abused. Mr. Beeson reported that he had made enquires about the rubbish which is put in the skips and how it is dealt with; it is hand sorted, and recycled where this is possible. The Clerk reported that she had received insufficient gloves and pickers from WBC given the number of people who came, it was suggested that for the next Common Clearing session a specific number of gloves and pickers are requested.
- Pp5. Flytipping.
From the 1st June, WBC will be charging for the collection of larger items (up until this point it has been free). This is expected to result in an increase in the number of larger items being dumped on the Common.
- Pp6. Dumped Vehicles.
Mr. Beeson reported that the police are responding quickly to reports of vehicles which have been dumped on the Common. A vehicle was reported near the fish ponds and the police were present on the scene the next day.
- Pp7. NAG update.
Mr. Slatford reported that the 3 priorities being investigated by the NAG are all in Compton, due to the majority of the questionnaires being returned from Compton. PC Jason Murphy is very keen to continue working to reduce the problems on the Common and look into the speed on Broad Lane now that the traffic calming has been implemented.
- Pp8. Vandalism in Upper Bucklebury.
Damage has recently been caused in Blacklands Copse, which is private property used by many parishioners. Windows have been broken at The Dell, Byles Green.
- Pp9. Monkey Bikes on the Common.
Mr. Heslop reported that he had seen and spoken to a number of monkey bike riders riding on the cleared area of the Common in The Slade.

Signature

Date

- Pp10. Homeless parishioner.
Unfortunately a long standing resident of Upper Bucklebury has become homeless and is currently living in a tent along the footpath behind the pub. BPC have spoken to both Social Services and the police about what can be done.
- Pp11. The Cottage Inn.
The pub in Upper Bucklebury reopens tonight and is expected to serve food in a few weeks time.

YOUTH

- Y1. Fred Dawson Play Park.
It was reported that Mrs. Slatford gave a good presentation at the Annual Assembly which was well received. The project has received news that they will receive a grant from Veolia, although the amount is unknown.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- Ga1. Autumn Commons Clearing.
The date for the Autumn Common Clearing Event was agreed for Saturday October 17th. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements. HP
- Ga2. Allotments.
Mr. Brook reported that a large allotment has recently been allocated at the top of Paradise Lane. In addition to requesting the site for former and current allotments, it was suggested that the Clerk should enquire about the allocation process. HP
- Ga3. The Oaks.
A meeting between Mrs. Frankum, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Pratt and Christine Ewing will be held on 2nd June to discuss possible improvements to The Oaks.
- Ga4. Annual Assembly.
It was agreed that the Clerk should write and formally thank Karen Davies from FWAG for attending the Annual Assembly and giving such an interesting talk. HP
- Ga5. No Ball Game signs for Bucklebury Meadow.
Mr. Miles has offered to purchase and put up "No ball game" signs for Bucklebury Meadows. It was proposed that BPC accept the offer with the signs costing a maximum of £15.00 by Mr. de Lara, this was seconded by Mrs. Clarke.

PARISH PLAN

- Pp11. Progress to date with Refresh.
Mr. Brook reported that he had met with officers from WBC and Sarah Ward, who is willing to help facilitate the Refresh. A steering group needs to be formed with a minimum number of people, to date six people have volunteered to join the group, however more are required. Some areas of the parish are not represented including Mortons Lane residents, and those in their 70's.
- Pp12. Working with the School.
Sarah Ward has suggested working with the school and would like to facilitate some work with them. The Clerk will send Mr. Brook details of how to contact the school. It was also suggested that an article could be put into the Bucklebury Buzz (newsletter produced by the Friends of Bucklebury Primary School) for parents to read. HP
PB
- Pp13. Consultation with parishioners.
A consultation meeting is planned to take place on 16th, 22nd, 23rd or 24th June in the Memorial Hall. It is proposed that those people on the steering group would need to note down peoples views on particular areas of the Parish Plan. In order for this consultation to be effective, sufficient advertisement is needed. The parish notice boards and parish web site were agreed. PB

Signature

Date

Ppl4. Healthy and Active Parishes.

This is a two year program to encourage a more active life style. Funds are available to groups which are promoting this area.

FINANCE

F1. Balances:

Lloyds Treasurers Account	£11,406.66	At 20/4/09.
Scottish Widows Call Account	£27,739.74	At 1/4/09.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Bequest Account	£4,655.04	At 1/4/09.
Scottish Widows Memorial Hall Extension Fund	£80,885.69	At 1/4/09.

F2. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:

Bucklebury Construction	£23,750.00	Memorial Hall Annex Interim Certificate number 3.
Camp Hopson & Co. Ltd	£865.37	Deposit for curtains for Annex.
Bucklebury Construction	£17,250	Memorial Hall Annex Interim Certificate number 4.

F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Southern Electric	£112.35	Street lights – Burdens Heath.
The Alpha Xperience	£242.50	Printing of Spring edition of The Oaks.
B. Wolstenholme	£3.00	The Oaks delivery – Tylers Lane & The Slade.
Janine Hanson	£3.00	The Oaks delivery – Broad Lane.
Gregory Eaton	£7.50	The Oaks delivery – Turners Green & Roundfield.
E. J. Weedon	£6.00	The Oaks delivery – Burdens Heath & Hopgoods Green.
Alison I. Banks	£6.00	The Oaks delivery – Long Grove & Little Lane.
C. R. Landscapes	£1,085.00	Cemetery path work.
Shaw and Sons Limited	£31.92	Certificates for grants to erect monuments.
GLEAM	£10.00	Annual membership.
Berkshire Association of Local Councils	£326.50	Annual membership.
Society of Local Council Clerks	£95.00	Working with your council course.
Mrs. P. W. Frankum	£29.10	Various expenses.
Mrs. H. Pratt	£408.00	Clerks salary for April 2009.
Bucklebury Parish Council – MHE	£5,000.00	Donation for Memorial Hall Improvements.
Bucklebury Memorial Hall	£150.00	Donation to for play park improvements.

F4. Stoppage of Cheque 1503 for £23,750.

The Clerk reported that she had stopped a cheque written at the April meeting for £23,750, because in addition to being signed by two authorised signatories, it had also been signed by an unauthorised signatory. The bank had recommended the stopping of the cheque given its value. A charge of £10.00 is made by the bank for stopping cheques.

Signature

Date

- F5. Gilroy Funds.
Having discussed the Gilroy fund with Mr. Brooke it is understood that the interest on the Gilroy fund is paid to St. Martins on an annual bases. Depending on interest rates in some instances a donation from BPC has been added to the amount. It was agreed that BPC would pay St. Martins Club the interest from the previous financial year in May. It was agreed that the Clerk would draw up a calendar of cheques which are written on a regular bases to ensure that no such cheques are forgotten. HP
- F6. Valuation of Cemetery Chapel.
Mr. Beeson reported that he had spoken to Jonathon Poole regarding the valuation for the Cemetery. Mr. Poole is willing to carry out the valuation and is awaiting some information regarding the structure and its age from the Clerk. HP
- F7. Cost of Street Lighting.
The 6 street lights on Burdens Heath cost BPC approximately £200.00 last year. It was agreed that Mr. de Lara would look at the account information and see if this amount could be reduced. HP
JdL

CORRESPONDENCE

- C1. District Parish Conference.
The next District Parish Conference is on Wednesday 27th May. Mr. Heslop agreed to go with either Mr. de Lara or Mr. Slatford, such that both of the break out sessions; one on crime prevention and one on planning enforcement can be attended. DH
JdL
TS
- C2. Bucklebury Tennis Club.
A letter has been received from Bucklebury Tennis Club thanking BPC for the donation of £250.00 for coaching a year group from Bucklebury Primary School.
- C3. Parish Charter.
Notification has been received from WBC indicating that they are in the process of adopting the new Parish Charter; Mr. Brook agreed to read the draft.
- C4. CPRE.
The AGM of CPRE will be held at Englefield House on Friday 15th May, entrance is by ticket only. No one was available to go.
- C5. LDF.
Email notification was received regarding the latest updates on the LDF. One of the areas being considered is the area to the East of Harts Hill and immediately South of Blacklands Copse; however this area is felt to be unlikely to be selected as it is not in an existing sustainable location.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday 8th June 2009

Signature

Date