

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

PRESENT:

Mrs. P. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. S. Beeson (Vice-Chairman); Mr. H. Hind; Mr. A. Gilbert;
Mr. J. de Lara; Mr. P. Brook; Mr. B. Dickens; Mr. J. Brims; Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mr. P. Allison; Mr. J. Brooke.

APOLOGIES:

Mr. D. Heslop; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. T. Slatford.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th July 2009 were agreed as a true record and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising are covered elsewhere in the minutes.

TOPICS

Bucklebury Flood Alleviation Project.

The meeting was closed for Mr. Allison to update BPC on progress.

Mr. Allison reported that WBC will be reopening the culvert at the bottom of Tylers Lane allowing water travelling down Tylers Lane to go into the swallow hole, thus transferring the water to the Blue Pool in Stanford Dingley a few days later, and therefore preventing the water flooding the Marlston to Bucklebury road. Discussions are taking place about the water which may travel down Briff Lane; Fairfax Properties Ltd. agreed with WBC that the agricultural entrance into Red Hill View would have a cattle grid over the culvert, thus enabling water travelling down the road to go into the culvert in addition to water from the agricultural land above Red Hill View. A draft escalation process has been established for surface water management; this has not yet been put into place. For the main scheme all of the land owners involved are now on board. As far as possible all of the design modelling is complete and test drills will take place shortly, enabling the modelling to be further enhanced.

In November all documents need to be sent to the Environment Agency Project Appraisal Board. The current plan is to start the actual implementation of the main scheme in July 2010, with completion in August or September 2010.

In November, the contract needs to be signed for the work. Three parties are required; the Environment Agency, WBC and a body representing Bucklebury Village. The members of the Flood Alleviation Project are considering whether a company may be the best way of representing Bucklebury Village. The alternative would be for BPC to be the third party and Mr. Allison asked BPC to consider this option.

There was some discussion about the VAT position of the project, the benefits to villagers and the costs, as well as any liabilities, of the third party.

The meeting was reopened.

Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC consider the implications of taking on the role of contracting authority, and that BPC contact BALC and the WBC legal department so that an informed decision can be taken at the September meeting; this was seconded by Mr. Brims and unanimously agreed.

HP

Signature

Date

09/20

PLANNING

P1. 20 Broad Lane.

Mrs. Frankum reported that she had been in contact with the owners of 20 Broad Lane and understands that they have a planning application which has very recently been submitted to WBC and which they wish to discuss with BPC. Mrs. Frankum and Mr. Brims will look at their plans.

P2. Bucklebury Saab Garage.

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Mr. Ashworth(WBC) indicating that he will look into the position regarding the fence. Mr. Beeson asked about the parking of the cars on the Common. It was agreed at the July meeting that this would be pursued once the position regarding the fence had been resolved.

P3. 44-46 Broad Lane.

The Clerk reported that the appeal for the demolition of an existing building and erection of 3 detached dwelling and 3 terrace dwellings, garaging and associated works has been allowed at appeal.

Plans submitted for approval:

P4. 09/01358/HOUSE 12 Hatch Close.

Erection of 2m high close boarded fence along all of West boundary adjacent to Hatch Lane.

BPC **objects** to this application on the grounds of the height of the fence above the level of the road.

P5. 09/01267/HOUSE Chadwell, Chapel Row.

Extensions to front and rear of house.

BPC has **no objection** to this application.

P6. 09/01244/FUL Land at Bushnells Green Farm.

Section 73 – Application for removal or variation of condition 4 of planning permission 08/01628/FULD.

BPC has **no objection** to this application.

P7. 09/01155/HOUSE 30 Chapel Row

Two storey and single storey extension to rear of house, replacement of current enclosed front entrance porch with larger porch.

BPC has **no objection** to this application.

P8. 09/00671/FUL Land South of Berrys Copse.

Replacement of fire damaged forestry store building.

BPC **objects** to this application for a number of reasons including the size of the area to be managed not justifying the size of the proposed building.

P9. 09/01292/HOUSE The White House, Byles Green.

Partial enclosure of an existing open fronted garage and construction of garden shed.

BPC has **no objection** to this application.

P10. 09/01223/HOUSE Winchcombe Farm, Briff Lane.

New bay window on South gable end of existing outbuilding.

BPC has **no objection** to this application.

Planning applications determined:

P11. 09/00968/HOUSE Marlston Farm.

Single storey oak framed garage store and dog kennel.

BPC **objected** to this application and it has been **refused**.

P12. 09/00974/HOUSE Pear Tree Cottage, Byles Green.

& 09/00975/LBC

Single storey rear extension with open deck in the roof space.

BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.

P13. 09/00900/FUL Coach House Barn, Marlston Farm.

Storm porch to main house and lean-to boiler room/log store to garage.

BPC **objected** to this application and it has been **refused**.

Signature

Date

09/21

- P14. 09/00808/HOUSE Wayside Cottage, The Slade.
 Replace an existing 64sqm wooded outbuilding with a smaller single storey 48sqm wooded outbuilding.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P15. 09/00979/HOUSE Rivendell, Briff Lane.
 Internal alterations to provide a disabled access bedroom and adjoining wet room. Single storey side extension to replace bedroom lost by internal alterations.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P16. 09/00936/HOUSE 46 Broad Lane.
 Conversion of integral double garage and passageway into residential accommodation and erection of a detached single storey double garage.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P17. 09/00725/CERTE The Old Cottage, The Avenue.
 Use of land as residential garden.
 WBC has stated that use of the land as residential garden is **lawful**.
- P18. 09/00587/HOUSE & 09/00584/LBC Cob Hatch, Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).
 Alteration and extension to existing dwelling.
 BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- S1. Schools. Nothing to report.

ROADS

- R1. Broad Lane Speed Survey.
 Having finally received the results from WBC, the Clerk circulated the results of the speed survey in March taken at three points along Broad Lane. The methods used to measure speed have changed since the survey prior to the traffic calming, making a direct comparison difficult. They do however show a general reduction in speed.
- R2. Junction of Byles Green and Cemetery Road.
 Mr. Beeson reported that whilst the road has been marked up, no work has taken place; he will chase up Streetcare.

SB

HALLS

- H1. Memorial Hall Improvements.
 Prior to the meeting the Clerk circulated a cash flow for the three separate funds held with Scottish Widows. This showed that funds in the Improvement Account are expected to be very tight in October.
 The meeting was closed for Mr. Brooke to speak.
 Mr. Brooke stated that he had asked Brian Mason (Memorial Hall Treasurer) to carry out a cash flow on behalf of the Memorial Hall and the Improvements Committee, showing funds held by BPC and the Memorial Hall. This cash flow was passed round to councillors. Mr. Brooke stressed that the funds were likely to be very tight in October when the last payment for the Play Park Improvements is due and requested the early payment of the £5,000 donation from BPC for Improvements due in 2010/11.
 The meeting was reopened.
 An email had been received from the Memorial Hall committee requesting that the £4,000 grant which has previously been paid directly to the Memorial Hall should be put into the Improvement fund.
 Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC pay the Memorial Hall grant of £4,000 for 2009/10 into the Improvements Account as soon as possible and bring forward the payment of the 2010/11 donation of £5,000 for Improvements to the beginning of September; this was seconded by Mr. Beeson. This was agreed by all present with one abstention.
 Mr. Dickens proposed that monthly cash flows including the Lloyds Treasurers

Signature

Date

09/22

- Account be presented to BPC and be a standing agenda item until no longer required; this was seconded by Mr. Beeson and agreed by all present with one abstention. HP
- H2. Annual Grant to Memorial Hall.
 There was some discussion about how much the Memorial Hall Committee should justify their need for an annual grant of £4,000 and whether BPC should review this more closely. Mr. Hind stated that when he was treasurer of the Memorial Hall the grant was justified on an annual bases, but that this may have slipped in recent years. It was agreed that the Memorial Hall Committee should be asked to justify the grant on an annual bases in line with the policy for donations.
- H3. The Oak Room.
 The Memorial Hall benefits from a number of block bookings, including Bucklebury Pre-school, WBBS and KATS, thus making it sometimes difficult to book on a more casual basis. BPC understand that block bookings give an assured income, however it was generally felt that The Oak room should be available for more flexible bookings specifically for parishioners. Mr. Hind pointed out that within the constitution of the Memorial Hall, it is stated that the facility is for use by members of this parish and also adjacent parishes. Mr. Hind was asked to pass these views on to the Memorial Hall Committee. HH
- H4. The Victory Room.
 A request has been received from the Victory Room Committee asking for £500 to help towards the total cost of £1,000 to replace the ceiling tiles in the Victory Room, which have yellowed with age. This work is proposed to take place in August. Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC support the Victory Rooms with £500 from the BPC Reserve account; this was seconded by Mr. Brims and unanimously agreed. The Clerk will forward the Victory Rooms a copy of the BPC policy for donations. It was also suggested that the Victory Room Committee report to BPC on a biannual bases. HP

MAINTENANCE

- M1. Upper Bucklebury Bus Shelter.
 The Clerk reported that Mr. Hyde(WBC) has agreed to fund the renovations to the bus shelter from the WBC Infrastructure budget. The work is scheduled to start on Monday 17th August and last for 3 days.
- M2. Cemetery Chapel.
 The insurers have appointed ROK to carry out the repairs to the roof. The repairs have not yet been made so Mr. Beeson will chase this up. The Clerk reported that Thames Valley Police have received four post dated cheques from the youth who carried out the damage, equalling the value of the insurance excess paid by BPC for the repairs. SB
 HP
- M3. Bucklebury Meadow – Management Plan.
 Mrs. Frankum reported that a meeting was held on 6th August with the grazier (Andrew Waters), Sue Everett (ecologist), Karen Davies (FWAG), Jeremy Davey (WBC ecologist) and BPC.
 FWAG have received £2,000 from DWH to cover the cost of the seeding in the field nearest Broad Lane. This will be carried out by Andrew Waters, Sue Everett and FWAG in September. The land will not be grazed, but will be cut as necessary. Once the seeding is complete the land will continue to belong to DWH for 1 year, and then be passed to WBC and subsequently to BPC.
 There is a leak in the water pipe supplying the cattle troughs. This unfortunately resulted in Andrew Water receiving a bill for water he hadn't used, so he had the water meter removed. The water pipe is still the responsibility of DWH, as they still own the land. It has been agreed that BPC will have the water meter reinstalled and ensure that the supply is turned off and secured until the repair is mended. HP
 During the walk around the meadows prior to the meeting, Andrew Waters stated that he understood the boundary between the original meadows fields was the ditch (still

Signature

Date

visible at the Southern end of the meadows) and to the west of the gardens of the houses in Morton's Lane. To the west of the ditch there was a bank and then the foot path. This confirms what Jon Thomas (WBC) has told BPC, having consulted a large scale map.

M4. Bucklebury Mead – Copse.

The copse area belonging to DWH is supposed to be being managed; however it is getting out of hand. It is understood that Jeremy Shern (resident of Mortons Lane) has been in contact with the contractor. Mr. Beeson will follow this up.

SB

PUBLIC PATHS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pp1. Byway 67 past Tomlins.

The Clerk reported that Sallie Jennings(WBC) has sent an email indicating that WBC carry out signposting work in November. Mrs. Frankum felt that ideally the sign should be reinstated as soon as possible. The Clerk will contact Sallie Jennings and request that the sign be reinstated earlier if possible.

HP
WF

Pp2. TPOs on Oak Trees.

The Clerk reported that at last four TPOs have been placed on trees between Mortons Lane and Byles Green. A letter updating BPC on the TPOs from John Ashworth (WBC) indicates that the TPOs on the young oak trees in the meadows are expected imminently. Mr. Beeson thanked Mr. Pask for his efforts in obtaining these TPOs.

WBC

Pp3. The Common.

Mr. Beeson reported that the number of fly tipping incidents has recently been reduced. The motor cycles and 4x4s appear to have stopped using the area around the fishponds. Mr. Beeson is working closely with Elaine Cox (WBC) regarding byways 22, 23 and 24 at the top end of Tylers Lane and trying to get TROs (Traffic Road Orders) issued for them. WBC has tasked Elaine Cox with addressing the misuse of 4x4s in such locations.

Pp4. Policing.

Mr. Beeson reported that he had had a conversation with Karen Taylor (PCSO) and requested that there are more regular patrols in the area. The position regarding Mr. Palmer was also discussed.

Pp5. Damage to waymarkers on Briff Farm track.

BPC understand that a number of footpath/byway markers have been damaged/removed on the track to Briff Farm. A tree has also been vandalised. This will be reported to the police.

YOUTH

Y1. Fred Dawson Play Park.

The Clerk reported that the contract, with Playground Facilities Ltd, for the improvements to the Fred Dawson Play Park has been signed.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Ga1. Guidelines for Donations.

Mr Brook, Mr. Brims and Mrs. Clarke have produced a draft Policy for BPC Donations. The policy recommends that annual contributions to local environmental groups be maintained and that the groups do not need to reapply each year providing BPC can see a benefit to the community. Other charities and organisations who benefit the local community and are in line with the Parish Plan are invited to apply for a grant by 30th November for a grant in the following financial year. These, if supported can therefore be planned for in the budget, Mr. Beeson proposed acceptance of the policy, which was seconded by Mr. Hind and unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Clarke will put a copy of the policy in The Oaks and the Clerk will put a copy on

LC

Signature

Date

09/24

- the BPC web site. HP
- Ga2. Community Flood Plan.
WBC has money available for parishes to use for either sandbags or for flood alleviation schemes. The Clerk has applied to WBC for £4,000 of this money on behalf of the Bucklebury Flood Alleviation Scheme. However there is a condition that BPC write a Community Flood Plan. It was agreed that the Clerk should refer to Mr. Allison on this matter. HP
- Ga3. Common Clearing.
The Autumn Common Clearing event will be held on Saturday 17th October at 2pm. JB
Mr. Brims, Mr. Dickens and Mr. Beeson will ask whether their wives can organise the SB
tea and cakes. Mrs Clarke will also be asked. BD

PARISH PLAN

- Pp11. Mr. Brook reported that a stall has been booked for the Chapel Row Fair. The steering group are currently getting quotes to print 300 flyers for this event. The cost will be between £120 and £200. Mr. Brook will be applying for a grant from the AONB for the Parish Plan update, however the cost of the flyers will initially have to be met by BPC.
Mr. Brook indicated that he will be putting together a budget for the Parish Plan update which he will present to BPC.
The update is now expected to take longer than the 12 months originally planned. A questionnaire will go out with the January edition of The Oaks rather than any earlier, and the WBC adoption process will take longer than previously planned.
Mr. Dickens proposed that BPC should meet the costs of the flyer to a maximum of £200; this was seconded by Mr. Hind. PB

FINANCE

- F1. Balances:
- | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| Lloyds Treasurers Account | £15,014.86 | At 20/7/09. |
| Scottish Widows Call Account | £27,739.74 | At 2/7/09. |
| Scottish Widows Gilroy Bequest Account | £4,657.94 | At 2/7/09. |
| Scottish Widows Memorial Hall Extension Fund | £38,687.51 | At 2/7/09. |
- F2. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:
Bucklebury Construction £17,305.65 Balance on certificate number 5.
- F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|--|
| C. R. Landscapes | £666.84 | Cemetery maintenance – April/May/June. |
| R. F. West | £92.00 | Cutting of the Hockett Field. |
| CPRE | £100.00 | Annual membership and donation. |
| Brand Windows Ltd. | £125.01 | Memorial Hall window restrictors and dogging bolt. |
| Playground Facilities Ltd. | £16,289.80 | Deposit for improvements to Fred Dawson Playpark. |
| Mrs. H. Pratt | £324.00 | Clerks July '09 salary. |
| Mrs. P. W. Frankum | £22.91 | Expenses for padlock and chain. |
| Bucklebury Parish Council – MHE | £708.16 | Donation from pre-school for play park. |

CORRESPONDENCE

- C1. CCB
It was agreed that there is no money available to donate to CCB this year. The Clerk will reply and enclose a copy of BPC policy on donations. HP

Signature

Date

09/25

- C2. District/Parish Conference.
The Clerk reported that the next District/Parish Conference will be held on Wednesday September 9th. More details should follow shortly.
- C3. FWAG.
Mrs. Frankum reported that FWAG are very concerned that their funding, reduced by WBC from £30,000 per annum to £15,000 this year is likely to be reduced still further for 2010/11. It was agreed that BPC would write a letter to WBC urging that their support of FWAG to continue at the same level. WF
- C4. Bucklebury Guides.
The Clerk reported that a note of thanks for the donation of £200 for the new Bucklebury Guide Unit has been received.
- C5. WBC Anti Social Behaviour Database.
Information has been received about use of an anti-social behaviour database being maintained by WBC, Mr. Beeson agreed to look at this.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

NEXT MEETING:	Monday 14th September 2009.
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLOWING DATES:	
Wednesday 9th September	District/Parish Conference.
Saturday 17th October	Autumn Common Clearing.

Signature

Date