

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
Held at the Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009

PRESENT

Mrs. P. W. Frankum (Chairman); Mr. S. Beeson (Vice Chairman); Mr. H. Hind; Mr. B. Dickens; Mrs. L. Clarke; Mr. P. Brook; Mr. G. Pask (District Councillor); Mrs. H. Pratt (Clerk).

APOLOGIES

Mr. T. Slatford; Mr. J. de Lara; Mr. A. Gilbert; Mr. J. Brims; Mr. D. Heslop (subsequent to the meeting).

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by Mrs. Frankum.

MATTERS ARISING

There are no matters arising which aren't covered elsewhere in the minutes.

TOPICS

T1. Donations for Financial Year 2010/11.

The following donations were proposed by Mr. Dickens, seconded by Mrs. Clarke and unanimously agreed:

Bucklebury Toddler Group:	£50.00
Bucklebury Tennis Club:	£180.00
Children's Football Team:	£200.00
Friends of Bucklebury C of E Primary School:	£250.00
Bucklebury Guides:	£300.00

These donations amounting to £980 will all come out of the youth section of the budget.

The following donations were proposed by Mrs. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Beeson and unanimously agreed:

West Berkshire Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00
Berkshire County Blind Society	£100.00

Bucklebury Memorial Hall have asked if BPC can ring fence £4,000 as a contingency for the hall as their reserves will drop below their usual level.

The Victory Room are expected to need in the region of £2,000, having been self funding for a number of years.

Mr. Beeson proposed that the following sums be ring fenced: £2,500 for the Memorial Hall and £2,000 for the Victory Room, this was seconded by Mr. Brook and agreed by all those present except Mr. Hind and Mrs. Clarke who stand on the respective hall management committees.

A letter has been received today from Mr. McOran Campbell asking if BPC would consider financial support for the Watermill Restoration Project. A number of councillors raised concerns about the financing of the project. One concern raised was that insurance money thought to be claimed by Mr. Hartley Russell when the mill burnt down does not seem to be being used to rebuild the mill. The deadline for donation requests was the end of November and unfortunately this application has been submitted too late. Whilst financial support will not be offered to the project at this time, it was agreed that articles could be placed in The Oaks and a question could be

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put in the Parish Plan questionnaire regarding the Watermill.

HP

After discussing the donations for 2010/11, it was agreed that the Donations Policy needs to be reviewed, Mrs. Clarke will instigate this.

LC

## PLANNING

### P1. Planning Committee.

The Clerk reported that in order for the Planning Committee to make comments on planning applications to WBC, BPC must delegate these powers to the committee; this needs to be done via the Standing Orders. In addition to this, the Standing Orders need to determine the quorum for the Planning Committee; BPC agreed to order that the quorum for the Planning Committee be the legal minimum of 3, this was agreed by all present. Planning applications will continue to be passed to the Chairman of BPC, who will then delegate them out to two councillors who must visit the site, at least one of these should then attend the Planning Committee meeting.

The Clerk also reported that the Burial Board is not mentioned in the Standing Orders. The Clerk will pass a copy of the new Standing Orders round to all Councillors prior to the next meeting.

HP

### P2. Amendments.

An amendment for application 09/01964/HOUSE has been received and this had a date on it by which comments on the amended application had to be returned to WBC. The Clerk will monitor the situation regarding timescales for comments on amendments.

### P3. Enforcements.

Mr. Pask reported that he had spoken to Mr. Tandy (Enforcement Officer) and requested that BPC be copied on Enforcement Notices. Whilst the request has been made it is understood that there may be issues of confidentiality preventing this.

### P4. Path between Roundfield and Briff Lane.

The Clerk reported that the legal department of Sovereign Housing are investigating the position regarding the shed which has been built from a property boundary over the private path which belongs to Sovereign Housing.

### P5. Heatherdene, Cemetery Road.

The Clerk reported that Simon Till (WBC) is investigating the position at Heatherdene.

### P6. Red Hill View, Briff Lane.

The Clerk reported that there were no grounds to report to the WBC Enforcement Team the changes made to the building after the planning permission was granted as planning permission was not required for them. It was however agreed that the Clerk would write to WBC and raise the concerns of BPC that planning permission can be granted and then substantial changes made without further planning permission. The planning permission granted for Red Hill View was for 5 bedroomed house with 2 bathrooms; this has subsequently become 6 bedrooms with 5 bathrooms, none of this requires planning permission.

Plans submitted for approval:

- P7. 09/02401/FUL Hopgoods Farm, Hopgoods Green.  
Remove existing single storey dwelling and adjacent outbuildings and erect a 2 storey replacement dwelling.  
BPC **object** to this application.
- P8. 09/01271/HOUSE The Berries, Turners Green.  
Demolish existing garage and extensions and replace with two storey and roof extensions/loft conversion.  
BPC have **no objection** to this application.
- P9. 09/02074/HOUSE Brimstone Cottage, Little Lane.  
Single storey rear extension.  
BPC have **no objection** to this application.

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Planning applications determined:

- P10. 09/01954/FUL Bucklebury Garage.  
Retrospective – Erection of new boundary fence and gate.  
BPC **objected** to this application due to insufficient detail in the application, extra drawings were submitted and this application has been **approved**.
- P11. 09/02085/XHOUSE Copse Close, Hopgoods Green.  
Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling. This is renewal of permission granted under 06/01844.  
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P12. 09/02034/HOUSE Home Farm, Upper Woolhampton.  
Single storey side extension.  
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P13. 09/01982/HOUSE Coach House Barn, Marlston Farm.  
Storm porch to main house and lean-to boiler room/log store to garage.  
BPC **objected** to this application, however it has been **approved**.
- P14. 09/01964/HOUSE Well Cottage, Long Grove.  
New 3-bay garage. An amendment was received to this application to a 2-bay garage and external steps to a store over.  
BPC **objected** to both the original application and the amended application, however it has been **approved**.
- P15. 09/01948/HOUSE Rochestown House, The Avenue.  
To increase pitch of roof of ancillary building (approved under application 08/01749/HOUSE) from 35 to 45 degrees.  
BPC had **no objection** to this application and it has been **approved**.
- P16. 09/01931/HOUSE Thornton, Briff Lane.  
Single storey rear extension, garage conversion and erection of new detached garage and car port and extension to driveway.  
BPC had **no objection** to this application however BPC **objected** to an amendment inserting to velux windows into the roof of the garage. WBC **approved** the application.

S1. Schools. Nothing to report.

ROADS

- R1. Carbinswood Lane.  
There are two stretches of Cabinswood Lane where water lies or runs across the road: by Fireside Cottage and by the Midgham turning. Mr. Pask will add these to the road maintenance list and Mr. Dickens will report them to Streetcare. BD

HALLS

- H1. Bucklebury Recreation Ground.  
Mrs. Clarke reported that the secretary of the Recreation Ground Committee has written to WBC who have confirmed that the Recreation Ground Committee can charge for use of the Recreation Ground, even though they do not own or maintain it.
- H2. Memorial Hall.  
Mr. Hind reported that the CCTV has now been installed and is operational. The ramp from the Oak Room to the Fred Dawson Playpark has also been completed.
- H3. Victory Room.  
Mrs. Clarke reported that the Victory Room has recently been burgled. Thieves pinched alcohol from locked cupboards within the hall which had been left over from a party. A dance is to be held this Saturday.

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MAINTENANCE

M1. Cemetery Chapel Cleaning.

A job description has been completed and Jackie Little has agreed to clean the chapel as required.

M2. Cemetery Chapel Roof.

Mr. Beeson agreed to ask Jonathan Poole to examine the roof of the Chapel and report any maintenance work which may be required to BPC.

SB

M3. Upper Bucklebury Bus Stop.

The quote from Paul Hyde’s contractor is for shatterproof Perspex rather than virtually unbreakable Perspex. The Clerk will enquire whether a quote can be obtained using the stronger Perspex, or alternatively whether they are willing to fit Perspex which we obtain.

HP

PUBLIC PATHS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pp1. Bucklebury Meadow – Line of Footpath.

A meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> December between Jeremy Davey, Jon Thomas and BPC in the meadow to discuss ways to resolve the line of the footpath and the destruction of the trees and hedge at the bottom of garden of number 9 Mortons Lane. The proposal from this meeting was that a hedge be planted 2m from the boundary of 9 Mortons Lane in the meadow with a length slightly longer than the width of the boundary of 9 Mortons Lane. The cost of this hedge and protective fencing would be expected to be in the region of £600. Moving the definitive line of the footpath is considered by WBC to be too lengthy a process and potentially be too expensive. Mr. Dickens voiced the opinion that there was enough angst amongst parishioners on this matter already and that the removal of the hedge and trees had been appalling and an act of wanton selfishness. If a hedge were to be replanted by BPC, he recommended that it should be carried out at a minimum cost to parishioners and placed immediately on the meadow side of the existing boundary. It was strongly felt that the resident concerned should be asked to pay towards the cost of the replanting of the hedge.

After much discussion the proposal was made by Mr. Beeson that WBC Enforcement team should examine the planning conditions with regard to the landscaping and at the same time, Jeremy Davey (WBC) be asked to investigate the possibilities of transferring the covenant regarding landscaping to WBC and ultimately BPC; if both of these courses of action fail to resolve the problems created, it was agreed that BPC should investigate planting a hedge in the knowledge that everything possible had been done prior to spending parishioners money on this issue. Mr. Brook seconded this proposal and it was unanimously agreed.

HP

Pp2. Bucklebury Meadow – TPOs on new Oak Trees.

The Clerk has written to John Ashworth(WBC) regarding the TPOs which were understood to be being processed by the legal department of WBC in the summer, but haven’t yet been received. Mr. Ashworth is investigating the issue.

HP

Pp3. Vehicles on the Common.

Mr. Beeson reported that he spent a Sunday in November working with the police on the Common, during which time 5 section 59 orders were issued. Two of these were to people from the North of Oxford, and three were to people from Bedford.

Pp4. Flood Alleviation Project.

The Clerk reported that the Flood Alleviation Project Committee have now gathered their pledges and are forming a company to sign the contract with the Environment Agency. The scheme is planned to go before the Environment Agency in January, and assuming it passes the board the contract will be signed in February. The actual work is planned to start in July and hopefully be completed in August.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Ga1. Carols in the Chapel.

After the decision was made by BPC that there was insufficient support to arrange this event, parishioners came forward with offers of help. The plans for the carols in the Chapel on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December are now well underway. The Chapel will be decorated for the Carols from 9.30am on Monday 21<sup>st</sup>. Candles will be lit and other last minute preparations will take place from 5pm. Katie Powell has arranged for local children to sing and for an Upper Bucklebury recorder group and a flute group to play. Mr. Beeson offered his gazebo, generator and to sort out the mulled wine. A keyboard will be played to accompany carols by the Ward family from Little Lane.

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Ga2. Bucklebury Vision.

The Clerk reported that she has received an electronic copy of Bucklebury Vision from Mike James and a number of spare copies.

Ga3. Recreation Ground Charity.

The Clerk reported that the figures for the Recreation Ground Charity have been submitted to the Charity Commission for all years up until April 2009. The trustees have also been updated to include all councillors.

Ga4. Annual Assembly.

The Annual Assembly will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May. It was suggested that Dennis Gower could possibly speak about the work of the Bucklebury Heathland group and the Pang Valley Conservation Volunteers. Other suggestions may be given to Mrs. Frankum.

All

PARISH PLAN

Pp11. Mr. Brook reported that the questionnaire for the Parish Plan will be delivered to parishioners with the April edition of The Oaks.

The first meeting has been held of the Cycle Group. Mr. Brook is still trying to form the Greening Bucklebury Group and will be investigating how other local greening groups operate.

FINANCE

F1. Balances:

Lloyds Treasurers Account	£30,127.49	At 20/11/09.
Scottish Widows Call Account	£12,739.74	At 2/10/09.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Bequest Account	£4,456.32	At 2/10/09.
Scottish Widows Memorial Hall Extension Fund	£13,732.08	At 2/10/09.

The Clerk reported that once all cheques have been presented and the latest lodgements cleared, the balance in the current account will be £16,663.77. This figure includes £4,000 from WBC for the Flood Alleviation Project and £4,000 transferred from the call account to aid the cash flow which needs to be returned.

F2. Cheques signed by Councillors since the last meeting:

Bucklebury Construction	£9,309.25	Memorial Hall, fence, doors , hatches etc.
Bucklebury Construction	£699.20	Memorial Hall door fittings etc.
Playground Facilities Ltd.	£24,463.41	Final payment on play park.

F3. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Pang, Kennet and Lambourn	£600.00	Donation – see minutes of November meeting.
Valleys Countryside Project		
Mrs. H. M. Pratt	£324.00	Clerks November '09 salary.
Bucklebury Parish Council – MHE	£13,774.16	Balance of WBC Playbuilder and Veolia grants.

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

- C1. GLEAM – have requested donations in order to set up a Fighting Fund to aid certain campaigns which they may support in the future. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the January meeting.
- C2. WBC Nursery Admission Policy and School Admission Arrangements.  
It was agreed that Mr. Slatford would be asked to read these. TS
- C3, The Birds of Berkshire Atlas Group.  
This group have requested funds for the production of the hard copy, the artwork and the publication of the work of the group. It was agreed to discuss this in January.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

<b>NEXT MEETING:</b>	<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>
<b>PLEASE NOTE THE FOLOWING DATES:</b>	
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>	<b>First BPC Planning Committee meeting.</b>
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010</b>	<b>District Parish Conference.</b>

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