

## WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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### **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 29th August 2017 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs M Blogg (Chair), Mrs C Hannath, D Mitton, J Nutt, C Rayson and C Silverlight.

**In attendance:** County Cllr J Thorne and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

**55/08/17. To accept apologies for absence.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr Lacey.

**56/08/17. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda.** There were no disclosures.

**57/08/17. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 25/07/17.** The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**58/08/17. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda.** Cllr Mitton has cut back the brambles that were growing through the metal fencing at the far end of the play area.

**59/08/17. Democratic Period.** There were no members of the public.

#### **60/08/17. Planning:**

**a) To consider any Planning Applications received by the Parish Council prior to the meeting.** No applications received.

**b) To receive decisions from planning applications determined by TDBC**

**46/17/0010** Erection of a fence to front and side elevations at Byland Cottage, Wellington Road, West Buckland (Resubmission of 46/16/0028) (Retention of works already undertaken). Decision: permission refused.

**46/17/0029** Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for the erection of an occupational dwelling at Alexandra Dunn Racing, Cordings Farm, West Buckland Road, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

**46/17/0030** Removal of conservatory, erection of two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear of 23 Dyers Close, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

**46/17/0033** Erection of porch to south elevation at 11 Dyers Close, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

**c) Update on planning enforcement matters reported to TDBC.** Mrs Salter, Planning Enforcement Officer, has written to the Clerk to inform the Parish Council that she has written to the owners of Blackdown Garden Centre to inform them they are in breach of

Condition 3 of planning approval for 46/16/005 and she needs to seek compliance. She has asked the owners to contact her within 14 days to provide her with confirmation of when the relevant highway works will take place. If no confirmation is received or the time-scale is considered unacceptably long she will proceed with more formal enforcement proceedings. There was no update on the other matter reported to planning enforcement.

**d) To note Tree Preservation Order for trees on land to the rear of the Gate House, Chelston (Chelston Motorhomes).** This relates to two Oak trees and a certified copy of the TPO and a plan have been received.

**e) Any other planning matters.** There were no other planning matters.

#### **61/08/17. Highways.**

##### **a) Matters arising from previous meeting/s**

- **Signs erected without permission.** The signs for the Smokery and signs advertising businesses in Foxmoor Business Park and Blackdown Garden Centre that appeared on the adjacent verges have been removed at the request of the Highways Department.
- **HGV's using Sawyers Hill.** The Clerk reported Trading Standards can investigate allegations that HGV's are using Sawyers Hill in contravention of a traffic order. The person who made the complaint has been informed of this. Evidence, including vehicle details, needs to be obtained before a complaint can be made. SCC Highways has said they will visit businesses if the details are reported to them. It is likely the lorries breaking the restriction are not local.

**b) To note any highway defects to report to SCC.** There are now bollards on the insecure kerbing stones around the roundabout under the motorway junction. County Cllr Thorne has taken note of this and will find out what Highways are planning to do to repair the kerbing.

**c) Draft programme of work for lengthsman.** Cllr Mitton and Cllr Nutt have written a report showing the condition of signs in the parish. Cllr Silverlight pointed out it is SCC's responsibility to keep mandatory signs clear and visible. Cllr Mitton questioned whether the Parish Council has the power to carry out work to make these signs clear and visible if SCC say they haven't got the money to do it. Cllr Nutt has sent a copy of their report to Jo Sharp, Highways Officer. The Clerk will contact her to see if they will be carrying out the work on the signs. The fingerpost signs are a separate project. It was also questioned whether the Parish Council should draw business owners attention to issues with brown tourist signs. Cllr Mitton will write an article for the Community Newsletter asking the public to report issues such as blocked drains and culverts to the Parish Council so they can be included in a programme of work for the lengthsman. Cllr Lacey was thanked for repairing the Dyers Close sign. It was thought street signs are TDBC's responsibility.

**d) Any other highways matters.** There were no other highways matters.

#### **62/08/17. To receive reports from:**

**a) County Cllr.** Cllr Thorne reported he had been chasing up the removal of unlawful signs. Only one parish in TDBC has offered to host a NHS Healthcheck event. The Highways Agency will be re-consulting on the A358. Cllr Thorne is not sure of the details but it will be a full consultation and public events will be held before the end of the year. The preferred route is due to be announced by the end of the year but this might be delayed. Applications can be made for the Small Improvements Scheme between the end of September and end of October. Suggestions were the Worlds End junction and replacing the kerbing around the motorway roundabout but they are not suitable for the scheme. Gigaclear has not given dates for the roll out of fibre broadband on the Blackdown Hills as they are trying to get more funding. Connecting Devon and Somerset has extended their voucher scheme. It is being given to closing the Park and Ride for Taunton on Saturdays, except for busy times

such as Christmas and cricket matches at the County Ground. On average only 500 people use the facility on a Saturday and the proposal would save £50,000. There will be an alternative service for Musgrove Park Hospital. A number of defibrillators are becoming due for replacement. There is a big rush to find more foster parents. The Travel Somerset website is about to celebrate its first anniversary. SCC has made big improvements in its transfer of care and have been congratulated on reducing the number of people experiencing delays on being discharged from hospital with a care package.

**b) Police.** A Police Report for July was circulated by email at the beginning of August. There were 41 logs for the month from the beat. A poster has been displayed on the notice board to try and recruit more volunteers for the speedwatch scheme. Information has also been put in the newsletter.

**c) Village Hall Committee.** Cllr Mrs Hannath reported on the August Village Hall Committee meeting. A trip mat has been purchased to put over trailing cables. Approximately £695 was raised at the School Fayre and our book stall made £55 for Village Hall funds. Pre-school have cleared out their cupboard. They are advertising for a pre-school manager. Sue Porcas is making enquiries about installing broadband. The external painting is all finished. Mr Blogg is thanked for his sponsorship for cost of paint. Following the electrical inspection four of the emergency lights will be replaced as they need to be able to stay on for three hours. Jean Morrish has painted part of the Village Hall fence. Sue Porcas asked if it was possible for us to pay someone to paint the rest. All agreed and she will make enquiries. Card tables are still required.

**d) Any Other Reports.** Cllr Mitton reported the SALC AGM will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and notification will be coming out this week. SALC is an unincorporated association and consideration is being given to changing its legal status to a company limited by guarantee. The committee is also looking at invigorating area meetings. Town and Parish Councils can send two members to the AGM and area meetings, one of whom can be the Clerk. The Clerk will circulate details of the AGM when received.

#### **63/08/17. Finance**

**a) To agree and authorise payments.** It was resolved to make the following payment: Mrs J Larcombe - £307.83 Clerk's salary and expenses (Chq no1373)

**b) To agree the payment of a grant to Taunton & District CAB.** It was agreed to give a grant of £75.00 to Taunton & District CAB (Chq no 1374)

#### **64/08/17. Playing Field:**

**a) Any matters to report from inspections carried out during the previous month; any actions taken or to be taken as a result.** There were no matters to report.

**b) Update on repairs required following annual Rospa inspection.** Nuts and bolts have been purchased to replace the ones missing from the fencing. Some will be kept as spares.

**c) Any other matters to note.** Cllr Mitton was thanked for cutting back the brambles and vegetation at the end of the play area.

The Clerk has found details of the playing field inspections offered by Somerset Playing Field Association. Visits normally take place in May, which would fit in with the current annual schedule of inspections. The cost is likely to be in the region of £75. The Clerk will arrange next year's inspection with SPFA.

**65/08/17. Footpaths: any matters brought forward.** Cllr Mrs Hannath reported the footpath needs cutting back between Lee Park and Crown Hill. This will be arranged.

**66/08/17. Promotion of the NHS Health Check Event booked for 27<sup>th</sup> September.** The event will be held between 9am and 5.30pm. Posters detailing how to book will be displayed in the village and details are on the website. Details have also been sent to the Community Newsletter.

**67/08/17. Correspondence and items of interest.** A verbal complaint has been received that a council house in the village has been left empty since January. The Clerk has contacted TDBC to find out why and is waiting to hear back.

**68/08/17. Any urgent business at the Chairman's discretion.** There was no urgent business.

**69/08/17. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September.