

## WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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### **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 30th August 2016 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr's Mrs M Blogg (Chairman), D Lacey, Mrs C Hannath, D Mitton, J Nutt, C Rayson and C Silverlight.

**In attendance:** County Cllr R Henley, two members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

**57/08/16. To accept apologies for absence.** There were no apologies.

**58/08/16. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda.** There were no disclosures.

**59/08/16. To agree the minutes of the meetings held on 26/07/16 and 11/08/16.** With 'receive' amended to 'received' in item 45/07/16 c) and 'interested in carrying' amended to 'willing to carry' in item 51/07/16 the minutes were agreed as true records of the meetings and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**60/08/16. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda.** There were no matters arising.

**61/08/16. Democratic Period.** Two members of the public complained about the speed of traffic using the A38 and the number of drivers exceeding the 50 mph speed limit. They also commented on the increase in the number of vehicles using the A38: in one three minute period they counted 120 cars. In the ten months since they have moved to a property between The Blackbird Inn and The Worlds End there have been four accidents on this road. They suggested some solutions to the problems, including a reduction in the speed limit. All of their suggestions have been discussed before but SCC has not agreed to them

#### **62/08/16. Planning:**

**a) To consider any Planning Applications received by the Parish Council prior to the meeting.**

46/16/0018 Change of use from B8 (Warehouse) to D2 (Leisure & fitness) with associated A3 (Café) facilities and additional parking at Units 1 to 4, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington. Applicants: South West Leisure Activities Ltd.

Comment: West Buckland Parish Council support the granting of approval.

46/16/0020 Erection of detached garage with store over to the north of Willow Lodge, Gerbestone Lane, West Buckland. Applicant: Mr K Mahoney.

Comment: West Buckland Parish Council has no objection to the granting of approval.

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

46/16/0004 Erection of glasshouse, raising of roof of existing glasshouse, erection of biomass, heating plant, plant room with associated equipment, erection of two dwellings and formation of flood retention lagoon at Greenfield Nurseries, Wellington Road, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

As part of the granting of this approval the Parish Council should receive Community Infrastructure Levy payments.

46/16/0015 Erection of an industrial unit (Class B2/B8) on land adjacent to Unit 5B and 5C Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/16/0017/NMA Non Material Amendment to application number 46/15/0007 for alterations to doors and windows and internal layout at 11 Dyers Close, West Buckland. Decision: permission granted for the following non material amendment – alterations to doors and windows.

**c) Update on planning enforcement matters reported to TDBC.**

E/0010/46/16 – Gerbestone Manor Farm. Mrs Ann Dunford is now the Planning Enforcement Officer. A deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> September has been given for the submission of a planning application. If that is not complied with the enforcement process will begin.

**d) To note SALC Planning Training Sessions and anyone wanting to attend.** SALC has arranged three planning training sessions: ‘Town Planning from the Parish and Town Council Perspective’ on 13<sup>th</sup> October, ‘Negotiate a Better Outcome in Planning’ on 7<sup>th</sup> December and ‘You need a good strategy’ on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Each session costs £95 per delegate, will be held at Edgar Hall and promises to enable councils to better understand and engage with the planning system to make a difference in their community. The training will be led by Andrea Pellegram Ltd, Planning Consultants. It was agreed Cllr Silverlight will attend the first session and the Clerk will book a place for him.

**d) Any other planning matters.** Former polytunnels, now used as non-garden retail space, are receiving internal improvements before more High Street businesses open retail outlets at Blackdown Garden Centre. The Cats Protection League also has premises on the site and these were recently officially opened by the Mayor of Taunton Deane. Councillors were encouraged to write letters objecting to the planning application for the car wash because three letters of objection and the objection by the Parish Council would be enough to ensure the application was decided by the Planning Committee.

**63/08/16. Highways.**

**a) Matters arising from previous meetings**

- **Removal of BT phone box.** The box has not been removed and there is no update on its removal.
- **Request for removal of redundant brown tourist signs.** No update.
- **Guidance on maintenance of finger post signs.** A draft copy of SCC’s guidance on the maintenance of fingerpost signs has just been received. All signs will need to be surveyed and the results recorded for SCC. There is an app for smartphones and tablets that can be used to do this. Cllr Lacey and Cllr Silverlight will look at how this can be done for West Buckland parish. Cllr Nutt will look into making a co-ordinated application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding towards the cost of this work. SCC is looking into arranging training sessions for volunteers to allow them to carry out some of the work without having to undertake full Chapter 8 training.

**b) To note any highway defects to report to SCC.** No defects were reported

**c) Progress with Highways Audit for West Buckland village.** The Chairman and Clerk met with Jo Sharp, Traffic Engineer SCC on August 24<sup>th</sup>. County Cllr Henley and another member of the Highways Department also attended the meeting. Julie from the Village Store spoke to Mrs Sharp to explain the problems she is experiencing when people park

outside of her shop for a long period. Older and disabled customers find it difficult to walk a long distance from their vehicle to the shop and then carry their shopping back. As Julie is the only member of staff she cannot leave the shop to help them. Delivery vehicles find it difficult to find somewhere to park and unload their delivery and Julie often finds it difficult to park outside the shop when she has been to the cash and carry and needs to unload her purchases. Mrs Sharp said SCC would not recommend the introduction of a limited waiting bay outside the shop. The primary reason for this decision is that enforcement would be very difficult to manage as there are currently no other parking restrictions in the village. A limited waiting bay would require a TRO which would invite objections and be lengthy and costly to implement. A parking bay would require signing and lining which may take away the village 'feeling' that currently exists. She thought it might be worth placing a sign/ polite notice on the shop wall to ask that the spaces are kept free for customer parking. Other matters discussed and progressed were:

- 20mph terminal sign, Silver Street – Mrs Sharp said she would ask the highway superintendent to look at this sign and arrange for it to be turned back around.
- Speed of traffic – She will arrange for speed readings to be taken near the school on Silver Street and will back to the Council once these readings have been taken.
- Refurbishment of road markings – She will arrange for the 20 roundels to be refurbished and also the for school keep clear lines to be refurbished by the school. SCC will also refurbish the Give Way junction by the school.

There are no warning markings that can be used to warn people about the high kerb in Dyers Close.

There was also discussion about the junction of Silver Street with the A38 at The Worlds End. Notaro has a sign in a field close to this junction leading to speculation the field might be developed. If development were to take place close to this junction there would be the opportunity to use CIL to improve this junction. The Council will watch for any planning applications. SCC has a criteria for speed limits and Mrs Sharp said this section of the A38 did not meet the criteria for a 40 mph speed limit. Accidents have to be recorded and many minor accidents are not. The Council said they would like to see the criteria to look at how it compares with the A38 at Pyles Thorne where there is a 40 mph speed limit. The accident figures for Pyles Thorne are also needed for a comparison.

**d) Any other highways matters.** County Cllr Henley has asked SCC for usage figures for the slinky bus.

Cllr Henley and the members of the public left the meeting.

#### **64/08/16. Finance**

**a) To agree and authorise payments.** It was resolved to make the following payments:  
West Buckland Village Hall Trust - £30.00 room hire (Chq no 1328)  
Cllr Mrs M Blogg - £24.94 expenses claim for a printer cartridge (Chq no 1329)  
Mrs J Larcombe - £339.61 Clerk's salary and expenses including Wet & Pour 5 litres at £31.82 (Chq no 1330)

**b) To discuss draft Grants Policy.** This was deferred to the next meeting. The Clerk has now received some information from SALC that she needed to complete a draft policy.

**c) To consider an application for a grant towards the cost of producing the Community Newsletter from West Buckland PCC.** It was agreed to give a grant of £150.00 (Chq no 1331).

The Parish Council has been told by the Editor of the Community Newsletter that it should limit its contribution to the monthly newsletter to one A4 page even though the Council has said it is willing to pay any additional publication costs incurred if the magazine is more than four A4 pages. The Council is trying to inform the parish more about the matters

It is dealing with in order to be more transparent. It should also be giving a list of Councillors from time to time. The Clerk has been including information that is sent to her and needs to be passed on to parishioners. It was agreed that quarterly the Council would produce its own newsheet and pay for the cost of printing. Any matter that needs to be passed onto the parish between copies could be put in the monthly newsletter.

**c) To consider the payment of a donation to Taunton & District CAB.** It was agreed to make a donation of £75.00 (Chq no 1332). The Council recognise the CAB offer a valuable service which is used by parishioners.

**e) Recommendation from Task & Finish Group on review of Clerk's Job Description. To agree Part 2 minutes from the last meeting.** Due to the confidential nature of this item the meeting moved into Part 2 for this item.

**65/08/16. To receive reports from:**

**Police.** The July report for the Monument Ward was received by email at the end of July. This included a report of a missing person, anti-social behaviour due to a neighbour issue and the theft of a generator from a compound.

**c) Village Hall Committee.** Cllr Mrs Hannath reported the Community Council for Somerset has renewed the Village Hall's Hallmark 1 Award and the inspection was passed with flying colours. A new boiler was installed today. The electric socket over the cooker has been re-sited to meet new requirements. A full set of crockery has been purchased.

**c) Any Other Reports.** No other reports.

**66/08/16. Playing Field:**

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

**b) Update on work required following the Annual Rospa inspection.**

**c) Replacement of the goal posts.** The Clerk provided three quotations and it was agreed to purchase a heavyweight 76mm steel socketed football goals package – 21' x 7' at £609.00 excluding VAT, plus delivery, from Stadia Sports. When they are installed the pitch will be youth sized. Quotes will be obtained for installation.

**d) To discuss a draft policy for use of the Playing Field.** This was deferred to the next meeting.

**d) Any other matters to note.** Mr Stanworth will cut the inside of play area hedge next Monday. F J Orchard & Sons have been booked to cut the playing field hedge.

**67/08/16. Footpaths: any matters brought forward.** No matters brought forward.

**68/08/16. Defibrillator update.** The application to Awards for All has been submitted. The Community Heartbeat Trust offers a maintained solution which the Council could consider when it is ready to order its defibrillator.

**69/08/16. Speed check group training.** PCSO Fyne has risk assessed 2 sites for the Speed Watch volunteers to stand at and record speeds. These cover 2 areas of the village, one at Frogs Lane, and the other on Sawyers Hill. The expectation is that both sites will be used by the volunteers. Volunteers will need to complete both a knowledge check training video and volunteer form. Roadside training will then be carried out with a visit to both sites. PCSO Fyne feels if people see volunteers carrying out these checks in the village they will express an interest in becoming a volunteer.

**70/08/16. To agree two councillors to attend the SALC AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> September.** Cllr Mitton will attend the SALC AGM.

**71/08/16. TDBC Rural Priority Areas Survey.** Councillors were asked to look at the survey and to send their responses to Cllr Mitton who will use them to compile a response on behalf of the Council. He will also put together a response for the NALC Community Led Housing Survey.

**72/08/16. Correspondence and items of interest.** There were no items of interest. The following correspondence was discussed. The Regeneration and Infrastructure Manager, TDBC, is trying to ascertain ownership of unregistered land near Ham, west Buckland and a parcel of land at Bradford on Tone. Councillors looked at a map showing the two pieces of land but were unable to help.

**73/08/16. Any urgent business at the Chairman's discretion.** There was no urgent business.

**74/08/16. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm.