

## WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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### **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th February 2017 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 and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

**156/02/17. To accept apologies for absence.** There were no apologies.

**157/02/17. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda.** There were no disclosures.

**158/02/17. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 31/01/17.** The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**159/02/17. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda.** There were no matters arising.

**160/02/17. Democratic Period.** There were no members of the public.

#### **161/02/17. Planning:**

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

46/17/0011 Erection of a single storey extension to the dining room at Camelot House, Ham Road, Ham, Wellington. Applicant: Mr J Teasdale Camelot Care (Somerset) Ltd. Comment: West Buckland Parish Council has no objections to the granting of approval.

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

46/16/0009 Installation of a car wash with access roads thereto constructed on site on land at Blackdown Garden Centre, Wellington Road, West Buckland.

Decision: permission refused.

**c) Update on planning enforcement at Gerbestone Manor Farm.** The Clerk reported she had spoken to Karen Wray, Planning Officer TDBC, and she is waiting for 2 planning applications to be submitted. She has advised the applicant's agent about information that will be required.

**d) Any other planning matters.** It was reported that Robinsons Smokehouse is selling organic vegetables and this is believed to be contravention of one of the planning conditions for the smokehouse. This will be reported to planning enforcement.

46/16/0005 Variation of condition 04 (implementation and completion of highway works) of application 46/12/0007 at Blackdown Garden Centre, Wellington Road, West Buckland. Permission was granted to extend the deadline for the highway works to be

completed until 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017. It was noted this deadline would soon be approaching and there is no sign of any highway works being carried out. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **162/02/17. Highways.**

##### **a) Matters arising from previous meetings.**

- ***Final decision on the removal of phone box at Piccadilly.*** The final decision is to remove the phone box.
- ***Request for removal of redundant brown tourist signs.*** This will be added to the list of jobs for the lengthsman to carry out and the item will be removed from the agenda.

##### **b) To note any highway defects to reported/or to report to SCC.**

Potholes in Hockholler Lane have been marked up for repair. There are new markings on the road beside West View and it is hoped the work to divert surface water from running across the road will soon be carried out.

**c) Any other highways matters.** The clerk has emailed highways to ask for information about the app for smartphones and tablets which can be used to record the condition of fingerpost signs. She has not received a response yet and will send a reminder about her request. Councillor Henley was asked whether there had been any interest in maintaining finger post signs from any of his other rural parishes. He said he hadn't heard anything from his other parishes and also hadn't heard more about the draft guidance document on finger post maintenance from SCC.

It was agreed to add a County Councillor's Report at this point.

**163/02/17. County Cllr Report.** Cllr Henley noted that 28<sup>th</sup> February was the closing date for the consultation on a proposed new District Council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset. The result of the Boundary Commission Review for Taunton Deane Borough Council is still outstanding. The review could mean the number of District Cllrs being reduced from 56 to the low 40's. The proposed number of councillors for the new District Council will be about 58. Cllr Henley felt there would be three possibilities for West Buckland: it could stay in the same grouping of parishes it is in now; it could be grouped with Bradford on Tone and Oake or it could be added to the Blackdowns. Cllr Mitton referred to the Parish Council's response to the review consultation that it did not want the parish split into 2 wards. Cllr Henley has been looking at use of the slinky bus service and has been told that 16 people have registered to use the service and there have been 228 passenger journeys since the service was introduced at the end of July 2016. It has been reported to Cllr Henley that 2 people tried to register to use the service and were asked whether they had access to a car. When they said they did have access to a car they were not allowed to register to use the service. Cllr Henley queried this at Full Council and was informed the slinky bus service was limited to residents that didn't have access to a car. This has since been confirmed by the officer responsible for the service and the Portfolio holder. There is capacity on the service and many people who use the service enjoy the social interaction. Cllr Mitton questioned who had agreed the policy. Officers write policy which should be agreed by Councillors. The Clerk will find out more details. It was suggested the WI should be informed about registration being limited to those without access to a car as they made representations during the consultation on the withdrawal of the previous bus service. Cllr Henley asked whether the Council had responded to the consultation on speed reductions on the A38. He was informed the Council had supported the plans put forward by SCC to reduce the speed limit. It was noted there is no enforcement of speed limits along that stretch of road. Staff, volunteers and visitors from Camelot Nursing Home have

reported difficulties in crossing the A38 to reach the bus stop on the opposite side. On occasions it has been so difficult they have missed the bus they planned to catch.

Cllr Henley left the meeting.

#### **164/02/17. Finance**

- a) To agree and authorise any payments.** It was resolved to make the following payments: F J Orchard & Sons - £156.00 hedge trimming (Chq no 1353)  
Coast 2 Coast - £1920.00 overlay of some of the safety surfacing at play area (Chq no 1354)  
Mrs J Larcombe - £286.49 Clerk's salary and expenses (Chq no 1355)  
Hobbs Electrical Contractors Ltd - £191.88 electrical installation of defibrillator (Chq no 1356)  
Hobbs Electrical Contractors Ltd - £22.50 fixing defibrillator to wall (Chq no 1357)  
A copy of the Electrical Installation Certificate will be given to the Village Hall for their records. An annual payment to cover the cost of the electricity used by the defibrillator will be made to the Village Hall Committee.
- b) Review of Financial Regulations.** The Financial Regulations were reviewed and it was agreed that no changes were required at this time.

#### **165/02/17. To note reports from:**

- a) Police.** A Police Report for January was circulated by email in early February. There were 19 Police logs for the month from the beat.  
The Clerk has contacted PCSO Fyne to ask whether West Buckland's speed gun can still be used. She has advised a new pocket speed gun is on loan to West Buckland which is an updated version but the Council should keep hold of the original. The sites are now agreed upon and there are 2 volunteers. Once it is up and running she will let the Clerk know.
- b) Village Hall Committee.** The Annual Accounts for 2016 have been audited and there were no matters of concern. The Committee Room will be used as a Polling Station for the County Council Elections on the 4<sup>th</sup> May. Coat hooks have been repaired and a piece of carpet fastened down. The vent in the ladies toilet has been cleaned. A vent for the boiler has been ordered. It is hoped that fitting this will prevent the smoke alarm going off. A tap was left running in the disabled toilet. The bin in the kitchen will be replaced with a swing bin and replacement liners will be provided, Hirers will be reminded to take their rubbish home with them. New hirers will be asked to bring their own tea towels. Three new classes have enrolled - Yoga, Quilt Guild and an extra Aikido class. A meeting of the Fete/Flower Show Committee has been held and monies released for each organisation of £166.45. The PTFAs hope to run a Summer Fayre on the School field on 15th July 2017. They would like to contact Village Fete stall holders. They will also be running an Easter Egg Hunt around the village. West Buckland School is becoming part of a Multi Academy Trust in conjunction with Richard Huish in April 2017. There are some extra building extensions in the pipeline. There are 95 pupils at present with capacity for 100.

#### **166/02/17. 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.** They were no matters to report from the inspections carried out in the previous month.
- b) Update on overlay of surfacing.** The overlay of the surfacing has been completed.
- c) To discuss who the four footballs (14yrs + guideline) supplied with the goalposts could be donated to.** The Council were unable to make a decision on who the four footballs should be donated to. Cllr Mrs Blogg will store them until a decision is reached.

**167/02/17. Footpaths: any matters brought forward.** There were no matters brought forward.

**168/02/17. To note the defibrillator has been installed & inform the Council about training session arrangements.** The defibrillator has now been registered with the South West Ambulance Trust and is operational. A training session has been arranged for Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm. Councillor Silverlight agreed to help set up the room and Councillor Mrs Hannah agreed to help with the teas. It was agreed that the sign advising the location of the defibrillator would be put in the redundant bus timetable notice board. Councillor Silverlight will find out whether another one can be put up at Willowbrook Nursery. One will also be put up at Blackmoor.

**169/02/17. Correspondence and items of interest.**

Cllr Silverlight will circulate an email he has received from 2 parishioners concerned about litter in West Buckland and at Junction 26 of the M5 and a possible planning enforcement issue in Blackmoor. The Parish Councils contact details on the website will be checked as it was reported an email sent to that address had been returned. These matters will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Clerk reported she had received an email from a Sedgemoor Parish Council Clerk, who lives in West Buckland parish, asking whether TDBC had circulated the Council with any plans for community litter picks. Sedgemoor District Council has circulated information about community litter picks to their clerks. TDBC has not circulated any information

The Clerk is waiting to hear whether Somerset Waste Partnership will be able to provide a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting.

**170/02/17. Any urgent business at the Chairman's discretion.** There was no urgent business.

**171/02/17. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm. Councillor Lacey gave his apologies for the next meeting.