

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 24th June 2014 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's Mrs M Blogg, D Lacey, Mrs C Biffen, Mrs C Hannath, J Nutt and C Rayson.

In attendance: PCSO Bramley, County Cllr R Henley and the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe.

20/06/14. To accept apologies for absence. There were no apologies.

21/06/14. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr Nutt declared an interest in planning application 46/14/0020 because he owns a neighbouring property. Cllr Rayson declared a personal interest in planning application 46/14/0025 as a neighbour.

22/06/14. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 27/05/14. With the removal of the repeated line in 09/05/14 the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23/06/14. Police Report. It was agreed to move this item forward so that PCSO Bramley could leave the meeting and return to duties. An email report for May had been circulated. He said that last month had been particularly busy but there was nothing to report for this month. There has been an increase in traffic speed along the A38 since the 30 mph speed restriction has been lifted. This has made it more difficult to get out of junctions but no accidents have been reported so far. There is a Beat Surgery tomorrow at 5.30pm. Unfortunately the last one had to be cancelled because of an incident elsewhere.

PCSO Bramley left the meeting.

24/06/14. Matters arising from the minutes. None.

25/06/14. Planning:

a) To consider any Planning Applications received by the Parish Council.

46/14/0020 Demolition of nissen hut and double garage and erection of detached dwelling with erection of 2 garages relating to Hillfields and Orchard View, West Buckland.

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Vivien. This application was received by the Council very soon after the May meeting and a comment had to be sent prior to this meeting in order to comply with the time limit for a response. The comment made to TDBC was that West Buckland Parish Council had no objections. Cllr Nutt declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 46/14/0020 because he owns a neighbouring property but did not need to leave the room because the application was not discussed.

46/14/0022 Extension of grass/pave display areas between trees to frontage with

repositioning of bollards to boundary line at Wellington Motors, Summerfield Way, Chelston Business Park, Chelston, Wellington. Applicant: Wellington Motors.

Comment: West Buckland Parish Council supports the application.

46/14/0024 Erection of single storey extension to the rear of 11 Dyers Close, West Buckland. Applicant: Mr J B & Mrs A H Andrews.

Comment: West Buckland Parish Council supports the application.

46/14/0025 Erection of rear extension to form a day room at Brook Farm, Ham, Wellington Applicant: Mr L Blogg. Comment: West Buckland Parish Council has no objections.

b) To receive results from planning applications determined by TDBC

46/14/0005 Change of Use from Class B (Office & General Industry) to Class D2 (Assembly & Leisure) to provide Children's Activity Centre at Unit 7D Castle Road, Chelston Business Park. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/14/0012 Change of Use of Plot 1 to Car Sales (Sui Generis) and siting of office and storage container at Foxmoor Business Park, Wellington (retention of works already undertaken) (resubmission of 46/13/0038). Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/14/0013 Alterations to vehicular access and formation of hard standing parking area on land formerly known as Dukes Cottage, Ford Street, Wellington (amended scheme to 46/13/0012). Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/14/0019 Change of Use of land to car park for The Merry Harriers, Forches Corner, Blackdown Hill Road, Clayhidon. Decision: conditional approval granted.

c) Any other planning matters

The Council has received the Planning Officer's report for application 46/14/0014 Erection of single storey extension to dining room at rear of The merry Harriers, Forches Corner, Clayhidon (resubmission of 46/13/0047) with a recommendation for conditional approval. The TDBC Planning Session on CIL and Viability Testing planned for 18th June was cancelled due to a large concert at the County Cricket ground being held on the same evening.

26/06/14. Highways.

a) To report on work carried out by the SCC Highway Department and to receive reports on repairs that are needed. No reports.

b) Update on the Council's request for a 30mph speed limit on the A38 at the Worlds End Junction. Mr Titcombe, Traffic Engineer TDBC, has responded saying that he had discussed the Council's request with the Team Leader for Small Improvement Schemes and Safety Projects and he could confirm that there are no plans to change the speed limit at this time. Accidents along this stretch of road will continue to be monitored following the recent safety improvements, new signs and road markings etc. He has also checked SCC's accident stats and was pleased to report that they have no recorded personal accidents at this junction since 2011 although they accept there may have been minor accidents which are not recorded. As far as other speed limits on the A38 are concerned, the whole length of the A38 through Somerset was part of a Red Route study in recent years. This study reviewed all speed limits to see if they were appropriate, accident data, signing and road markings. Any changes thought necessary were made at that time and the route continues to be monitored. Councillors noted their concerns over a number of years and their response was that nothing changes in the difference of opinion between SCC and the Parish Council concerning the safety of this junction.

c) Building Control Report on the condition of the garden wall at Lippincotts. The Clerk reported Councillors concerns about the stability of the wall to Mr Norton, Building Control TDBC. Although this matter had been reported to SCC Highways, who had said they would contact Building Control , there was no record of it being reported. Mr Norton has been to the property to inspect the wall and removed some loose stones and asked the owner to repair following up with a letter under the Act. He was told that a lorry had hit the wall. He is happy to let the matter rest there. The Chairman and Clerk have been and looked

at the wall and noted the crack in it. The Council will monitor to see if the wall is repaired.

d) Update on problems reported on Buckland Hill and Sawyers Hill. Overgrown vegetation on the verges at the junction of Buckland Hill and the road from The Merry Harriers is reducing the visibility and safety at this junction. There is a similar problem at other junctions in the parish. SCC has reduced the number of cuts they carry out. It was also noted that the trees on the right hand side of Sawyers Hill (coming from the village to the roundabout) are growing out over the verges.

e) Any other highways matters. None.

27/06/14. To receive reports from:

a) District Cllr. No report.

b) Cty Cllr. No report at this point. This report was given at the end of meeting.

c) Police. See item 23/06/14.

d) Village Hall Committee. The WW1 event has been mentioned at the WI meeting. It has been decided to replace the existing oil tank with a smaller one and this will be done in August. Quotes are being obtained for new worktops in the kitchen. The defibrillator will be discussed at the next meeting.

e) Any other reports. None.

28/06/14. Finance

a) To agree and authorise payments. It was resolved to make the following payments:
Heathfield Garden Contractors - £654.00 grass cutting & strimming (chq no 1240)
Mrs J Larcombe - £231.30 Clerk's salary and expenses (chq no 1241). The Clerk has purchased 2 USB memory flash drives to keep a back-up of the Council's records. One of these will be kept by the Chairman and they will be updated and swapped on a regular basis. This will improve the security of the Council's records in the event of computer failure, fire or illness etc of the Clerk.

b) Update on online banking. An application has been made.

c) Agreement to pay grant to Taunton & District CAB. It was agreed to pay a grant of £75.00 to Taunton & District CAB (chq no 1242).

29/06/14. Update on Councillor Vacancy. The vacancy has been advertised on the notice board but TDBC has not advised whether a request for an election has been received. Electoral Services for TDBC are now being dealt with by West Somerset Council as the two councils are working together to make savings. If no request has been made the Council will be able to co-opt and information will be put on the notice board and in the newsletter.

30/06/14. Playing Field: Any matters to note. Mr Stanworth has cut Silver Street Green. Cllr Lacey has spoken to Andrew Berry and arranged for him to cut the Playing Field hedges the first week in August. He will also be asked to cut Steart Lane and Sawyers Hill on the village sign side. Mr Stanworth will cut the hedge inside the play area. It was noted that due to changes in legislation the date which hedges can be cut, other than road verges for safety reasons, is being moved next year to the end of August.

31/06/14. Footpaths: Any Footpath Matters. The footpath at Causeway Cottages was closed for a few days to replace the culvert.

32/06/14. Correspondence and items of interest (including information circulated by SALC).

The cheque from SALC for the balance of the money raised for the Peter Lacey Memorial has still not been received. Cllr Mrs Blogg said she had mentioned this at the SALC County meeting and had been told it would soon be sorted out.

A notice of a vacant flat at Popham Court has been displayed on the notice board.

The following correspondence was noted:

33/06/14. Any other urgent business at the Chairman's discretion. There was discussion on the gate duty rota for the Village Fete.

County Cllr Henley joined the meeting.

34/06/14. County Cllr Report. Cllr Henley apologised for missing the last few meetings. He said he had talked to Mr Titcombe about keeping the 30 mph speed limit but had noted the response to the Council's request. Councillors complained to Cllr Henley about the overgrown vegetation obscuring visibility on junctions, including the junction onto the M5 roundabout, and he said that SCC had reduced the number of cuts to one per year and there are now a lot of very angry Parish Councils.

35/06/14. Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th July 2014 at 7.30pm