

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th March 2018 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

162/03/18. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Rayson. Apologies were received from County Cllr Thorne.

163/03/18. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

164/03/18. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 27/02/18. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chair.

165/03/18. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda. There were no matters arising.

166/03/18. Democratic Period. There were no members of the public present.

167/03/18. 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.

46/17/0051 Approval of reserved matters following outline approval 46/17/0029 for the erection of an occupational workers dwelling with associated works at Alexandra Dunn Racing, West Buckland Stud, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/18/0001 Erection of two storey extension at the side of Park Bridge Cottage, Park Bridge Lane, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/18/0003 Erection of an industrial building for Class B2 usage with associated trade counter and parking on land off Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington. Decision: conditional approval granted.

c) Update on planning enforcement matters reported to TDBC.

No update on *E/0010/46/16* and *E/0093/46/17*.

E/0264/46/16 Alleged unauthorised staioning and occupation of two mobile homes at Sellicks Nurseries, Chelston. The contravention will be considered by the TDBC Planning Committee on 4th April.

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

168/03/18. Highways.

a) Matters arising from previous meeting/s

- **Heatherton Grange/Worlds End Junction.** The Chair and Clerk reported on their meeting with the owners of the field opposite the Worlds End. They would be willing to sell a piece of this land if a scheme could be developed to improve this junction. Highways will be contacted to see if there is any possibility that a scheme would be possible. Any scheme would probably be linked with potential development on a field in Bradford-on-Tone parish, as advertised in the field by Notaro. Enquiries will be made to find out the likelihood of this happening.

b) To note any highway defects to report to SCC. Potholes are being marked up for repair. It was noted there are a lot of potholes on Buckland Hill.

c) 50 MPH Speed Limit and 40 MPH Speed Limit Revocation Order 2018. SCC has formally advertised proposals to reduce speed limits on the A38 between Wellington and Taunton. The effect would be to lower the stretches of road covered by a 50 mph limit to 40 mph. The Parish Council agreed to support the proposal.

d) Update on fingerpost sign condition recording and refurbishment. Cllr Silverlight will complete his share of the surveying once the weather improves. The fingerpost sign is storage could be the starting point for the refurbishment programme.

e) To discuss cutting back the verge opposite Frogs Lane. Hi-line will be approached for a quote. The work might have to wait for the Autumn if it is not necessary for road safety.

f) Any other highways matters. Details have been received of the proposed temporary closure of High Street (B3187) and Longforth Road, Wellington for 6 evenings 18.30 – 23.30 hrs (excluding the weekend) from April 25th.

169/03/18. To receive reports from:

a) County Cllr. An email report was received by the Clerk three hours before the meeting and was circulated to councillors. The report was noted.

Cllr Mitton reported he had attended a SALC training session on SIDS. The training was led by Dave Grabham who has just retired from SCC. At present no one has been appointed to succeed him. SCC are proposing a £100 fee per installation if parishes want to join a SCC led scheme from the start of April 2018. There is no need to do anything at this time.

b) Police. An email report for February was circulated at the beginning of March. There were 31 Police logs for the beat for the month.

c) Village Hall. Cllr Mrs Hannath reported on the Village Hall Committee Meeting held on 7th March 2018. The Village Hall is to be exempt from TDBC Business Rates. The new carpet has been laid in the hallway and the Committee agreed it looked very good. The shelf in the cupboard will be fitted on 14th March 2018. The Community Council for Somerset is holding a course on the new General Data Protection Regulations. The rubbish bin which was sited outside the former Village Shop will be moved to the entrance of the Village Hall. Before this is done the brambles will be cleared from the fence between the car park and Frogs Lane. The dog bin in the playing field will be moved a short distance to make it easier to access. The committee are still looking into purchasing replacement chairs for the hall. 75 new chairs would cost £4,811.34 and enquiries will be made about a discount. The heat of the hot water from the taps in the cloakrooms will be looked at. This needs to be regulated for Health and Safety.

d) Any Other Reports. Cllr Mitton reported he had met the local MP, Rebecca Pow, whilst acting in another capacity. He raised the point with her regarding the need for new warding arrangements for the proposed creation of a single new council to be agreed in

time for the Council elections in May 2019 to keep District Council and Town and Parish Council elections synchronised.

The Parish Council has received an email sent on behalf of Bruce Lang, Assistant Chief Executive, TDBC/WSC regarding the process to agree new warding arrangements if the Secretary of State makes a decision to create a new District Council. Since the email that decision has been agreed. A figure of 58 councillors is proposed for the new authority. The current number is 84 councillors across the two authorities. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) will ultimately be responsible for setting the ward boundaries for the new Council. The informal views of parishes, their councillors, or other interested parties are being sought on some of the factors that will influence TDBC/WSC in developing their own warding pattern proposals. The LGBCE are likely to formally adopt the size (number of councillors) of the new council by mid-June 2018. In early July a formal public consultation will start. The LGBCE will publish their final recommendations in October 2018 for implementation at the May 2019 local elections.

170/03/18. Finance

a) To agree and authorise any necessary payments. It was resolved to make the following payments:

West Buckland Village Hall Trust - £32.00 hire of meeting room (Chq no 1396)

Cllr's Mrs Blogg and Mrs Hannath declared personal interests as members of the Village Hall Committee.

Mrs J Larcombe - £327.72 Clerk's salary and expenses including new goal nets (Chq no 1397)

HMRC – £39.00 Employee tax January-March (Chq no 1398)

J Stanworth – £150.00 clearing brambles etc between the Village Hall Car Park and Frogs Lane (Chq no 1399)

b) To consider a quote for emptying the dog litter bin for 2018-19. The quote supplied by TDBC is for emptying the bin by the motorway twice a week when it should be once a week. They will be asked to provide a quote to empty the bin once a week.

c) Any other financial matters. It was agreed to delay reviewing the Business Risk Assessment until the new General Data Protection Regulations are introduced as they will need to be taken into account.

171/03/18. 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. It was reported that children have been riding bikes in the play area and it looks like a small track has been dug out in a grassed area. This will need repairing before grass cutting starts. One of the goal nets now has large holes at the bottom and it was agreed to remove both nets at the end of April. This decision will be reviewed again in the Autumn. There are lots of rabbit droppings in the goal areas and on the field generally and a small hole has been dug between the goal posts. There was some discussion about how the rabbits could be controlled but no decision was reached. There has been a secondhand report of a syringe being found on the playing field but no details were given about the syringe. The field will be monitored but it was recognised that some children's medication is supplied with a syringe.

b) Any other matters to note. The rubbish bin from the centre of the village will be repositioned by the footpath sign in the Village Hall Car Park.

The Clerk is waiting to hear from Somerset Playing Fields Association about arrangements for annual play area inspections.

172/03/18. Footpaths: any matters brought forward. Cllr Mitton reported he had looked but couldn't see where the flood prevention work at Bradford-on-Tone is going to take place.

- 173/03/18. Correspondence and items of interest.** The following correspondence was noted:
SALC – Consultation: Review of Local Government Ethical Standards. The Committee on Standards in Public Life has launched a consultation as part of its review into local government ethical standards. NALC has developed a survey to provide qualitative evidence to inform their response to the review. Councillors will make individual responses if they wish to do so. The deadline for responses is 5pm, Friday 27th April.
SALC – Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG) Practitioners Guide 2018 & Schedule of Amendments for 2018/19.
- 174/03/18. Any urgent business at the Chairman’s discretion.** A decision has finally been made that 2 Holway Cottages, a council house belonging to TDBC, will be sold. The property has been empty for more than twelve months. The reason given for selling the property is that it will cost too much to bring it up to the required standard.
It was reported the defibrillator had been taken from the cabinet during an emergency but it was returned without being used.
- 175/03/18. Plans for Annual Parish Meeting on 24th April.** This will be a low key meeting and will take place in the Committee Room at 7.30pm, before the Parish Council meeting. There will be an Annual Report from the Parish Council Chairman, a financial report on the 2017-18 Parish Council accounts from the Clerk and the option for any village organisation to present a report.
- 176/03/18. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th April 2018 and will follow the Annual Parish Meeting which will start at 7.30pm..