

## WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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**A Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 29th July 2014 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

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

**In attendance:** PC A Hooper, District Cllr C Hill County Cllr R Henley, 4 members of the public and the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe.

It was agreed to move the Police Report to the beginning of the meeting.

**36/07/14. Police Report.** PC Hooper referred to the June Police Report which had been circulated by email at the beginning of July. There were 75 logged calls, most of which were traffic incidents. The 2 assaults were connected to a local children's' home. There was an incident in Hockholler Lane and Police are trying to trace a man on a white bike, thought to be local, who spoke to a young lad. There have been anti-social behaviour problems involving someone with mental health problems who has moved into a property at Crown Hill. In the early stages the Police were talking to TDBC. The mental health team have washed their hands. PC Hooper said thank you for the invitation to the village fete and Cllr Mrs Blogg said it was good to see him there so people knew who he was.

PC Hooper left the meeting.

**37/07/14. Public Questions.** Mr S Trott, Managing Director of SRK Scaffolding, spoke about planning application 46/14/0028 and explained that the company had outgrown their existing site. They have been looking for a new site in the Taunton area for some time without success and have now broadened their search to the Wellington area and have found Oaklee Cottage, Haywards Lane. He said SRK were a professional company with ISO accreditation. They have not had any complaints from their existing neighbours who are only about 50 yards away. Any noise would be drowned out by the noise from the motorway. He discussed the number of staff and vehicle movements which would mainly be at the beginning and end of the working day.

Mr John Lucas of Chelston Nurseries, Haywards Lane spoke about his concerns about road safety. He said he had been at the Nurseries for 52 years and had been surprised that there had not been any accidents when this lane was being used by Foxmoor Nurseries/Business Park. He said there is a footpath/cycleway which comes out into Haywards Lane. If this was cleared people could use it to travel between West Buckland and Wellington safely. Mr Trott said SRK had to have a Traffic Management Plan as part of their ISO accreditation

and vehicles tended to go out at 8.30am and return at 4pm.

Mr David Lucas explained that he lived in the cottage in the top corner of Chelston Nurseries. He said this change of use would not be a suitable use for the area. There would be a huge increase in traffic movement compared to when the site was a nursery. This site is agricultural not commercial. The reason that Foxmoor Business Park got permission for a new access was because the Haywards Lane access was unsuitable. There is no public transport anywhere near the site which makes it unsustainable. He was concerned about the lifting of the agricultural tie on the dwelling. The application claimed that there were no flooding issues but Sellicks Nurseries has flooded in the past and the stream goes onto Willowbrook where there have been flooding issues.

**38/07/14. To accept apologies for absence.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr Lacey.

**39/07/14. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda.** Cllr Mrs Biffen declared a personal interest in planning application 46/14/0028 as her husband is a partner in the company acting as agents for the applicant.

District Cllr Hill said he was at the meeting to listen and would not be commenting because he is a member of TDBC's Planning Committee.

**40/07/14. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 24/06/14.** The minutes were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

**41/07/14. Matters arising from the minutes.** None.

**42/07/14. Planning:**

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

46/14/0028 Change of Use of land from horticulture to storage of scaffolding poles and related materials, erection of an office/workshop building and variation of condition no 8 of planning application 46/93/0004 to allow occupation of agricultural workers dwelling by persons connected with scaffolding business at Oaklee Cottage, Haywards Lane, Wellington. Comment: West Buckland Parish Council has no objections to change of use of the land or the variation to the planning condition but they are concerned about the access from Haywards Lane onto the A38.

**b) To receive results from planning applications determined by TDBC.** No results received this month.

**c) Any other planning matters.** No other planning matters..

**43/07/14. To receive reports from:**

**a) District Cllr.** Cllr Hill said he had been unable to attend the last meeting because TDBC had held a Council Meeting that evening. A motion had been put forward for TDBC to move from the Deane House to County Hall but this was defeated by one vote. SCC has offered TDBC £10million to move to County Hall but County Hall does need money spent on it. TDBC need to spend £4million to update their office structure and would have disposed of The Deane House to get capital receipt. Cllr Henley said he had voted against the motion as he was not sure it was going to save money. There are problems with parking availability at County Hall. It has been suggested that new offices could be built at Firepool. The Electoral Commission are concerned that TDBC are not chasing people who haven't registered to vote.

The Clerk told Cllr Hill about the difficulties she had encountered when trying to contact the Monitoring Officer for advice. Customer Service didn't know who the Monitoring Officer was and Town and Parish Councils had not been told there had been a change.

**b) Cty Cllr.** Cllr Henley said he had attended the Village Fete and Flower Show which had

been very good. He was invited to present the Pre-school prizes. The school has been given a cheque for healthy eating. The school are concerned about funding for Free School Meals for KS 1 pupils from September 2014. Cllr Henley will be visiting the school to see how this is working. The Health & Wellbeing Grant is only available from 1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> November this time. Grants are expected to be made to the WI and Friendship Group. The Parish Council could apply for a grant towards something which fits the criteria.

**c) Police.** See item 36/07/14.

**d) Village Hall Committee.** Cllr Mrs Hannath reported that the base for the new oil tank will be laid on the 20<sup>th</sup> August and the new tank will be put in place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August. The committee are now looking at quotes for new worktops in the kitchen. The sink in the Pre-school cupboard has been unblocked.

**e) Any other reports.** None.

Cllr Hill and Cllr Henley left the meeting.

#### **44/07/14. Highways.**

**a) To report on work carried out by the SCC Highway Department and to receive reports on repairs that are needed.** There are red markings around the potholes in Silver Street where the road is breaking up on the edges. The dreadful state of the verges was noted.

**b) Update on problems reported on Buckland Hill.** No update.

**c) Any other highways matters.** TDBC used to cut Vokers Cross Lane (near Sellicks Nursery) but they seem to have stopped doing this and it is becoming overgrown. An item will be put on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss whether the Parish Council should pay for this lane to be cut.

#### **45/07/14. Finance**

**a) To agree and authorise payments.** It was resolved to make the following payments:  
Heathfield Garden Contractors - £390.00 grass cutting & strimming (chq no 1243)  
Mrs J Larcombe - £220.55 Clerk's salary and expenses (chq no 1244)  
Playsafety Ltd - £92.40 Rospa annual inspection of play area (chq no 1245)

**b) Receipt of cheque from SALC.** A cheque for £736.12 in respect of the outstanding money donated to SALC by Parish and Town Councils, Councillors and County Association colleagues in memory of Peter Lacey has been received by West Buckland Parish Council. This money will be earmarked and used for the upkeep of the Peter Lacey Memorial Planter.

**b) Letter of thanks from Taunton & District CAB for Grant.** John Newman, Administrator Taunton & District CAB, has written to thank the Parish Council for their donation of £75.00. He said the donation would make an important contribution to the work of the Bureau.

**c) To compare spending against budget for 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014.** Councillors considered the report and agreed that there were no concerns at present.

**e) Update on online banking.** Nothing to report.

**46/07/14. Update on Co-option of Councillor to fill Vacancy.** There has been no request for an election and the Parish Council can now co-opt. A piece has been put in the newsletter and the co-option is advertised on the Parish Council noticeboard.

Electoral Services is now dealt with by West Somerset District Council as the two councils are now working together. The Clerk expressed her concern that they hadn't contacted her to let her know that there had not been a request for an election as would have happened in the past.

#### **47/07/14. Playing Field**

- a) **To discuss Rospa Report.** Councillors considered the report from Rospa. The only points for consideration were some chain wear on the swings which needs to be monitored for further deterioration and replacement at 40% wear. An internal inspection of all fittings and components or replacement was advised. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- b) **Any matters to note.** Cllr Mrs Blogg has given the Clerk the completed sheet for the last 6 months of Play Area Inspections.

**48/07/14. Footpaths:**

- a) **Report from Mr Bob Gould PPLO.** No report.
- b) **Any Other Footpath Matters.** No other Footpath matters

**49/07/14. Correspondence and items of interest.** The following correspondence was noted:

Clerk & Councils Direct – July 2014  
SALC – advice on pre-application discussions

**50/07/14. Any other urgent business at the Chairman’s discretion.** No urgent business.

**51/07/14. Dates of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at 7.30pm.