

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 25th June 2013 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's Mrs M Blogg (Chair), Mr D Lacey, Mrs C Biffen, Mrs C Hannath, and C Rayson.
In attendance: PCSO S Bramley and the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe.

It was agreed to allow PCSO Bramley to give his report at the start of the meeting. The Police Report for May has been circulated by email. In June there has been no reported crime in West Buckland but someone tried to steal from the Sampford Arundel Church collection box which was empty. Cllr Mrs Blogg said the Parish Council appreciated PCSO Bramley attending the meeting. Cllr Mrs Hannath said the traffic situation was horrendous at the end of the school day with vehicles double parking outside the Old Post Office. PCSO Bramley said he would go and have a look one afternoon. He handed out some Police No Cold Calling notices.

PCSO Bramley left the meeting.

21/06/13. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr D James.

22/06/13. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. None.

23/06/13. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 28/05/13. With the amendment in 11/05/13 c) of Causeway Cottages to Calways Cottages the minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

24/06/13. Matters arising from the minutes. Peter Taylor has agreed to carry on as the Parish Path Liaison Officer.

25/06/13. Planning:

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

46/13/0011/A Erection of 1 no non-illuminated noticeboard at Chelston Gospel Hall, Chelston. Applicant: Mr J Coles. This application has already been decided by TDBC. The Clerk has been informed by the agent that planning applications for West Buckland Stud have just been submitted. The agent plans to attend the Parish Council meeting when the applications are discussed.

b) To note the withdrawal of planning application 46/13/0012 Alterations to vehicular access and formation of hardstanding parking area on land formerly known as Dukes Cottage, Ford Street, Wellington. Applicant: Mr J Bradford. The withdrawal was noted.

c) To receive results from planning applications determined by TDBC.

46/13/0011/A Erection of 1 no non-illuminated noticeboard at Chelston Gospel Hall,

Chelston. Decision: conditional approval granted.

d) Update on issue reported to Planning Enforcement. No information yet from Mr Hardy, TDBC Planning Enforcement Officer.

e) Any other planning matters. No other planning matters.

26/06/13. Highways.

a) To report on work carried out by the SCC Highway Department and to receive reports on repairs that are needed. Nothing reported.

b) Update on repairs to damaged signs. The repairs have still not been done.

c) Update on traffic measures for HGV's and other work to be carried out in the Blackmoor area. Mr Titcombe has replied to Cllr Mrs Blogg's email regarding HGV problems at Blackmoor to say that when they provided the sign at Manley's, they also erected two similar signs at the exit from junction 26 roundabout to deter HGVs from using both legs of Gerbstone Lane. He thinks that is all the signing they can do from the roundabout, and the drivers are probably using Sat Nav and ignoring the signage. The signing for the top of Buckland Hill is in the programme and should be in place within the next six weeks. He has not heard back from Mr Hammond at Blackmoor so assumes he is happy with their proposal.

Cllr Mrs Biffen said she was concerned about the condition of trees on Buckland Hill as more have come down. Cllr Lacey said there is a similar situation on the hill at Corfe. Cllr Mrs Blogg will chase this up again. The damage to the edge of the road between Budgetts and Manleys, where there was already a subsidence problem, has not been repaired.

d) Update on obtaining highways permission to site a plant container by the finger post. This will be put on hold at the moment. Cllr Lacey has suggested building an alcove in the wall of Forge Cottage for the plant container. He confirmed that the wall was suitable for this.

Cllr Rayson joined the meeting at this point.

27/06/13. To receive reports from:

a) District Cllr. No report.

b) Cty Cllr. No report.

c) Police. Report given at the start of the meeting.

d) Village Hall Committee. The Village Hall now has a cleaner and the cleaner's husband is helping with some of the late night lock ups. A Curry Evening has been booked at the Village Hall in July.

e) Any other reports. Cllr Rayson had attended the meeting of Churches Together in Wellington & District on new housing developments before coming to the Parish Council meeting. He said there was nothing from the meeting that affected West Buckland.

28/06/13. Finance

a) To agree and authorise payments. It was resolved to make the following payments:
West Buckland Village Hall Trust - £12.00 hire of main hall for SALC meeting 27th June (chq no 1196)

Heathfield Garden Contractors - £432.00 grass cutting and strimming (chq no 1197)

Mrs J Larcombe - £150.40 clerk's salary and expenses (chq no 1198)

b) Internal Audit Report. Julie Snooks, the Internal Auditor carrying out the audit on behalf of Ken Abraham, reported that there are no issues to draw to the attention of the Council arising from this year's testing. In notes arising from audit for the clerk it reported that the level of assets in the annual return was discussed, clerk to investigate the level of assets entered on the form – consideration to be given to using insurance valuation

(replacement value). This was agreed at the May meeting to change the value of the Parish Council's assets.

c) To consider a request from a resident for additional grass/hedge cutting in the centre of the village and to look at the cost. Councillors had looked at this area before the start of the meeting. It was decided to seek the advice of Cllr James as to the best way of cutting back this area.

29/06/13. Playing Field.

a) To agree the replacement of the picnic table in the play area. It was agreed to order a multi coloured Derwent picnic table with extending arms from Kedel Ltd. The cost will be £486 plus vat and delivery.

b) Registration of transfer of land for additional car parking for Village Hall with land registry. The clerk is trialling the map service from Parish Online to produce the plan required. She will check the measurements after the meeting.

c) Grass cutting and repairs to spring on gate from the new car park to the playing Field. The grass will be cut before the fete. The gate spring needs soldering and the hinges need oiling.

30/06/13. Footpaths.

a) To receive any update from our PPLO. None.

b) Any Other Footpath Matters. A letter has been received from the SCC Definitive Map Team to inform the Parish Council about an application that has been received from Mr I Davies for a modification of the County Council's Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way. This is a Section 53 application for addition of a public bridleway from the end of Haywards Road to Junction 26 of the motorway, West Buckland Parish. Mr Davies considers the path on the plan attached to the letter should be recorded on the definitive map as a public bridleway. The Parish Council was asked if it could provide any factual evidence relating to the route under investigation. It is known that prior to the construction of the M5 motorway the route was an unclassified County road. Parish Council minutes between 1955 and 1981, held at the Somerset Heritage Centre, show that there were meetings between the Parish Council and the Department of Transport in the early 1970's but copies of correspondence appear to have been destroyed. The Parish Council has no further information on this but has no objections. The Council questioned the suitability of this proposed bridleway for horses.

31/06/13. Co-option of Parish Councillor. The vacancy has been advertised on the notice boards and in the newsletter. Anyone interested is asked to send a letter of application to the Clerk, by post or email, by Monday 22nd July.

32/06/13. SALC Meeting 27th June. Cllr Mrs Blogg will chair the meeting and the clerk will attend. Cllr Mrs Hannath agreed to help with the teas before the start of the meeting.

33/06/13. To agree the Gate Rota for the Fete. It is only the main gate that has to be manned this year. Cllr Lacey agreed to help Cllr Mrs Blogg at the start of the afternoon. Cllr Mrs Hannath and Cllr Rayson also offered to help between 2pm and 2.30pm.

34/06/13. Correspondence and items of interest. The following correspondence was noted:
Community Council of Somerset – Thatch Summer 2013
Community Council of Somerset – Notification of AGM on 17th October 2013
Somerset Rural Youth Project Newsletter Summer 2013
SALC – electronic version of Good Councillor's Guide

35/06/13. Any other urgent business at the Chairman's discretion. The notice board at Ham has

been damaged again, probably by a lorry, and is now unsafe for notices to be put in. The notice board is used to keep Ham residents informed about Parish Council business and to display notices from other bodies and there was concern about keeping residents informed when it is removed. If a new notice board is purchased it would have to be sited in a safer place. A piece has been put in the newsletter asking for feedback from Ham residents. Cllr Mrs Blogg suggested putting a new notice board at the garage and shop at Picadilly.

36/06/13. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th July 2013 at 7.30pm. Cllr Lacey gave his apologies.