

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 24th September 2013 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: County Cllr R Henley, two members of the public and the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe.

69/09/13. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mrs Biffen and Cllr James.

70/09/13. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. None.

71/09/13. To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 27/08/13. The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

72/09/13. Matters arising from the minutes. None.

73/09/13. Public Questions. None.

It was agreed to move agenda item 10d) forward to this point in the meeting. County Cllr Henley and Cllr Lacey joined the meeting during this item.

74/09/13. To discuss the quote from the DLO for white lining a football pitch on the playing field. Cllr Mrs Blogg reported that the DLO has quoted £195.00 + vat to mark out a football pitch on the playing field and £49.60 + vat to whitenline the marked out pitch. The pitch would need to be whitelined on a regular basis, probably fortnightly. If the ladies football team used the playing field as their home pitch they would play fortnightly on a Sunday between 2pm and 4pm. It would be difficult to use a room at the Village Hall as a changing room on a regular basis because of other bookings. Leanne suggested approaching the World's End to see if they would be able to provide changing facilities. The football team could also discuss the provision of refreshments after the match with them. Another alternative would be to use a pitch on the playing field during the summer for training. The team has their own nets. The team are trying to recruit more players. County Cllr Henley mentioned his Healthy Living Grant and said it would be helpful if some of the members lived in his ward. It was agreed that Leanne would try to sort out the problem of changing facilities before the next meeting. It was suggested that the school might be able to use the pitch and Cllr Henley will mention that to the Headteacher.

75/09/13. Planning:

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

46/13/0030 Erection of open fronted barn at Crosses Farm, Bussells Farm Lane, West Buckland. Applicant: Mr J Dermody.

Comment: The Parish Council support the application.

46/13/0033 Erection of additional conductor at Chelston Nurseries, Wellington.

Applicant: Western Power Distribution. Comment: The Parish Council support the application.

46/13/0034/A Replacement of signage to include 1 non illuminated fascia sign, 1 illuminated wall mounted fascia sign and the erection of 1 illuminated flag totem at Monument View, Summerfield Avenue, Chelston Business Park, Wellington.

Applicant: Mr D Lord, Signlex Ltd. Comment: The Parish Council support the application.

43/13/0104 Application for the variation of condition no 2 (list of approved plans) of Application. The Parish Council agreed that it would not make a comment.

43/10/0143, to allow for a revised footprint, floor plan layout and fenestration on land at Westpark 26 Business Park, Chelston, Wellington. Applicant: Summerfield Developments & Montpelier Estates. Comment: The Parish Council support the application.

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

46/13/0016 Erection of an external stable block at West Buckland Stud, West Buckland
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0017 Erection of an office building at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0018 Erection of a general purpose agricultural building at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0020 Erection of a staff changing room with secure tack and equipment store at West Buckland Stud. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0021 Formation of car parking area for 5 no cars at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0022 Erection of covered horse walker at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0023 Erection of extension to stable barn at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0024 Change of Use of agricultural building to stable barn at West Buckland Stud
Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0025 Erection of extension to stable barn to include feed and medical store at West Buckland Stud. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0026 Replacement of lean-to with erection of a single storey extension to the side and erection of a front porch at Cider Cottage, Ham, West Buckland.

Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0027 Erection of extension to car showroom with the installation of a first floor and alterations to the external frontage and car display area at Wellington Motors, Summerfield Way, Chelston Business Park, Wellington. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0029 Erection of dwelling to replace mobile home at Little Greenacres, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

46/13/0028 Removal of condition 1 of planning permission 4/46/09/0034 (to make permission permanent) Wellington Waste Skips Site, The Old Brickworks, Higher Poole, Wellington. TDBC has informed SCC that it has no objections.

c) Update on issue reported to Planning Enforcement. There was no update.

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

76/09/13. Highways.

a) To report on work carried out by the SCC Highway Department and to receive reports on repairs that are needed. Potholes have been repaired on Sawyers Hill and the large hole at Budgetts has been repaired.

b) Update on flood prevention work at Willowbrook. County Cllr Henley is following this up but had no further information to report to the Parish Council.

c) Update on trees on Buckland Hill. Mr Scriven, County Arboriculturalist, has emailed the Clerk to report that there has been progress with regard to the trees on Buckland Hill. He has been in contact with the owners of Trees Farm and has recently met them on site to view the issue. The owners were very co-operative and keen to remove any potential hazard and have arranged for contractors to remove the 'hung up' trees and failed and low branches. It is Mr Scriven's belief that this work will be carried out in the very near future and he hopes this will resolve the matter.

d) Update on road surface problem on the A38. Mr Quick, the Assistant Area Highways Manager SCC has emailed the Cllr Henley and the Clerk to report that the temporary 30 MPH speed limit which has been introduced between The Bradford on Tone and Wellington on the A38 is for safety reasons. The very hot summer this year has caused the road surface to reactivate and the bitumen emulsion has risen to the surface as can be seen by the black appearance in the wheel tracks. This bitumen emulsion has the effect to reduce the skidding resistance of the road surface and this is the reason why a lower speed limit has been introduced as a temporary measure to slow the speed of traffic. The Highway Authority is actively working with the contractor who originally laid the surfacing material to formulate remedial works to improve the current situation and then return the road to the original speed limits.

e) Any other highways matters. Cllr Nutt reported that there had been a lot of fly tipping between Crossways Chapel and Blackmoor.

A resident of Lee Park has emailed the Chairman with some issues for the Parish Council to consider and these are weed growth in pavements and kerbside areas; the need for road sweeping during heavy leaf fall to avoid drain blockages and discourage new plant growth from composting debris; loose road concrete outside 64 Lee Park on a speed hump and clean out drains and ditches needing clearing prior to the wet weather to minimise the flooding on the roads and to residential properties which was experienced last year. It was suggested that an action team could be organised via the newsletter to have a day of action over a couple of months if funding is the issue. Most of this work is the responsibility of SCC where funding is an issue. The loose road concrete will be reported. Also discussed was the flooding problems which occur when the ditch at Lee Park overflows. TDBC used to clean out the ditch on a regular basis but it has not been cleaned out recently. The secretary of the Lee Park Residents Group has been trying to contact the relevant officer at TDBC but this is proving difficult. The Clerk suggested that if the problem in getting a response continues the Parish Council should help with making TDBC aware of the problem.

77/09/13. To receive reports from:

a) District Cllr. No report.

b) Cty Cllr. Cllr Henley apologised for not attending Parish Council meetings during the summer and explained that he had suffered a period of ill health after the election and had spent three months recovering. He is now back doing council business and Wednesdays are his day for doing ward work. Due to the changes to the ward boundary he is now travelling a lot of miles between parishes. He has followed up the problem with the dangerous trees on Buckland Hill and is now trying to find out about the planned work to prevent flooding at Willowbrook. He said it was a year ago today that Willowbrook was badly flooded. Tomorrow he will be visiting the school and will be discussing free school meals. Cllr Mrs Hannath asked Cllr Henley about ditch clearance because of concerns about flooding

because the ditch at Lee Park hasn't been cleaned out this year. Cllr Henley said this was a grey area and ditch and gully clearance and hedge trimming are his biggest issues.

c) Police. The August Police Report from PCSO Bramley was circulated by email at the beginning of September. August has seen a rise in crime after the very quiet months the Police have had on the beats. The levels are now at about the same as last year. There was a reminder that now the summer is over the weather will be getting wetter and this will mean slippery roads which can be made worse with mud, oil and leaves on them. Some simple safety advice was give. Thirty four calls were received in August from the Monument Beat. There were ten reports regarding traffic related problems, four calls of suspicious vehicles or people and four calls to attend intruder alarms. One call was received about a drink driver and a male was stopped by officers and arrested after failing a breath test. A laptop was reported as having gone missing from a home in West Buckland and the victim believes this was taken by a painter and decorator working at the property. Investigation is ongoing and a male is wanted for questioning.

d) Village Hall Committee. Cllr Mrs Hannath said the Village Hall needed to get an accident book. The committee is waiting for a quote for an automatic outside light. One member of the Village Hall committee felt that the grant from the Parish Council towards the new piece of fencing wasn't enough. The bookings for Mah Jong have been made because someone is having their home done up.

e) Any other reports. Cllr Mrs Blogg will be attending the SALC AGM at Somerton on Saturday. She was unable to attend a recent SALC committee meeting but has asked Jean Allgrove to pass on any information.

78/09/13. Finance

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

Grant Thornton - £120.00 external audit fee (chq no 1210)

Mrs J Larcombe - £157.65 Clerk's salary and expenses (chq no 1211)

Heathfield garden Contractors - £432.00 grass cutting and strimming (chq no 1212)

b) To authorise the payment for a Remembrance Wreath from the RBL. Geoff Henley, a former councillor, is happy to collect the Remembrance Wreath for West Buckland from the Royal British Legion. It was agreed to purchase a Remembrance Wreath. Last year the cost was £22.00.

c) Update on obtaining copies of public liability insurance from contactors. Copies of Public Liability Insurance have been obtained from Mr Stanworth and Heathfield Garden Contractors. Cllr Lacey said the contractor booked to cut the hedges will supply a copy of his public liability insurance.

79/09/13. Playing Field.

a) Hedge cutting and tidying. The grass has been cut today and Mr Stanworth has cut the hedge on the inside of the play area. A contractor has been instructed to cut the rest of the Playing Field hedges.

b) Update on the replacement of the picnic table in the play area. The picnic table has been delivered to Cllr Mrs Blogg. Cllr Lacey will fit it to the paving slabs in the play area but will need assistance to move it to the field. Extra paving slabs can be put in afterwards if they are needed.

c) Registration of transfer of land for additional car parking for Village Hall with land registry. Nothing further to report.

80/09/13. Footpaths.

a) Update on the request from a resident to cut the trees at Lee Park beside 14/14. No update.

b) To receive any update from our PPLO. No update.

c) Any Other Footpath Matters. No other matters.

81/09/13. SALC: Update on memorial for Peter Lacey. Cllr Mrs Blogg is trying to find out how much has been raised by the appeal and what SALC are planning to do.

82/09/13. Correspondence and items of interest (including information circulated by SALC). The following correspondence was noted:

Cllr Mrs Blogg reminded the Council that the Dog Show would be held on the Playing Field this weekend.

Connecting Devon & Somerset – Progress update

SALC – details and agendas for Annual General and all Area General Meetings on 28th September at Somerton.

SWP - revised collection dates for Bank Holidays.

83/09/13. Any other urgent business at the Chairman's discretion. None.

84/09/13. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th October 2013 at 7.30pm.