

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th October 2015 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, C Rayson and C Silverlight.
In attendance: the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

87/10/15. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mitton who was attending the NALC Conference.

88/10/15. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

89/10/15. To agree the minutes of the meetings held on 29/09/15 and the planning meeting held on 13/10/15. The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

90/10/15. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda. There were no matters arising.

91/10/15. Democratic Period. There were no members of the public at the meeting.

92/10/15. Planning:

a) To consider any Planning Applications received by the Parish Council. There were no applications to consider.

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

46/15/0028 Erection of roof over yard area at Lower Ruggin Farm, Ruggin Lane, West Buckland. Decision: conditional approval granted.

c) Any other planning matter. Councillors asked about the time limit granted to Blackdown Garden Centre for them to complete highways work. The Clerk said the date on the planning approval was November 30th.

It was reported that the decision for 46/15/0035 Conversion of garage into granny annexe and erection of replacement garage with workshop at Perry Barn has been delayed because the planning notice was not displayed at the property.

93/10/15. Highways.

a) To report on work carried out by the SCC Highway Department and to receive reports on work that is needed. There are orange markings on the road half way down Silver Street, adjacent to Silver Street Farm, and it is thought this is for work to prevent flooding.

b) Matters arising from previous meeting.

i) Ditch at Lee Park – update. Cllr Mrs Hannath reported that the ditch has still not been cleared and TDBC has not contacted the Lee Park Residents Association or responded to their requests for the work to be carried out. The Residents Association has asked the Council to take up this matter on their behalf. The Clerk will contact TDBC to try and resolve this issue. It was suggested that the Council could consider taking over this responsibility from TDBC and that TDBC could be asked to make a contribution towards the cost.

c) Complaint from parishioner about lumps of concrete left on the verges following the removal of signs at Ford Street. Cllr Mrs Blogg has received a complaint from a parishioner and has contacted Dennis Quick, SCC Highways, and asked him to arrange for the lumps of concrete to be removed. She has also asked for the 20 mph warning signs, put up following the surface dressing of some roads, to be taken down and removed.

d) Winter Service 2015/16 and offer of de-icing material for self-help use on the public highway and footpaths. The Council has received an information leaflet from SCC Highways about the Winter Service for 2015/16. A letter has been sent to Parish Councils offering 10 free 20 Kg bags of de-icing material to assist in keeping public highways and pavements clear of ice and snow. They will have to be collected from the Priorswood Highways Depot on the morning of Saturday 21st November. As Cllr Mrs Blogg still holds a supply of bags for the village it was suggested that residents of Blackmoor might find it useful to have access to some. Cllr Silverlight will arrange to collect the bags and will consult with residents.

e) Any other highways matters. There have been some road traffic accidents on the A38 at Chelston and the Worlds End.

94/10/15. To receive reports from:

a) Police. The Police Report for September was circulated by email at the beginning of October. There were 18 Police logs for September for the Beat which was relatively low in comparison to other months.

b) Village Hall Committee. Cllr Mrs Hannath reported that the post box for the exterior wall has been ordered. The School PTFA has said they are unable to provide a representative for the committee at the moment. There has been more discussion about the provision of a defibrillator for the village.

c) Code of Conduct Training 30th September. Cllr Mrs Blogg, Cllr Rayson and Cllr Mitton all attended the TDBC Code of Conduct training at The Deane House on September 30th. Cllr Mrs Blogg said she had found the section on predetermination particularly useful. Cllr Silverlight has not been contacted by SALC about a new date for his training session following the cancellation at short notice of the session he was booked on. SALC has booked the Village Hall for November 25th and the Clerk will check whether that is for a new training session for councillors.

d) Any other reports. No other reports.

95/10/15. Finance

- a) To agree and authorise payments.** It was resolved to make the following payments:
Mrs J Larcombe - £239.56 Clerk's salary and expenses (chq no 1293)
J T Stanworth - £470.00 cutting the grass around the War Memorial and on Silver Street Green, trimming footpaths and hedge cutting at Silver Green and the play area. Councillors noted the good job Mr Stanworth is making of cutting the grass around the War Memorial.
West Buckland PCC - £250.00 additional Churchyard grant (chq 1295). The Clerk told councillors that an error had been made last month when a grant payment of £1000 had been agreed because a grant of £1250 had been agreed in the budget for 2015/16.
Mrs P Lacey - £24.55 plants and bulbs for the Peter Lacey Memorial Trough (chq no 1296)
- b) To report on spending compared to budget 01/04/15 – 30/09/15.** Councillors noted

the report. The amount budgeted for the playing field will be exceeded because the basketball post had to be re-sited in deeper concrete and the budget for miscellaneous will be exceeded because of the purchase and installation of the new notice board. Councillors have already agreed to fund this from reserves.

c) To discuss the budget for 2016/17. Councillors considered the first draft of the budget prepared by the Chairman and Clerk/RFO. The Council has received a letter from the PCC giving details of the annual costs in maintaining the Churchyard. There are currently two cuts per month at a cost of £200 per cut. In addition £75 is paid every other cut for strimming around the gravestones, trees etc. In 2014 a total of £2950 was paid and it is estimated that a similar sum will have been paid by the end of this year plus £500 for general maintenance work in the Churchyard. A public footpath runs through the Churchyard and this is maintained. The Council will consult with the parish to see what parishioners feel it should be providing or taking over in the future.

A letter has been received from TDBC explaining that, in view of the significant financial pressures the Council is facing, it needs to make difficult decisions to balance the budget and provide a sustainable financial future. TDBC now need to consider whether the level of the Council Tax Support grant is affordable and appropriate. The Executive is considering two options. Option one is to use the same formula that was used for 2015/16 as the baseline and continue with this level of funding. Option two is to use the same formula that was used for 2015/16 as the baseline but phase out the funding over a two year period. CTS grant funding would cease for 2018/19. It was agreed that the Parish Council supported option two. Executive will make a decision on 3rd December and Full Council on 5th December. The Parish Council will complete its budget at the next meeting.

d) Second CIL payment. A second CIL payment of £421.88 has been paid to the Council by TDBC.

96/10/15. Playing Field- any matters to note. The hedges have been trimmed.

97/10.15. Footpaths:

a) Recommendation that the application to add a bridleway between Haywards Road and the A38 slip road at Junction 26 of the motorway is refused. Councillors noted the recommendation.

b) Any matters brought forward. There were no matters brought forward.

98/10/15. Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator update. PCSO Fyne has emailed the Clerk a list of the areas where there is a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator but she did not give the names of the co-ordinators. Church Drive, Frogs Lane, Dyers Close, Blackmoor and Lee Park are all listed as current NHW areas. It is believed that the person who was the co-ordinator for Church Drive has died and the Clerk has informed PCSO Fyne. Cllr Silverlight will try to find the list given to him by PCSO Bramley.

99/10/15. Community resilience. Councillors discussed the information circulated to them about the Community Resilience in Somerset Project (CRISP). In the event of an incident or emergency the Village Hall or Church could be used as a gathering point for those moved out of their homes.

100/10/15. Correspondence and items of interest. The following correspondence was noted:
Historic England – invitation to comment on the initial assessment of West Buckland War Memorial to consider whether it has special architectural or historic interest. Councillors considered the report and noted that Taunton was in the address instead of Wellington. The report stated that the railings enclosing the memorial were replaced in 1992 which was thought to be incorrect. Cllr Mrs Blogg will ask Mrs Lacey, who lives close to the memorial, whether they were replaced. There was also a typing error where 1919 was

shown as 19191.

TDBC – details of the civic arrangements for the Remembrance and Armistice Day Acts of Remembrance.

SCC – the Council has been asked to display a poster advising the public of their new phone number.

SCC – details on a new way of communicating using Egress Switch. This is a new, more secure way to send sensitive or confidential information and it also has the added benefit of enabling large file attachments to be sent by email.

Clerk & Councils Direct – November issue.

A parishioner is allegedly allowing her dog to foul footpaths and verges within the 30 mph and repeatedly makes no attempt to clear up after it. The Clerk recommended reporting this to TDBC.

101/10/15. Any other urgent business at the Chairman's discretion. No urgent business.

102/10/15. Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th November at 7.30pm.