

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Mrs M K Blogg
4 Peacocks Close
West Buckland
TA21 9JY
Tel 01823 663378
email margaretblogg@btinternet.com

Clerk – Mrs J Larcombe
6 The Old School
Chapel Street
Tiverton
EX16 6ND
Tel 01884 252647
email westbucklandclerk@gmail.com

www.westbuckland.org

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 29th January 2019 in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's Mrs M Blogg (Chair), D Lacey, D Mitton, Mrs C Hannath, J Nutt and C Silverlight
In attendance: One member of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

133/01/19. To accept apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr C Rayson.
Apologies were received from County Councillor J Thorne.

134/01/19. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

135/01/19. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 08/01/19. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chair.

136/01/19. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda. There were no matters arising.

137/01/19. Democratic Period. The member of the public, Treasurer of the PCC, did not wish to speak at this point and said he was attending the meeting in case councillors had any questions regarding the PCC grant application..

138/01/19. Planning:

a) To consider any Planning Applications received by the Parish Council prior to the meeting:

46/18/0033 Variation/removal of Condition No 2 (Development to be carried out in accordance with approved plans) of application 46/17/0050 for West Buckland Stores, 2A Dyers Close, West Buckland.

Comment: West Buckland Parish Council has no objection to the granting of approval.

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

46/18/0027 Variation of Condition No 2 (approved plans) and No 5 (boundary treatment details) of application 46/15/0022 at Highwood, Sawyers Hill, West Buckland.

Decision: conditional approval granted.

c) Any other planning matters. The Clerk reported that she had checked on the TDBC website to see what progress had been made in reaching a decision for application 46/17/0053 Removal of Condition No 03 of 46/16/0005 (Restrictions to trading of retail building) at Blackdown Garden Centre, Wellington Road, West Buckland. A copy of an email from the agent to the planning officer dated 22nd October 2018 explains that he had met with members of the highways authority to discuss the right turn lane. The highways

authority does not consider there is sufficient area within the highway to construct a right turn lane without encroaching on the BT infrastructure. An alternative option has been suggested for an improved entrance that would not be a full right turn lane but would still be supported with highways design guidance. A traffic count is now required and this is being looked into. The agent is hopeful that agreement will be reached and asked for the application to be held in abeyance to allow discussions to continue. The Parish Council remain concerned about the road safety issues and note the applicant is still in contravention of the planning approval. It was alleged that the applicant knew the problem existed when he submitted the application. It was agreed to revisit the application in two to three months' time to see what progress had been made.

139/01/19. Highways.

- a) Matters arising from previous meeting/s.** Silver Street is marked out for repairs. The parked lorry that was encroaching onto the road at Sawyers Hill is now parking further back and is off the road.
- b) To note any highway defects to report to SCC.** No further defects noted. There are defects marked up for repair and it was felt that SCC Highways are proactive.
- c) Fingerpost sign refurbishment.** No update. No further work will be carried out until the Spring.
- d) Any other highways matters.** It was noted that the signage is being upgraded on the roundabout under the M5..

140/01/19. To receive reports from:

- a) County Cllr.** Cllr Thorne will be emailing a report and the Clerk will forward it to councillors.
- b) Police.** The Police Report for December was circulated by email earlier in the month and discussed at the January 8th meeting.
- c) Village Hall.** A report on the West Buckland Village Hall Committee meeting held on 2nd January 2019, written by Cllr Mrs Hannath, was circulated prior to the meeting. Mr Hagley has resigned from the Committee due to ill health. A letter of thanks will be sent to him for his invaluable help over the years. The Village Hall's share of the proceeds of the Christmas Fair was £152.50. It was agreed to accept the quote for a new water heater. Many compliments were received about the Christmas decorations in the Village Hall.
- d) SALC AGM.** Cllr Mitton gave a verbal report on the AGM held on 18th December 2018. Officers were re-elected, including Cllr Mitton as Chair. SALC is doing well, it has healthy reserves and is doing well on the money it receives but a change to a company limited by guarantee was agreed to protect the organisation. Five founder member councils are required to sign the Memorandum which needs to be sent to Companies House to accompany the Articles of Association. Five councils, including Watchet and Comeytrove in TDBC, have said they are willing to sign the Memorandum but there could be a problem with one Parish Council. Cllr Mitton asked if West Buckland Parish Council would step forward if needed and said there would be no risk or cost. This will be an item for the next meeting. The West Area has been pressing for a meeting with Penny James, Chief Executive TDBC, to find out how the new Taunton & West Somerset District Council will work with Town and Parish Councils. James Hassett, the newly appointed CEO for the merged councils, would like to come and talk to a SALC West Area meeting and this is planned for March/April time.
- e) Any Other Reports.** There were no other reports.

141/01/19. Finance:

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

Mrs J Larcombe - £820.80. The Clerk was unable to pay in the cheque for TDBC at the Post Office as the cheque was made out to TDBC and not the Post Office. To save a further delay she paid the outstanding amount herself and this is a refund (Chq no 1431)
Community Heartbeat Trust - £97.20 replacement pads for the defibrillator (Chq no 1432)
Post Office - £213.41 for payment to TDBC for emptying the dog bin (Chq no 1433)
Mrs J Larcombe - £309.08 Clerk's salary and expenses (Chq no 1434)

b) To discuss a grant application from West Buckland PCC for funding towards the cost of producing the newsletter. It was noted that 300 copies of the newsletter are printed each month and some people receive a paper copy of the newsletter even though they have received the newsletter by email. The PCC needs to find a way of making sure the newsletter is only delivered to households that don't receive it by email. The Clerk publishes the newsletter on the parish website when she receives the email copy. Councillors recognised that there is a benefit to the community by producing and circulating the newsletter and there is also a small benefit to the Parish Council. The Parish Council should be putting more information in the newsletter about its activities but there have been problems in the past with space limitations. It was suggested that there should be more community information on the front page and more information about things to come rather than things that have happened. These have often already been reported in the Wellington Weekly. The PCC cannot continue to pay the cost of producing the newsletter in its current form and will need to think about it again later in the year. It doesn't matter whether people receive a paper copy or receive it by email, they cannot be made to read it. The WI has given the PCC a donation towards the cost of producing the newsletter. It was resolved to pay a grant of £175.00 (Chq no 1435). If the PCC run into financial difficulties in producing the newsletter they should contact the Parish Council.

142/01/19. 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. There were no matters to note.
b) Any other matters to note. The Clerk has obtained a quote from Wicksteed Leisure for the materials and labour to resurface the area under the swings and under the slide. More quotes need to be obtained but the Council might have to think of other ways of funding this project as the quote was £8,000.

143/01/19. Footpaths

a) Parish Paths Consultation. Cllr Mitton circulated a report about the footpaths in the parish prior to the meeting and asked Councillors to comment. Cllr Mitton will respond to the consultation. He reported that the proposed diversion of public footpaths T 29/33 and T 29/34 at Reaphay has been turned down.
Minor amendments were noted for the book of footpath walks in the parish.
b) Any other footpath matters brought forward. There were no other footpath matters.

144/01/19. Review of Code of Conduct. The Government is undertaking a review of the Code of Conduct but this has been delayed by Brexit. It was agreed to adopt the NALC Model Code of Conduct. It was noted that Councillors need to declare the reasons if they disclose pecuniary interests.

145/01/19. To discuss promoting the elections and encouraging people to stand for election.
Parish Council succession planning. Posters will be produced for display in various places in the parish including the notice board. Information will be put in the newsletter and on the website. Councillors will also talk to anyone who might be interested.

146/01/19. Correspondence and items of interest. There was no further correspondence.

147/01/19. Any urgent business at the Chairman's discretion. There was no urgent business.

148/01/19. Date of next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th February 2019.