

## WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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### **The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllr's C Silverlight (Chair), S Bellamy and J Nutt.

**In attendance:** the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

- 32/07/22. To accept apologies for absence.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr Ms Drury. Apologies were received from County Cllr Henley as it was not the Council's usual meeting night and he was attending meetings elsewhere.
- 33/07/22. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda.** There were no disclosures.
- 34/07/22. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 31/05/22 as an accurate record of the meeting.** The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.
- 35/07/22. Matters arising from the minutes not covered by the agenda.** No matters arising.
- 36/07/22. Update on co-option of councillors.** No applications have been received. The Council will continue to try and recruit new councillors. School holidays will start shortly and recruitment of new councillors will be given a bigger push in September.
- 37/07/22. Democratic Period.** No members of the public present.
- 38/07/22. Update on broadband issues.** Cllr Ms Drury has emailed Connecting Devon and Somerset to feedback on her experience of the CDS Mobile Voucher scheme. The new kit was installed, it didn't work and she was in a worse situation than before. She has pointed out that the area was shovel ready for the gigabit voucher scheme, was fully funded and ready to go. Then the scheme was pulled. Matt Barrow was going to get back to the group trying to co-ordinate the scheme, on that issue but they never heard a thing despite numerous chase ups and Rebecca Pow MP becoming involved. She has told CDS that she thinks it's time someone really looked at this issue properly around rural properties because they are being side lined and ignored. She has asked for someone to contact her regarding

solutions. An email has been received from Airband giving notice that they will be putting in 7 telegraph poles in Stoford Lane. Mark Burtwell is the new Community Liaison Officer for Airband. The Clerk will contact him for an update.

#### **39/07/22. Reports**

- a) County Councillor.** No report.
- b) District Councillor.** No report.
- c) Any other reports.** Cllr Bellamy reported that he had attended one of the Taunton Model Engineers open days in June and had seen the progress that they had made with their plans for the site. They hope to open to the public in 2023.

#### **40/07/22. Planning:**

- a) To consider any planning applications received by the Parish Council prior to the meeting.** No applications received.
- b) To receive decisions from planning applications determined by SWT Council.** **43/22/0048/CLA** Notification for prior approval for the installation of 1 No. 15 metre high Phase 8 monopole C/W wraparound cabinet at base and associated ancillary works on land at West Buckland Road, Wellington. Decision: conditional approval approved (Conditional)  
**46/22/0006/AGN** Application for prior notification for the formation of an extension to an agricultural track at Buckland Wood, Clayhidon. Decision: no objection.
- c) Withdrawn application: 46/20/0015** Erection of 8 No. three storey dwellings with associated works on the car park to the Blackbird Inn, Wellington Road, West Buckland (retention of part works already undertaken)
- d) Any other planning matters.** No other planning matters.

#### **41/07/22. Highways.**

- a) To note any required work to be reported to SCC.** No work reported.
- b) To receive an update on any outstanding highways work.** No update.
- c) Update on speed check.** The Clerk has emailed Kate Brown but has not received a reply.
- d) Request for help to get the speed limit reduced to 20mph in Haywards Lane.** The owners of Greenacres Touring Park, Haywards Lane, Chelston have emailed the Clerk to ask for the Parish Council's help to get the speed limit reduced to 20mph in Haywards Lane. The email says that at present the speed limit is 60mph in Haywards Lane while the main A38 is 40mph. The lane is mostly single lane traffic with no footpaths and due to the increase in business in the lane, and of pedestrians using the lane, they feel that it is an accident waiting to happen. They also said there is a need for a footpath from the junction of Haywards Lane to West Park. There are disabled people in wheelchairs being pushed along the side road or having to drive mobility scooters along it. The Parish Council agreed to support the request to support a reduction in the speed limit in Haywards Lane and this will be added to the other requests in the parish.
- e) Any other highways matters.** It was noted that weeds are growing in the gutter alongside the footpath on the A38.

#### **42/07/22. Finance:**

- a) To agree and authorise any payments.** It was resolved to make the following payment: SWT - £664.20 grass cutting & dog bin emptying Quarter 1 (Payment ref: 2223/13)

**b) To note payments made since the last meeting.** Since the last meeting a payment of £301.94 has been made to the Clerk (Payment ref: 2223/11) and Nigel Richards - £50.00 (Payment ref: 2223/12)

The current account balance is £1,000.00 and the Instant Access Account balance is £29,471.03. £664.20 will be transferred from the Instant Access Account to the Current Account.

**c) To note any receipts since the last meeting.** £24.95 has been received.

**d) To receive bank reconciliations at 30.06.22.** Deferred to the next meeting.

**e) To note that the AGAR forms and other required documents have been submitted for a limited assurance review and documents have been published on the website.** Noted.

**f) To note publication of notice for the exercise of public rights.** The notice was published on the notice board and website on 28<sup>th</sup> June. The period for the exercise of public rights is 29<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> August.

**43/07/22. Update from Cllr Nutt on applying for funding for an EV charging point. To discuss how the other 50% of the cost will be funded.** Cllr Nutt reported that he had attended the last meeting of the village hall committee to speak to them about installing an EV charging point on the outside of the village hall. Elliott from ARC Solar also attended the meeting to do a presentation on the production of the electricity from the solar panels. He demonstrated how much electricity was being generated and not producing a return for them, particularly in the summer. The committee decided they were interested in installing an EV charger and Cllr Nutt has been obtaining quotes for the work. SWT has a scheme that will offer a 50% grant towards the cost. Councillors questioned who would pay the remaining 50%. This will be discussed further at the next meeting and Cllr Nutt will investigate whether there are any grants that cover 100% of the cost. He was thanked for attending the meeting.

**44/07/22. Playing Field:**

**a) Any points to note from the regular inspection.** No points to note. The Clerk will arrange for Wicksteed Leisure to carry out the annual inspection.

**b) Result of survey on new equipment for the play area.** The results from the survey were circulated prior to the meeting and councillors were able to see the new equipment that was requested. Cllr Ms Drury, Mrs Stephenson and the Clerk met to discuss the findings. Quotes will be obtained from several companies. Due to the amount involved the Council will have to follow the procurement section in the Financial Regulations. It is hoped that some of the companies approached might have suggestions about grant funding that could be available.

**45/07/22. Footpaths: to discuss any footpath matters.** SWT has sent the application to divert part of footpath WG14/14 to SCC. Vicky Taylor, SCC Rights of Way Diversion Officer is now dealing with the application. There needs to be 2 consultation periods and it will probably take a minimum of 6 months to complete the process if there are no objections.

**46/07/22. To agree amendments to Standing Orders:**

It was agreed to make an addition to 8. Voting on appointments. The following will be added: b) ballot arrangement will be put in place for such matters as co-option or, where there is competition, for the appointment of councillors to outside bodies.

**b) To delegate powers and duties to the Clerk in the event that a quorate meeting cannot be held.** Due to the Council only having 4 councillors it was resolved that:

(a) Should the council be unable to meet for whatever reason, the Clerk be given delegated authority to progress all ongoing matters and projects and authorise all regular payments and incur expenditure in line with the council's agreed budget.

(b) Any decisions taken under resolution (a) above will be taken, whenever possible, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. A record of all decisions and expenditure incurred under delegated authority will be kept and reported to members when the council next meets.

(c) The authority to decide the council's response to planning applications be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Whenever possible councillors will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk.

(d) The provisions outlined in resolutions (a-c) above will override any requirements to the contrary in the council's standing orders, financial regulations or terms of reference.

**47/07/22. Correspondence.** There was no further correspondence.

**48/07/22. Any urgent business at the Chairman's discretion (Not for Decisions).** Cllr Silverlight has received a report that the previous Chair's name is still on a noticeboard. This will be checked and changed.

**49/07/22. Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Signed:  
Chair

Date: