

**Minutes of the meeting of Buckerell Parish Council held at Doug's Shed,  
Splatthayes on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012.**

**Those Present**

Mr Steve Stone – Chairman  
Mrs Jenny Palfrey  
Mrs Kate Pratt  
Mrs Wendy Wayne  
Councillor Roger Giles  
Mr Richard Reeve – Clerk

There were two members of the public present.

**1. Apologies**

Councillor Graham Brown, PC Phil Anning and PC Clive Vickery

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were agreed with one minor typographical amendment and signed.

**ACTION**

**3. Matters arising**

- a) *Ref. 3 a)* The vacancy for a councillor has still not been filled, Mr Stone agreed to approach potential candidates with a view to filling the vacancy at the next meeting. **SS**
- b) *Ref 5d)* Nothing had been received from EDDC regarding the proposed development at Cranbrook. It was agreed that Councillor Brown would be asked to chase this up and provide an answer at the next meeting. **GB**
- c) *Ref 12b)* It was agreed to provide a link to the section on the Devon County Council's web site regarding the responsibilities of the Parish Lengthsman ([http://www.devon.gov.uk/print/index/transportroads/roads/road\\_maintenance/parish\\_lengthsman](http://www.devon.gov.uk/print/index/transportroads/roads/road_maintenance/parish_lengthsman)). Councillor Giles pointed out that as a council we should have some input into what work he carries out within the parish. Details of when he is coming and the work he is carrying out should be requested from John Hopkins at DCC, his e-mail address is; [john.hopkins@devon.gov.uk](mailto:john.hopkins@devon.gov.uk) . Mr Stone agreed to do this. **SS**
- d) *Ref 12d)* It was agreed that a letter regarding dogs fouling crop fields would be sent out in February 2013. **JP**
- e) *Ref 13)* Mr Reeve advised that it might be necessary to replace the War Memorial pots earlier than planned, Mrs Palfrey to liaise with Mrs Craig-Macquaide. **JP**
- f) *Ref 16)* EDDC's Chairman's Garden Party – Mr and Mrs Bishop and Mrs Mear passed on their thanks to the council for being asked to represent Buckerell at this event. They all had a very enjoyable afternoon. **JP**
- g) *Ref 17)* The people operating the King's Foodbank have thanked the village for all its contributions so far.

**4. Police Report**

No crimes had been reported in the parish since the last meeting

**5. Public Questions**

There were no questions from the members of the public present; however a number of issues had been raised prior to the meeting.

- a) The question of who was responsible for clearing the debris from the road when the hedgerows are cut had been raised. Although it was clearly the responsibility of the person cutting the hedge, Mrs Pratt pointed out that the machinery now used is designed to cut and crush the pieces into bits that will be either be blown away by the wind or washed away by the rain. Obviously any larger pieces would be picked up by the contractor.

- b) A couple of signs had been damaged during the hedge cutting; the question was raised about who was responsible for having them replaced. Mr Reeve advised that he had reported the damage to the sign opposite Armoury Cottage to DCC using their website ([http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/transportroads/roads/road\\_maintenance/road\\_sign\\_maintenance.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/transportroads/roads/road_maintenance/road_sign_maintenance.htm)) and that the pole had now been replaced as it was deemed a Health & Safety issue. The footpath sign at Tape Lane has also been damaged and needs replacing. Mr Stone agreed to deal with the issue. ss
- c) The meeting had been asked if anyone knew about the details about an initiative to create a million ponds for wildlife, some people had read about it but no one had any more information. It was agreed to find out more details and respond.
- d) Problems with the road signage at Weston Cross and Buckerell Cross (Feniton) had been raised. Mr Stone and Mr Reeve had been out to check and found there were problems. Mrs Pratt said she would forward the e-mail detailing the problems to John Hopkins at DCC. KP
- e) Problems with broadband were discussed and it was agreed that Mr Stone would be responsible for handling any future issues.
- f) Concerns had been raised about the speed of some farm vehicles particularly during the Harvest period and the potential danger to cyclists and pedestrians. Mrs Pratt advised that contractors are often used at this time and it would be sensible to remind them to take care.
- g) Mr Reeve had been asked to raise the speed one of the school buses was travelling through the village. He agreed to find out the name of the company operating the bus and pass it onto Councillor Giles. RR

## **6. Finance**

- a) The balance at the bank on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012 was £2666.18
- b) The following payments for approval were proposed by Mrs Pratt and seconded by Mrs Palfrey:
  - i. David Wayne – Plastics Run August - £15.00
  - ii. Douglas Cowan – Room Hire July and September - £30.00
  - iii. Richard Reeve – Clerk's Cost and Expenses - £100.00

## **7. Councillor Giles Report**

- a) He advised the meet that he had also been contacted regarding the problems with the road signage.
- b) He asked if the council was aware of DCC consultation process which involved public meetings where members of the public could put questions direct to DCC senior management. Mr Reeve advised that he had received the information and posters would be placed on the village and church noticeboards. RR
- c) He also raised the Parishes Together Initiative where parishes working together could receive additional funding. Mr Reeve agreed to circulate the information. RR
- d) The results from Kings School had been outstanding for GCSE's and excellent for A Levels.
- e) The Community Hospitals Task Group of which he was a member, had recently produced their report. The role of the task group has been to understand Devon-wide provision and treatment in community hospitals with a view to future development.

## **8. Code of Conduct**

Mr Reeve advised that all the forms had been received and the information was now accessible via the EDDC website.

## **9. Planning**

No new applications had been received although it was noted that work on both plots at The Oaks had now started. The issue of more trees being cut down at the site was discussed. Unfortunately there is nothing the council can do to prevent trees being cut down unless there is a preservation order or it is within a conservation zone.

## **10. Roads**

- a) 30 m.p.h. speed limit – The speed limit is now in place however concern was expressed about the location of the repeater signs, particularly the one opposite the church which can only be seen properly from one direction. Councillor Giles agreed to take this up.
- b) The problem with the road outside Avenhayes Cottage was discussed, it was noted that the area had been marked with blue paint indicating that some action was going to be taken.
- c) Concern was expressed about the cut down to Avenhayes from Greencroft, there was more evidence of slippage as the roots of a tree were starting to be exposed. It was agreed that the owner of the land would be contacted and advised of the situation.

RG

## **11. Butts Cottages**

Mr Reeve reported that the case had been heard in court on 25<sup>th</sup> September and that he had been given the following information "*the court said yesterday that the substantive case for an enforced sale will be heard in court on a date asap after 5 November 2012.*"

## **12. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains**

- a) Mrs Wayne reported that the some of the stiles had now been cleared.
- b) She also provided details of a Tree Wardens' Course which she would like to attend. It was agreed that she should attend and that the council would meet all her expenses.
- c) Mrs Palfrey asked whether it was possible for something to be done about the stiles opposite Treaslake which was difficult for some people to climb over because of its height. Councillor Giles advised that any issues with stiles should be raised with Richard Spurway, Public Rights of Way Officer at Devon County Council. His e-mail address is :[Richard.Spurway@devon.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Spurway@devon.gov.uk)

## **13. Devon Waste Plan**

Although this would have no direct impact on the Parish, it is something the council needs to be aware of. Councillor Giles advised that Devon is now the top performing council in terms of recycling in the country is Devon and that within Devon, EDDC has improved from bottom to 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. The question of cardboard recycling was discussed, Councillor Giles advised that they way this could be handled was still being debated.

## **14. Winter Services Review**

Details of what was happening this winter had not yet been received, Mr Stone would contact the organiser of the Snow Warden Scheme to find out what the plans were. He did advise that unless there is a change from last year, the roads through the village would not be gritted, despite being used by two school buses. Mr Stone outlined how the scheme operated and highlighted the two main problems; where to store the salt and how to distribute it. He also pointed out that the scheme is totally separate from the main grit bins. Mrs Pratt asked if the council could put something in the grit bins for people to scoop out the salt. Mr Stone and Mr Reeve agreed to source something appropriate e.g. plastic scoops.

SS/RR

## **15. Village Appearance**

The question of improving the general appearance of the village was discussed. Mr Reeve advised that the annual clear up of the churchyard was taking place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>

October and details would shortly be placed on the noticeboard and issued on the village e-mail.

Suggested ideas to consider, were planting more bulbs, cleaning the signs and a litter collection day. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the Churchyard clear up. The question of replacing the bench by the War Memorial was discussed, Mr Reeve had requested brochures and prices from a number of companies. Mrs Wayne suggested looking at local companies wherever possible. Councillor Giles offered to fund 50% of the cost, his offer was gratefully accepted.

## **16. Devon Heritage Services**

Mr Reeve handed out a leaflets regarding how DCC is reorganising how and where historical records are kept, to form a fully integrated Devon Heritage Centre based at the Records Office on the Sowton Business Park.

## **17. Telephone Box**

Mrs Wayne asked if anyone had come forward to take over looking after the library, as Ross Scarratt had offered to do it despite no longer living in the village. Mr Stone confirmed no one had come forward. Mrs Palfrey then offered to take it on. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr Scarratt thanking him for his offer and also his past work. Mrs Wayne agreed to arrange a handover between Mr Scarratt and Mrs. Palfrey.

ww

## **18. The Buckerell Bugle**

Mr Stone advised that there had been no offers to take on the writing and production of The Bugle. He would speak to Mr Donovan Galling, in his capacity as chairman of The Buckerell Community Association, about sending a letter to all households in the village, asking if anyone was interested in taking it on.

ss

## **19. Items for next meeting**

- a) Precept 2012/13
- b) Leaflet about the village

## **20. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 7.30 p.m. at Splatthayes

Meeting closed 9.40p.m.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_