

**Minutes of the meeting of Buckerell Parish Council held at Buckerell  
Church on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014**

**Those Present**

Mr Steve Stone (Chair)  
Mr Stuart Bader (Vice- Chair)  
Mrs Wendy Wayne  
Mr Ryan Knight  
Councillor Susie Bond  
PC Anning  
Heloise Marlow – Clerk

There were four members of the public present.

**1. Apologies**

Councillor Claire Wright.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2014 were agreed and signed by Stuart Bader Vice-Chair, as Steve Stone, Chair, had not been present at the meeting.

**ACTION**

**3. Matters arising**

Steve Stone confirmed that Kier had agreed to replace the grit bin damaged although neither they nor the other two contractors involved had admitted responsibility for damaging the bin. Steve Stone will write a thank you letter with details of the cost and where to purchase the replacement bin.

**SS**

**4. New Councillors**

Steve Stone advising that due to increased work commitments he would have to stand down as Chairman at the next meeting. A request for new councillors had been well received and it was agreed that the Clerk would send out the relevant forms to the residents who had expressed an interest in becoming a councillor with a view to co-opting these new Councillors at the next meeting.

**HM**

**5. Police Report**

PC Anning advised that since the last meeting there had been two reported crimes in Buckerell consisting of the theft of a motor vehicle and a burglary of an outbuilding – although nothing had in fact been stolen. He advised that these had been opportunistic crimes and residents should remain vigilant. PC Anning also advised that since May 2014 dog owners were now responsible for their dogs at home, in their garden and elsewhere. If a person visits your home on legitimate business and your dog bites him/her then a crime has been committed. Since this legislation came into force in May there has been a marked increase in the number of incidents reported. Hospitals will advise people to report incidents. The recent road traffic collision between a car and a school bus was also raised. PC Anning confirmed that a road traffic collision is not a crime although a crime may subsequently arise from one such as drink driving. If anyone has any concerns about speeding vehicles in the village you should take down the vehicles registration number and pass it on to the

police using the 101 number. You would then be asked to give a statement to the police who would then take action against the driver.

## **6. Public Questions**

A member of the public wished to say thank you to the Kier contractors who had recently been working in the village for their courtesy and helpfulness. Steve Stone confirmed that he would include this in the letter which he would be writing to Kier.

It was also noted that the water quality in the village had temporarily decreased. Stuart Bader confirmed that this was because the supply of water had temporarily been changed to Ottery St Mary but this had now reverted to the Winterbourne supply which had returned the water to its previous quality.

A member of the public advised that he felt that a local farmer was driving his handler through the village too fast and at night carrying two heavy bales and this he felt was dangerous.

It was noted that a culvert on the road out towards Glebe House was blocked due to a tree being wedged in it. There are also stones on the road going out towards Awliscombe. Stuart Bader confirming that he would contact the Highways Authority regarding this and Heloise Marlow would notify Councillor Claire Wright.

Steve Stone confirming that a resident of Orchard Farm had contacted him in respect of effluent smells. This had been investigated by Kier and SWW – who both advised that the smell was not caused by them. The residents of Orchard Farm have a central septic tank which pumps the effluent to the mains sewer. They are intending to contact the Environmental Agency and have asked the BPC for its support.

It was agreed that the BPC should confirm that they are aware of effluent leaking into the area but whilst the BPC does support the residents of Orchard Farm in their efforts to resolve the issue this is a private matter in the first instance.

A member of the public advised that the drain outside Avonhayes is broken. He was of the view that should there be a cold winter this could cause the water to freeze which would be a hazard to all road users. Heloise Marlow will contact Councillor Claire Wright and ask her to take the matter up with the Highways Department. Councillor Susie Bond asking Heloise Marlow to copy her into that email.

**SS/HM**

## **7. Finance**

- a) The balance at the bank is £3,788.10.
- b) The following payment for approval were unanimously agreed by the Councillors:
  - i. David Wayne – Plastics Run August - £20.00

It was also noted that in the BCA minutes a request had been made for the BPC to fund another Gazebo. Councillors agreed to this funding request by the BPC.

## **8. Councillor Claire Wrights report**

### **Buckerell Parish Council report – 23 September 2014**

#### **All inpatient beds set to be lost at Ottery St Mary and Axminster Hospitals**

North, East and West Devon Clinical Commissioning Group has announced its intention to close all inpatient beds at Ottery St Mary and Axminster Hospitals in East Devon. The minor injuries unit at Ottery will also shut if plans go ahead. The minor injuries unit at Sidmouth is also set to close.

A 12 week consultation has been launched on these and other proposals across Devon, which NHS managers say is intended to move care closer to people's homes.

As a member of Devon County Council's health scrutiny committee, I have requested the associated financial case for the bed closures, as previously health managers suggested that the plans would save money. I am entirely unconvinced of this and actually believe that it would cost MORE money for a range of health staff to visit people's homes, with all the necessary equipment.

Also, Ottery alone is set to grow by about one quarter – and this is just in planning applications already approved. It does not include the surrounding villages, which are being targeted by developers.

At a time of such rapid growth, shutting hospital beds is the last thing we should be doing.

Representatives from the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital who attended the health scrutiny committee on 18 September confirmed that there were 60 patients at that time in beds at the RD&E who were ready to be discharged but had nowhere to go.

At the meeting, I asked for data on trends of the proportion of patients who have been transferred to community hospitals over the past 10 years.

Cllr Roger Giles and I have called a public meeting to discuss the plans and what should be done about them, on **Tuesday 7 October, starting at 7.30pm**, at the Institute, Yonder Street, Ottery St Mary.

#### **Broadband update**

The upgrade to our broadband has been delayed, from July. BT now say that they are looking at this month (time fast running out!) or October for the work to take place, which will involve road closures. Although Buckerell is quite a distance from the exchange residents should hopefully notice some improvement in speeds. There will be a need to sign up for faster speeds, however. I will let you know when this happens.

#### **BBC Inside Out**

There are now so many service cuts happening in Ottery that BBC Inside Out will be running a programme about how Ottery residents are working together to find a way forward. To refresh your memories, Devon County Council has:

- Withdrawn funding from the youth centre, which is now set to be taken on by a church organisation
- Will withdraw funding from the library, which a community group is trying to keep going in another form
- Will funding from the children's centre (the building is at risk)

And of course the CCG has announced it wants to close all the beds in Ottery hospital and the minor injuries unit.

The police enquiries desk closed about two years ago.

A public meeting on **Saturday 4 October -10am-1pm**, in the Institute, will explore how residents can help Ottery move forward amid all the cuts.

Claire Wright

Devon County Councillor, Ottery St Mary Rural Ward

## **9. Councillor Susie Bond's report**

**Speaking at DMC.** Since we last met, full Council have approved the changes to public speaking at planning meetings and these will come into force for the October DMC meeting. Objectors and supporters are limited to five speakers each and they have to register in advance and will be decided on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Recycling.** The new contract is being discussed through a series of think tanks. If anyone has any thoughts on how the current system could be improved, for instance through the inclusion of cardboard and general plastics as part of the kerb-side collection, let me know in the first instance.

**Land west of Hayne Lane.** The application for 300 houses was finally approved on 5 September at the Planning Inspections Committee. The S106 agreement will be complicated because of requests for developer funds for education, health care facilities and contributions towards improvements at Turks Head. The application was approved despite strong representations from the two AONBs and Natural England. DCLG has asked to review the case with the possibility that it might be called in and Gittisham Parish Council are expressing their concerns to the Minister and Neil Parish MP about how the application was handled.

## **10. Roads report**

See above

## **11. Trees, footpaths, hedgerows and drains**

Wendy Wayne asking that all persons using the footpaths stay on the footpaths and be mindful and observe the countryside rules. It was noted that the hedgerows had been cut back and it was hoped that there would not be too much rainfall in the near future which might lead to the drains being blocked by the detritus on the roads.

## **12. Winter Service Review**

Heloise Marlow advising that EDDC was offering sandbags to parishes – it was agreed that she would ask EDDC for some. Ryan Knight confirming that he was happy to store them. Residents should be aware that there is still rock salt at Gallings place.

[HM](#)

## **13. Audit**

Heloise Marlow confirming that the audit had been returned agreed.

## **14. Computer Course**

This will be readvertised to gauge current interest.

[HM](#)

## **15. Telephone Box**

Wendy Wayne confirming that this had been repainted. It was agreed to pay the bill in the sum of £359.70.

[HM](#)

## **16. AOB**

Ryan Knight advising that he still had a lot books from the Fete. Heloise Marlow will ask Jenny Palfrey if she wants any for the phone box. An update on Butts Cottages was also requested for the next meeting.

[HM](#)

## **16. Date of next meeting -**

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at Buckerell Parish Church.

Meeting closed 9.10 p.m.

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

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

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