

**Minutes of the meeting of Buckerell Parish Council held at Buckerell
Church on Tuesday 24th February 2015**

Those Present

Mr Stuart Bader (Chair)
Mrs Wendy Wayne
Mr Ryan Knight
Mr Nicholas Maxwell-Lawford
Councillor Claire Wright
Heloise Marlow – Clerk

There were four members of the public present.

1. Apologies

Councillor Susie Bond, PC Phillip Anning, Mr Donovan Galling

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on the 8th December 2014 were agreed and signed

ACTION

3. Matters arising

None

4. Police Report

Heloise Marlow advising that she had received confirmation of no reported crimes between 9th December 2014 and 23rd February 2015.

5. Public Questions

A member of the public raised the issue of dogs roaming free in the village on the basis that this could be dangerous to road users. The Parish Council reiterates that dog owners are responsible for their dogs.

6. Finance

- a) The balance at the bank is £4,137.90
- b) The following payments for approval were unanimously agreed by the Councillors:
 - i. David Wayne – Plastics Run January and March - £40.00
 - ii. Stuart Bader – Yellow line marker - £9.99.
 - iii. Heloise Marlow – Clerks expenses – December, January and February - £174.00

Wendy Wayne proposed the purchase of a hand-held grit spreader. She will make enquiries as to the cost and report back at the next meeting.

HM/WW

7. Councillor Claire Wright's report

Councillor Wright provided an update on the Clinical Care Commissioning Group which is looking at bed losses in the area – Ottery St Mary is at risk of losing all its hospital beds and its minor injuries unit. Honiton is not at risk at the moment. The Consultation deadline has already been extended twice and she is currently attending meetings to discuss the proposal. As such the proposal is currently on hold.

The proposed budget cuts at Devon County Council were approved last week – this will see cuts of £46 million and will lead to cuts in bus routes – although not in Buckerell as we only have one bus a week. There were proposals to axe school crossing patrols although not the one in Feniton. In the end this was withdrawn.

Councillor Wright has put forward a motion that if the Community Hospital is closed in Ottery St Mary that the building is not to be sold by the NHS – which is the default position of the NHS property services. It has been agreed that the community will be consulted before any property is sold.

There are currently more hospital beds in Ottery St Mary than before due mainly to the temporary relocation of the stroke unit from Crediton. However this is due to be moved again to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. Whilst Councillor Wright is hopeful that the hospital in Ottery St Mary will not close, there is a real issue in respect of the deficit which the hospital is running.

8. Councillor Susie Bond's report

Office relocation. The current plan for the relocation of EDDC's HQ is for the main building to be on Heathpark with a satellite office in Exmouth, where offices have been vacated by Devon County Council. Following discussion at the last full Council meeting before Christmas where the Independent group were calling for the relocation exercise to be postponed until after the elections in May, it was agreed that the figures would be scrutinised by the external auditors, the internal auditors, Overview & Scrutiny, and Audit & Governance, before being brought back to full Council. In order to achieve this before the election, extra meetings have been added in, including a single-item agenda full Council meeting at the end of March. There is still widespread concern about the level of borrowing required at a time of uncertainty in Local Government and whether the figures for energy use are correct.

Planning enforcement. The enforcement notice for the traveller site at Trafalgar Bridge in Weston has apparently not yet been issued as it is waiting for a planning officer to write the accompanying report. I understand that this is imminent, particularly as a static mobile home has been moved on to the site.

Local Plan. The SHMA report has been received by EDDC in draft form, but not made available to all councillors. The study was a joint exercise headed by Mid-

Devon District Council to establish housing numbers across the district in the light of likely future employment numbers. Mid-Devon has pressed ahead using the draft figures in an attempt to get their local plan adopted. This approach is not favoured by EDDC as it carries a risk that the local plan might be challenged. I'm one of many councillors pushing for the Local Plan process to be finalised.

9. Planning Applications

- a) 14/2889/FUL – Deer Park Hotel, Weston, Honiton, EX14 3PG – Demolition of former squash court building and construction of detached dwelling to provide hotel managers accommodation.

Support

- b) 14/3011/FUL – Deer Park Hotel, Weston, Honiton, EX14 3PG – To remove existing marquee and replace with new Orangery for hotel functions with alterations to existing conservatory area. *Amended plans received – Amended proposal following Conservation comments to further emphasise separation between old and new building.*

Support

10. Roads report

Stuart Bader confirming that the roads have been repaired recently especially going towards Feniton. However he stressed the need to report any issues to the Council. There is a large pothole on the road towards Weston.

The Parish Council has received a letter from the Parochial Church Council on behalf of Buckerell Church advising that a member of the public tripped on the tarmac around the War Memorial due to the tarmac wearing away. As a temporary measure to warn visitors to the area, Stuart has marked out the defective tarmac with yellow spray paint. A quote to repair the tarmac has been received from GG Locke at a cost of £575.00 plus VAT.

It was discussed whether GG Locke should be asked to look at the whole area and provide a costing for resurfacing all of it. It was agreed that GG Locke should be booked in to do the work above and asked at the same time for a quote for the whole area.

A proposal raised by Wendy Wayne to do something else rather than tarmac the area was discussed. However it was agreed that the area was not large enough to do anything significant and was a useful area of public parking.

Nicholas Maxwell-Lawford advised that as he uses the area a lot for access he would be prepared to contribute to the cost of re-surfacing the area. Woodbury has a parish parking area with a notice stating that it is for members of the parish only and not a public car park. This is something Nicholas believes BPC should do as it would deter drivers leaving their cars parked over the weekend and sometimes for a whole week.

Councillor Wright confirming that she has a locality budget and if we emailed her the cost of resurfacing the area she could contribute to this. Any request to her has to be made by the 30th March as after this date she is not able to make any grants due to the forthcoming election.

SB/HM

11. Trees, footpaths, hedgerows and drains

Wendy Wayne reporting that whilst the weather recently has been very wet and the strong winds there appear to be no issues. The drains are an ongoing issue although these are now better. Heloise Marlow to look again into the possibility of the Parish employing someone as a Parish Lengthsman.

HM

12. Winter Service Review

Heloise Marlow advising that she has had no request for sandbags – which she will now keep for next year.

HM

13. Telephone Box

Heloise Marlow is to ask for volunteers to take over the maintenance of the telephone library via the village email.

HM

14. AOB

The white house on the corner coming into the village from Weston has had a rat infestation. A notice has been placed on the door from the Council regarding this and all items inside have been removed. Heloise Marlow to find out if the Council are taking any action for possession of the house.

A member of the public wished to express her thanks to the Parish Council for their efforts in obtaining a new public byway sign near Orchards Farm.

HM

15. Date of next meeting –

Tuesday 14th April 2015 at 7.30pm at Buckerell Parish Church.

Meeting closed 8.45 p.m.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____