

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th January 2019
at Doug's Shed Splatthayes

Those Present

Wendy Wayne – Chair (WW)
Prue Pinsent - Vice Chair (PP)
Clare Slater (CS)
Geoff Wright (GW)
Ron Galling (RG)
Cllr Philip Twiss – Devon County Council (PT)
Cllr Susie Bond – East Devon District Council (SB)
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There were 2 members of the public present throughout, including one visiting member of the public for item 12 on the agenda.

1. Apologies

No apologies had been received.

2. Signing of the Minutes of the Meeting Held 14th November 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th November 2018 were agreed as a correct record of that meeting and signed accordingly.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of any personal or pecuniary interest in any of the agenda items.

4. Matters arising (not on agenda)

a) Byway Open To All Traffic

It was noted that the Order confirming the adoption of part of Footpath 15 as a Byway Open to All Traffic had been received and publicised on the Parish Noticeboard and website as required.

b) Weston Junction

The Clerk had written to Awliscombe Parish Council setting out the problems being caused by parking on the junction. Councillors agreed that since then there seemed to have been some improvement.

c) Receipt of e-mails

It was confirmed that all councillors were receiving e-mails

5. Police Report – PCSO Darren England

No report had been received. Both Phil and Susie suggested that due to PCSO staffing reductions it was unlikely that there would be any future PCSO attendance. Susie offered to forward Ian a link to the police crime statistics website.

SB

6. Public questions

Concerns were raised by a member of the public about property land which had recently changed ownership and had become untidy and unsightly. He asked if the Parish Council would be able to take any action. Following discussion it was felt that there was little that the Parish Council could do with regard to private property, although it was noted that the Local Authority has the power to take action in a serious case.

7. Finance:

Balance at bank £8652.28 following approved payments (-£3697 Restricted a/c defibrillator) leaving a balance of £4955.28.

Payments to be approved -

Doug Cowan. Meeting room hire January 2019	£20.00
Clerk – quarterly pay (October - December)	£151.40
Patricia Craig-Macquaide – Plants for War Memorial	£51.96
Community First Insurance Premium for Parish Council	£160.65
David Wayne – Village Maintenance 2018	£289.00
Land Solutions – Ditching work in November 2018	£672.00

IT

All the above payments were approved and **AGREED**. Proposed by Clare and seconded by Prue.

8. Councillor Phillip Twiss' Report

I am now finally getting back up to speed following the lengthy Christmas shutdown at County Hall and as a consequence my report is very brief.

Highways. 1

I am shortly to meet DCC Highways NHO Mike Brown to discuss priorities for pothole repairs, resurfacing, drains and ditch clearance etc in Feniton & Honiton Division for the next financial year where main contractor Skanska is now performing well with repairs under new systems in many cases likely

to last longer and as a consequence work needing to be done again over a longer cycle meaning that DCC Highways can eat in to the backlog.

I have a number of priorities I wish to discuss and how we spend money assigned to the County Division and there may be others that the PC wish to let me know about via the Clerk in the next couple of weeks, as the budget bids for funding are very much in train now.

Highways. 2

A large part of my DCC workload is trying to marry up the work of the various sections of DCC Highways in a way that makes sense and matters are not helped by use of old software and hardware that does not work together in one platform across the operation; it is very frustrating.

A recent example was highlighted to me in the case of Buckerell by the chairman of the Council where limited resources of the PC, together with some external funding were wasted in that the work was replicated by Devon Highways workers shortly afterwards.

Following repeated lobbying I am pleased that this is now changing. I have offered to be one of the BETA testers for the service when it goes live internally at DCC Highways (any future planned localised work undertaken by PC's will need to be fed in to DCC highways to avoid duplication of work and maximise overall resources).

“From: John Fewings

Sent: 08 January 2019 16:10

To: Councillor Phil Twiss <phil.twiss@devon.gov.uk>

Cc: Lucy Barrow Paul Downes

Subject:

Good afternoon Councillor,

Lucy has asked me to respond as I am a member of the programme Improvement Task Group that is currently looking at the issue of how we programme our works. This officer group has been set up because we recognise that our works programmes are in various formats, on various systems, and are dealt with by different teams within the County Council and also by external contractors. We are therefore looking at collating our systems so that we have one source that shows all of the work that are being done. This will be really helpful to us, in terms of managing programmes, but we are also intending to have a system that will be able to be viewed by others outside the County Council. This will enable Parish Councils and members of the public to see what is being done in

their area and will hopefully avoid any duplication of work of the type that has been experienced by Buckerell Parish Council. (and others)

We have made some significant progress in this and we have constructed a draft system which we will shortly be circulating to our Neighbourhood Teams to test. Once we got this to work reliably and accurately we will then be looking at how we circulate it more widely.

I am happy to keep you updated on the progress of this group, and please let me know if you require any further information.

Thanks,

John.

John Fewings | Neighbourhood Highways Manager “

Other Questions

Phil was asked if he would be able to help towards financing some replacement grit bins in the Parish, one of which had been damaged. He asked that a Locality Budget application be raised in respect of this.

IT

Following discussion about no further PCSO attendance at meetings Phil sought and gained approval from the current Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall (Alison Hernandez) to meet with a group of rural Parish Councils over any concerns – staffing levels in particular. She has asked for a list of possible dates for such a meeting.

IT

The question of traffic build up on the Heathfield Park at 5p.m. was raised. Prue mentioned being nearly hit by vehicles cutting the corner of the junction adjacent to Homebase. Phil suggested writing to him formally about this matter.

IT

9. Councillor Susie Bond's Report

1. From 1 April, EDDC will be charging developers for the full suite of refuse and recycling bins for new properties @ £80 per property.
2. Residents of private houses whose bins have been lost or damaged will be charged £30 for a new grey bin, but will not be charged if the bin is damaged by the refuse contractor (Suez). There are on-board cameras

which can be viewed by officers.

3. Replacement recycling bins will be free to encourage recycling.
4. This is part of the council's drive to become more 'commercial' in their thinking. The Council currently spends £120,000 p.a. on new/replacement bins and savings have to be made.
5. Move to new HQ in Honiton will take place gradually during February. First public meeting will be Full Council on 27 February in Blackdown House.
6. Proposed increase in Council Tax for the 2019/20 year is 3.7% which represents £5 p.a. for a Band D property. Decision will be ratified at Full Council on 27.2.19.

Susie was also asked about the lids to the Green Waste bins which are not properly hinged and secured and tend to blow away in any wind. Susie agreed to pursue the matter.

SB

(Post meeting note: Susie has received the following message in relation to the green garden waste bins – *"We are aware of the issue with Green Waste bin lids and the next batch of bins have a new lid design and extra support. There will be no charge for replacing these lids. Any damage to the bin that is the fault of the resident will be chargeable."*)

10. Budget for Precept

Following discussion on potential expenditure for the coming year it was **AGREED** to set the budget at £3170. This was proposed by Ron and seconded by Clare. EDDC will be notified of our requirement.

IT

11. Planning

It was noted that there were no new applications currently.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

John Slater kindly attended the meeting to advise on the subject of Neighbourhood Plans, and whether Buckerell need to complete one. John took the meeting through the different levels of Plan from the overarching Local Plan and Exeter Strategic Plan to the implications of a Neighbourhood Plan. Susie supplemented this with some thoughts on the Fenton experience. After some discussion it was **AGREED** that Buckerell Parish Council would NOT undertake the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, but would take up John's offer to keep a watching brief on developments, and to monitor the Exeter Strategic Plan for any implications for Buckerell in particular.

13. Village Clean Up – update on progress

Clare offered to publicise the event by e-mail and flyer nearer to Saturday March 30th. Ideas for what tasks are to be involved in the half day Clean up are sought from residents.

CS

14. Title to Village Green (War Memorial)

Devon County Council had confirmed that title to this piece of land lies with the Parish Council. No further action is required and the copy documents will be archived.

15. Planters at War Memorial

Clare has spoken to Patricia about taking this over. No action is needed until May. Clare mentioned that Buckerell Community Association are requesting a plant sale around the War Memorial, and this could possibly be combined with organising the planters.

CS

16. Community Resilience Forum

Item deferred till next meeting.

IT

17. Roads Report

Ron noted that there was nothing to report at present.

18. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

Clare reported a damaged stile on the field between Buckerell and Treaslake. There are protruding nails, and Ian was asked to report this to Highways on their website. Clare will provide photos.

IT
CS

19. Village Maintenance – update

David Wayne had produced a schedule of works for the coming year which will act as a tender. Ian was asked to thank David for his efforts over the year.

IT

20. Defibrillator

There had been some concern expressed over the possible siting of the defibrillator in the lychgate entrance to the church. The Churchwarden will take this to the Parochial Church Council next Wednesday for a decision, and then pursue the necessary permission from the Diocese to carry out the work. Wendy will report back following the PCC meeting.

WW

Dates of Future Meetings

Agreed dates for future meetings as follows:

Weds 13th March 2019 (Venue – Doug's Shed)

Weds 22nd May 2019 (Venue – Doug's Shed)