

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday March 20th, 2024,
at Doug's Shed Splatthayes

Those Present

John Slater – Chair (JS)
Helen Howard - Vice Chair (HH)
Geoff Wright (GW)
Nicola Janus-Harris (NJ)
Jo Knight (JK)
Cllr Philip Twiss – Devon County Council (PT)
Cllr Alasdair Bruce - East Devon District Council (AB)
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There were no members of the public present.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Agreeing the Minutes of the Meeting Held 17th January 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 2024 were agreed as a correct record of that meeting.

3. Matters arising (not on agenda)

- a) The Clerk was asked to chase a response to the landowner responsible for cutting hedges along the road to Fenny Bridges. **IT**
- b) John noted that, following the previous question raised by residents at The Orchards, the Government has announced a proposed change in the law relating to the requirement for planning permission to be obtained for new short term lets.
- c) Councillor Twiss was asked to chase the request for a grit bin at the foot of the hill at Avenhayes. **PT**

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Public questions

Mr Bowen had notified the Clerk of a blocked drain opposite his property, and this has been reported to Devon Highways reference W241728868. In the discussion about this another blocked drain close to Broadlands was identified and the Clerk will report this to Devon Highways.

IT

6. Finance and Governance

Balance at bank £3101.01 (Current a/c) and £6018.76 (Savings a/c) at 11th March 2024

a) Payments approved unanimously -

Community Heartbeat Trust (Yr 5 VETS support)	£120.00
Peter Gent – Installation of dog waste bin etc.	£55.00
Doug Cowan – Hire of venue March 2024	£30.00

IT

b) Discuss expenditure priorities for Buckerell Parish Council

John thanked Helen for the useful options paper on work around the War Memorial. After discussion it was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would obtain quotes for patching repairs to the tarmac and improved signage. An approach to Kennford Tarmacadam Ltd will be made by Helen. The possibility of a shelter incorporating a bench was also discussed.

HH

c) It was noted that the defibrillator had been in place for 4 years and it was questioned whether the VETS telephone cascade system was still in place and importantly known about, in the village. Thankfully, it never had cause to be used. Helen was asked, and agreed, to set up a group of interested villagers to review whether the current arrangements are fit for purpose or whether revised procedures would be better including whether communications needed to be refreshed.

HH

7. Councillor Philip Twiss – Report

The report from Councillor Twiss had been previously circulated and will be posted on the Parish Council website.

8. Councillor Alasdair Bruce – Report

The report from Councillor Bruce had been previously circulated and will be posted on the Parish Council website.

9.Planning

- a) 24/0024/FUL – Land North of Tape Lane
It was **AGREED** that there were no objections to the revised plans, but there should be adequate landscaping to cover for any removed trees, and mud must be kept off the road on this corner. **IT**
- b) Enforcement appeal – Gym at Unit 1 Deer Park Farm
The outcome of the appeal was noted.
- c) Sunningdale – Application for Discharge of Conditions
The application was noted
- d) 24/0534/FUL Sunningdale - retrospective planning application for raised decking and the erection of a garage/ workshop
This was discussed and it was noted that the garage/ workshop was a replacement for one previously approved but would be set into the slope – but without details of existing and proposed ground levels and that some of the proposed materials such as use of Astro turf were inappropriate . It was noted that the store at the northern part of the site was not covered by the proposed restriction of development and should be incorporated into the retrospective application and conditions should be imposed restricting the use the garage/ workshop and store building to domestic use only and not for any trade or business use. John will draft some consultee comments. **JS**

10. Roads Report

- a) Road sweeping – It was noted that EDDC had swept through the village following our request. This leaves lots of the lanes in the parish unswept and Geoff will obtain a quote from a contractor for getting them done. **GW**
- b) Road flooding adjacent to Westcroft – This was discussed again, but we seem to be at an impasse with the landowner failing to take action.
- c) Licence to park at War Memorial – This was signed off by unanimous approval. The original is retained by the Clerk.

11. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

No report.

12. Splatthayes

There was a long discussion about how unique it is to have a quasi village hall which is in private ownership, and what effect it's loss might have on the village when Splatthayes is sold.

John pointed out that the original planning permission granted in 2010 was for a meeting hall with a restriction by planning condition to use as "a community building/ hall for holding community events, classes and meetings and use as an artists/ therapists studio only". Therefore any alternative use would need to be subject to planning permission and both national and local planning policy presumes against the loss of community facilities. It is hoped that these restrictions would be identified in the sales and marketing material.

It was recognised that there was little that could be done until the property had been sold and any new owner's intentions relating to the hall's use and its availability to the community, was known. The Parish Council agreed to actively monitor the situation and explore what options are available which recognise the value of the hall to the Buckerell community and find out whether the Government's Community Asset ownership programmes could provide a fall back option.

13. Dog waste bin

The response from East Devon District Council that at present the bin could not be added to their collection round was disappointing. This left the option of not using the bin, or emptying it ourselves until such time as the bin can be emptied by EDDC. Peter Gent, in his role as village handyman has kindly agree to empty the bin into nearby roadside black waste bins for three weekly collection. This is a short term measure and Alasdair will ensure that this remains a top priority for EDDC.

AB

14. 30mph zone

Phil is hopeful that this will be completed by 30th June 2024.

PT

15. Matters for next meeting

a) War memorial maintenance

b) Road sweeping

16. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th May at 7pm and will be the Annual Parish Meeting (with a report from the Chair) followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at which officers are elected/re-elected and the annual accounts are approved.