

**Minutes of the meeting of Buckerell Parish Council held at Doug's Shed,
Splatthayes on Wednesday 9th January 2013.**

Those Present

Mr Steve Stone – Chairman
Mrs Jenny Palfrey
Mrs Wendy Wayne
Councillor Roger Giles

There were four members of the public present including two candidates for the councillor vacancy.

1. Apologies

Mrs Kate Pratt
PC Clive Vickery

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed.

ACTION

3. Matters arising

- a) *Ref. 3 a)* Notice of the intention to co-opt the Councillor vacancy was given and the nominations of Mr Stuart Bader and Mr Ryan Knight were duly proposed by Mrs Palfrey and seconded by Mrs Wayne. Mr Paul Booth had previously notified Mr Stone of his intention to remove his name as a potential candidate. It was agreed by the councillors present and therefore declared by Mr Stone that both Mr Bader and Mr Knight be elected as Councillors to the Buckerell Parish Council. At the next meeting both Mr Bader and Mr Knight will make a formal declaration of acceptance in the presence of the Parish Council. This declaration will then be retained for the parish records. Additionally, both new councillors will need to be made aware of their responsibilities to abide to the Parish Councils Code of Conduct. Mr Stone will circulate copies of the Code of Conduct to Mr Bader and Mr Knight prior to the next meeting.
- b) *Ref 3b)* Mr Stone had not made contact with Councillor Brown regarding the Cranbrook development, however this action should be completed prior to the next meeting
- c) *Ref 3d)* It was agreed that a letter regarding dogs fouling crop fields would be sent out in February 2013.
- d) *Ref 5a)* The procedures for dealing with questions from the public being outlined in a future edition of the Bugle was agreed and Mrs Wayne has arranged to follow this matter up
- e) *Ref 5e)* Mr Stone reported that further to the last meeting, he had made contact with PC Vickery and that as a result of the concerns being expressed over potential speed issues in the village, PC Vickery was happy to set up a temporary 'Speed Awareness' indicator in the village on a non-specified date. Mrs Palfrey and Mrs Wayne suggested that it would be a good opportunity for the children of the village to participate in this exercise and that they would contact the local school. Mr Knight also suggested that this might be an opportunity to involve the local media to further highlight the issue
- f) *Ref 5b) & 5d)* Further to the question of Parish Lengthsmen responsibilities where properties adjoin the highway, Mr Stone had contacted EDDC and been advised that it was the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that the drains and ditches on their land were maintained. The Parish Lengthsman was responsible for clearing the drains and ditches that are on the highway. It is also the property owner's responsibility to maintain the embankments but DCC's responsibility to keep the highways clear.
- g) *Ref 5c)* The question of the PACT initiative was also answered by PC Vickery in a telephone call advising that there had been some confusion, but it was a Partners and Community Together initiative as opposed to Police and Communities Together. The

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initiative still exists albeit under a new name. Mr Stone was unable to source details of the new name but has found evidence on the internet that there are several PACT initiatives taking place throughout the County

4. Police Report

No report had been received. It was agreed that Mr Stone would raise any issues arising from the meeting direct with the police.

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5. Public Questions

- a) A question was raised about the Parish Clerk vacancy. It was agreed that a request to source potential candidates would be made to Honiton Town Council. Mrs Wayne also agreed to approach the Gittisham Council and it was also suggested that an advertisement be placed in the Feniton Parish magazine. This vacancy has now been filled by Heloise Marlow, Buckerell House, Buckerell. *Heloise will join the PBC as Clerk at the next meeting.*

6. Finance

- a) The balance at the bank on 9th January 2013 was £2804.37
- b) The following payments for approval were proposed by Mrs Wayne and seconded by Mrs Palfrey:
- i. David Wayne – Plastics Run October - £15.00
 - ii. Douglas Cowan – Room Hire November - £15.00
 - iii. Richard Reeve – Clerk's Services & Expenses - November&December - £112.90
- c) A letter on behalf of BPC was prepared and signed by Mrs Palfrey and Mrs Wayne requesting the HSBC Bank to send future statements to Mr Stone

SS

7. Precept

Mr Stone advised that the Precept had been reviewed and was asked for further clarification by Mrs Palfrey regarding the shortfall of expense allocated to the War Memorial Pots – plants and compost. Mr Stone has agreed to investigate. Furthermore Mrs Wayne asked about why there was an expected shortfall being predicted for 2014. Mr Stone would seek further clarification and contact Mrs Wayne and Mrs Palfrey prior to the deadline for the Precept being submitted. However, in the event that these two points were clarified, the councillors present agreed to the Precept being submitted

ALL

8. Councillor Giles Report

- a) He reported that the EDDC was seeking to obtain an additional 2% to improve services, However, this would mean that the financial position of the EDDC will result in reduced services.
- b) He reported that as there was no 5 year plan for housing in Feniton the application to build homes by Wainhomes and Redrow Homes would be submitted. This would have profound implications on the local schools and 158 people had attended a meeting in Feniton to voice their concerns against the development and school place availability in the future. Appeals have formally been lodged, however it appears that Feniton is vulnerable and the land owners involved are cooperating with the building developers to develop the land. Councillor Giles will send a copy of an email that outlines the issues in Feniton and the BPC is invited to also write and complain regarding the affects on school places. There are also additional concerns on the affects this development will have on the demand on General Practitioners covering the increased patient numbers.

9. Parishes Together Fund

**SS &
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Mrs Palfrey kindly offered to take the application process forward and submit on behalf of the BPC. Mr Stone to forward relevant email to Mrs Palfrey

10. Community Infrastructure Levy

Mrs Wayne kindly offered to take the application process forward and submit on behalf of the BPC. Mr Stone to forward relevant email to Mrs Wayne

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Details were handed out, Councillor Giles stressed it was important that we identified what we would like within the Parish and make sure it was on record. Mr Stone would complete the form and return.

11. Planning

No new applications had been received.

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12. Roads

- a) Mrs Pratt was unable to attend the meeting therefore the roads report was deferred until the next meeting
- b) Councillor Giles reported that funding was not available as in previous years to carry out relevant works. The 'A' roads would remain the highest priority and the 'C' roads would be considered as low priority. However he recommends that the BPC and the villagers of Buckerell continue to persevere with 'online' recording.. The online recording details should be circulated around the village. And it was agreed to include the link for reporting road problems at Devon County Council in the next edition of The Bugle. http://www.devon.gov.uk/road_maintenance.htm
- c) The issue of a new embankment construction at the Lower Oaks development had been raised by a resident on Hillside. Mr Stone contacted Mike Brown at the Highways department and was notified that he had inspected the site and was able to compare the current situation with the photos on GoogleStreetview taken prior to the development and that the new Devon bank did appear to slightly impinge on a very narrow strip of verge. Mike Brown arranged a constructive meeting with the developer at his office at Fenny Bridges and the developer agreed that a minor adjustment to the hedge profile could easily be made to protect the Highway Rights
- d) Mrs Palfrey and a member of the public highlighted the initiative that a small village in Devon had engaged the services of a part-time independent lengthsman to manage the drains and ditches in their village as an interim measure whilst the DDC lengthsman is engaged elsewhere. A similar initiative was discussed for Buckerell and it was agreed to place an advert via email, the Bugle and on the Village notice board. Mr Stone said that, prior to the adverts being placed, he would discuss this with a resident of the village, who has detailed knowledge of the drains and ditches in the area and who may well want to take on the role.

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13. Butts Cottages

It has been confirmed by Hilary Hardwicke, an Officer from the Empty Homes Partnership at the EDDC that an enforced sale has gone through the Courts and that Skinners (the builders) will now board the property up and then it will be sold at auction. The success of this action now allows other property currently owned by the same owner and also in a state of disrepair (next door to this property) to also have an enforced sale placed upon it. However as there are so many properties involved in the County, it is unknown at this stage which properties will take priority.

14. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

- a) Mrs Wayne reported that the recent bad weather was contributing to general concerns but that there was no issues at present with the Trees around the village

- b) Hedgerows remain clear also but sign posts have been hit and it was agreed that the best solution for this was to record the damaged sign posts via the online reporting mechanism.
- c) Drains do have some cause for concern and Mrs Wayne will investigate three drains in particular that have been either blocked or are not collecting the rainwater due to debris in the road

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15. Winter Services Review

Details of the 'Free Buckerell Road Salt' were given and Mr Stone confirmed that the EDDC initiative had now agreed to deliver three pallet loads of salt to an agreed location. Mr Ron Galling of Deer Park Farm has kindly offered to allow the salt to be stored at his open barn on the edge of Deer Park Farm. This is a temporary storage arrangement and the village would be encouraged to collect the salt for use on the highways or ask for it to be delivered by volunteers who are prepared to help, to their residence. It was agreed Mr Stone would request for volunteers to come forward

SS

16. Village Appearance

- a) Councillor Giles' kind offer to fund a replacement bench was accepted and the funds subsequently received. Richard Reeve of Armoury Cottage has agreed to order and take delivery of the new bench and arrange for it to be placed on the site of the old bench. The old bench needs to be demolished (It is a concrete structure) and removed.
- b) At the previous meeting it was agreed to replace the noticeboard by the phone box. However, following a discussion and consultation with members of the public who live near and would use this facility, it was agreed to defer this decision until the next meeting and perhaps use the funds toward the part-time lengthsman initiative.
- c) Mrs Palfrey requested an additional shelf for the telephone box, Mr Stone agreed to put one in if Mrs Palfrey let him know exactly what was needed.

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17. Village Leaflet

Mrs Wayne informed the Council that Mr Wayne is currently working on this project and whilst it remains a 'Work In Progress' it will be completed when Mr Wayne has the time.

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18. Items for next meeting

- a) New Councillors Declaration/ Code of Practice / Bank Mandate
- b) Speed Awareness Initiative
- c) Part-time Lengthsman role
- d) Welcome New Parish Clerk
- e) Free Rock Salt Initiative

20. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 5th March 2013, 7.30 p.m. at Splatthayes

Meeting closed 09.55 p.m.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____