

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st June 2017 at Doug's Shed, Splatthayes, Buckerell

Those Present

Wendy Wayne - Chair (WW)
Prue Pinsent - Vice Chair (PP)
Jo Gillingham (JG)
Clare Slater (CS)
Councillor Susie Bond (SB)
Richard Reeve - Clerk (RR)

There were 14 members of the public present.

The chairman started the meeting by welcoming the members of the public present and thanked them for attending.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Russell Powell (RP) and Councillor Phil Twiss (PT).

2. Minutes of meeting held on 26th April 2017

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was proposed by JG and seconded by CS

3. Matters Arising

- a) Ref 3a) RR advised that Councillor Twiss (PT) had met Mike Brown from Devon Highways regarding the flooding problems at the Orchards Lane Junction and had been assured that the work would be completed quickly. PT had agreed to follow up on his return from holiday if the work had not been completed. WW reported that there had been some problems with the new contractor - Skanska.
- b) Ref 3b) RP had canvassed to parents about having a bus shelter for the school children and it was felt that with the new pick up point, it was no longer required.
- c) Ref 6) RP had contacted Mike Brown at Devon Highways regarding the junction near Hembury Fort who had logged the issue on the Highway's database. After the meeting RR checked their web site and found the following; *An assessment for this report was completed on 11 May 2017. The officer entered the following comments: This area has been inspected. This junction can be difficult at times to pull out of and care should be taken. However the vegetation is not overgrown enough to cause a safety defect issue. No further action to be taken at this time.* As no action had been taken David Wayne had strimmed the area around the junction. It was agreed to add the strimming to the Village Maintenance Schedule.
- d) Ref 14c) WW had contacted Mike Brown at Devon Highways regarding the possibility of a 20 m.p.h. speed limit in the area by The War Memorial where the school buses stop, but as yet had not received a response.

4. Police Report.

No report.

5. Councillor Portfolios

The subject of the portfolios for individual councillors was discussed, it was agreed that RP would keep looking after the roads and that the web site would be the responsibility of the clerk.

The portfolios are as follows;

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
Wendy Wayne	Planning
Prue Pinsent	Planning
Jo Gillingham	Snow Warden & Footpaths, Hedgerows and Trees
Clare Slater	Drains including ditches
Russell Powell	Roads

6. Public Questions

- a) The question of whether planning permission had been received for the work at Meadowside Cottage had been raised by a number of people. RR advised that he had checked with EDDC Planning and there had been no applications received. Concerns had been expressed about the moving of a car parking area closer to the junction on the corner and also the materials being used. SB asked RR to provide her with the details and she would follow up with EDDC. RR/SB
- b) Following the refurbishment of the noticeboard by The War Memorial, RR had been asked if there were any plans to do the same with the noticeboard by the telephone box. After a short discussion it was agreed that RR should find out the name of the person who had donated it to the Parish and providing it would not cause offense to anyone, that the board should be dismantled and removed. RR

7. Finance

- a) RR confirmed that the balance at bank on 22nd May 2017 was £5769.20
- b) The following payments were proposed and seconded as indicated
- i. David Wayne - Plastics - May and June(£165.00) & Village Maintenance (£291.24) - £456.24 - Proposed PP, Seconded JG
 - ii. Mike Marks - Noticeboard Refurbishment - £240.00 - Proposed WW, Seconded CS
 - iii. Richard Reeve - Renewal of Web Site (£30.00) & clerk's salary November to March (£530.71) - £560.71 - Proposed WW, Seconded JG
 - iv. Patricia Craig-Macquaide - Village pots plants - £127.55- Proposed WW, Seconded PP

8. Annual Audit

- a) RR reported that the dates for the "Exercise of Public Rights" were from 12th June to 21st July. Details had been published on the Parish Council Web Site and on the noticeboard

- b) RR had submitted the audit paperwork to Grant Thornton, the external auditors who would examine the audit once the period of the Exercise of Public Rights was over.

9. Councillor Twiss' Report

- a) As mentioned earlier in the meeting, Councillor Twiss had taken up the issue of the Orchard's Lane flooding with Devon Highways.
- b) He had agreed to take up any issues with Superfast Broadband with the regional director of BT at meeting in July. RR who put together details of the problems.

10. Councillor Susie Bond's Report

Councillor Bond advised that there had been some teething problems with the new recycling and waste collections. She advised that any one experiencing problems should contact EDDC on the numbers provided and if the problems were still not resolved, to provide her with the details and she was follow up. A number of people at the meeting highlighted problems with the non collection of wheelie bins as well as the recycling. Councillor Bond explained that there were new crews covering some routes and that this had contributed to the initial problems

11. Planning

Mark Godfrey, Managing Director of The Deer Park Hotel thanked the council and the people of the parish for supporting the hotel. He explained that since taking over the hotel significant investments had been made in both the buildings and the grounds and that the number of people employed at the hotel had risen to over 55. In order to build on this success the hotel needed to increase the number of rooms available for guests and he then provided details of a new proposed development at the hotel which would involve the construction of 5 fishing lodges with 4 bedrooms in each lodge. In addition to the lodges, the hotel had acquired the nearby ponds adjacent to the location and would be landscaping and developing the whole area including the fisheries in consultation with the Wild Trout Trust. 3 miles of the River Otter would benefit from the work that would be undertaken.

Mark advised that the plans would be ready for submission to EDDC in about 3 weeks. WW asked councillors for views - PP was reluctant to allow building on a meadow, JG could see the business logic behind the development, CS was concerned about the visibility and WW about light pollution. Mark would take these views on board. WW asked the members of the public present for their view - the consensus was the Deer Park Hotel was an integral part of the parish and provided employment opportunities for teenagers/ young people. In addition the development over the past few years had put the parish on the map and had benefited the whole area. WW advised that at this stage the development had the endorsement of the council.

12. Parishes Together Fund

WW explained where the work was to be carried out but Mr Geoff Wright advised that they already cleared the drain in that area on a regular basis and that the work should be carried out nearer to Avenhayes. It was agreed that CS should liaise with Mr and Mrs Wright. Mrs Wright also reported that there was a problem with fly tipping in the area. Councillor Bond advised people to take a photograph and report to EDDC using either the web site - <http://eastdevon.gov.uk/environmental-maintenance/fly-tipping/report-fly-tipping/>

CS

13. Superfast Broadband

Whilst some houses in Buckerell can now receive superfast broadband, others cannot. There appears to be no logic as to who can get it and who can't. WW had raised the issue with Matt Barrow at Connecting Devon & Somerset and Councillor Twiss has agreed to take it up with BT. RR advised that he had been informed by Openreach that he couldn't get superfast broadband as he was too far from the exchange. He had advised them that The Old Barn which was 400m further from the exchange already it had it installed but was still awaiting a response. It was agreed to find out who within the village could still not receive superfast broadband.

14. Roads Report

No issues were raised.

15. Definitive Map Review

This review started with a presentation by Nick Steenman-Clark with presentation at a meeting on 8th November 2016 in the church which was open to all members of the public. Details of the meeting were advertised in the local press as required by law. Maps showing the existing footpaths were made available and the public and the Parish Council were asked to provide any suggestions for amendments, deletions or additions to the current maps by the 6th January. Following this initial consultation process, in May three proposals - two for additional footpaths and one for an amendment - were issued by the Definitive Map Review Officer for DCC to the affected landowners, the Parish Council and also made available on line and for public inspection. Following publication WW was contacted by a number of concerned landowners which is why it had been put on the agenda for the meeting. To date only one person had put their comments in writing to the council, it was not known how many people had contacted DCC direct.

WW advised that whilst the Parish Council was seeking the views of people within the parish and would do as much as possible to represent these views, it did not have any power to intervene in the process. She then gave each member of the public present the opportunity to express their views.

In summary, the publications of these proposals has caused a great deal of consternation amongst the landowners to the extent that those directly affected by proposals 1 and 3 had engaged the services of a lawyer specialising in Public Rights of Way issues. It was felt that the implications of some of the proposals had not been thought through properly as one would involve the construction of a new bridge across the River Otter.

The landowners/farmers were also concerned that relationships between them and members of the public would be adversely affected by the whole process. The subject of how members of the public are currently using the existing footpaths was also raised, issues included;

- a) Not keeping to the routes of footpaths.
- b) Using gates (and leaving them open) rather than using the stiles provided.
- c) Not keeping dogs and children under proper control.
- d) Not clearing up after dogs, resulting in whole fields of crops being ruined.
- e) Leaving bags of dog excrement hanging in trees and hedgerows.
- f) General littering.

In conclusion, it was agreed that this will a long and costly process and almost inevitably would end up with a public enquiry being held.

WW agreed that guidelines for proper use of footpaths would be re-issued to all houses within the parish and that the dog fouling signs would be reviewed.

WW/RR

The Parish council would also submit a response to DCC based on the views received at the meeting by the deadline of 30th June.

WW/RR

16. War Memorial Parking

A letter received from Mrs Maxwell-Lawford regarding this issue had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The letter suggested using red lines to indicate parking layout, OR where not to park. The idea was discussed but was rejected as it was thought that they would take the focus away from The War Memorial and were not in keeping with a rural environment. There was a discussion, which included asking the members of the public present for their views, about the best way to address the problem. Some people did not even realise there was a problem and that they shouldn't be parking in particular areas. In view of this, it was thought the ideal solution would be a sign showing where parking was and was not permitted. It was therefore agreed that a sign, as per the mock up presented at the last meeting, would be erected on the land owned by the Parish Council . This was proposed by WW and seconded by PP. WW would reply to Mrs Maxwell-Lawford advising her of the council's decision.

WW

17. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and drains

Nothing to report.

18. Village Maintenance

- a) CS advised that she was waiting for a date from "One Man and his Mower" for cleaning The War Memorial. The cost would be in the region of £50.
- b) WW reported that the fence down by Avenhayes had now been painted and that David Wayne was working through the Village Maintenance Programme. It was agreed that he would be asked to strim a further section to allow the Village sign to be seen more clearly and also the triangle of land at the Curscombe Lane junction.

19. Parish Council Web Site

RR advised that he was keeping the site up to date and if any one needed something added or changed that they should contact him.

20. Defibrillator

WW had been in discussions with the clerk at Gittisham regarding acquiring a defibrillator for the Parish. The initial costs would be in the regions of £2k. It was agreed that WW and CS would look at all the various options available and present a proposal at the next meeting.

WW/CS

20. Devon Air Ambulance

Following the request at the last meeting to look at the feasibility of having a helipad within the Parish for the air ambulance, JG presented details of exactly what would be required. After a brief discussion it was agreed that it would be

JG

impossible to find any location within the Parish that could meet these requirements.

24. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 16th August 2017 at 7.00 p.m. at Doug's Shed.

Name	
Signature	
Position	
Date	