

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th August 2017 at Doug's Shed, Splatthayes, Buckerell

Those Present

Prue Pinsent - Vice Chair (PP)
Clare Slater (CS)
Russell Powell (RP)
Councillor Susie Bond (SB)
Councillor Phil Twiss (PT)
Richard Reeve - Clerk (RR)

There were 3 members of the public present.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Wendy Wayne, Jo Gillingham (JG) and PCSO Phil Anning.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 21st June 2017

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

3. Matters Arising

- a) Ref 3a) The jetting of the drain on the corner of "Orchards Cross" has now been completed. The operatives found that the pipe into the sump in the field was clear however the pipe running along the side of the road towards Helvellyn has presumably collapsed and will require further investigation.
- b) Ref 14c) WW has still not received a response from 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.

4. Police Report.

Three crimes had been reported from 1st April to 12th August. All were thefts from motor vehicles parked up near Hembury Fort, one in June and 2 in July. All vehicles had left items inside on view and had windows smashed to gain entry.

PSCO Anning advised that people should be careful with vehicle security particularly at isolated car parks.

5. Public Questions

- a) The question of who was responsible for the maintenance of trees overhanging the highway was raised particularly in relation to some of the oak trees on the road up from Weston. It was pointed out that it is the responsibility of the individual landowners to deal with the trees and that any concerns initially should be raised direct with them. If no action was taken then the Parish Council could take up the issue with the Highways Officer at DCC. PT suggested RR contact the clerk at Luppitt for details of the initiative they had recently undertaken.
- b) Concerns had been raised about the telephone & powers lines which are touching trees in a number of places throughout the parish. It is the responsibility of Openreach and Western Power Distribution to deal with these issues. RR would find out how issues can be reported.

- c) The future of the Otter Rotters was discussed. PT advised that there was a meeting to discuss the issue in a few weeks and SB advised that EDDC were looking at the issue of garden waste but were concentrating at the moment on bedding in the new Recycling scheme.

6. War Memorial Parking

The location for the sign indicating where parking is allowed has been agreed. The sign together with the mounting posts have been ordered from AS Signs, once they are ready Martin Glaeser will be asked to install it in the agreed location. Details concerning the parking arrangements will be sent out via the village e-mail system and also included in the next edition of The Buckerell Bugle. It is hoped that this will finally resolve this longstanding issue.

7. Finance

- a) RR confirmed that the balance at bank on 21st July 2017 was £4294.02
- b) The following payments were proposed and seconded as indicated
- i. Doug Cowan - Room Hire June and August - £40.00 - Proposed RP, Seconded PP
 - ii. Mike Hawkins - cleaning of War Memorial - £65.00 - Proposed RP, Seconded PP

8. Councillor Twiss' Report

- a) The new contractor, Skanska which has taken over responsibility for Highways, has started dealing with a number of outstanding issues such as the flooding at Orchards Cross. PT advised that they had invested in new equipment, such as the "Dragon Patcher", a machine which deals with pot holes in a new and more efficient way. He confirmed that he was in regular contact with Mike Brown at Devon Highways and that if any difficulties were experienced to contact him.
- b) PT provided an update on Honiton Hospital which confirmed that it would be losing its inpatient beds from week commencing 28th August. He expressed his great disappointment at the way the whole matter had been handled and that the decision had not been referred to the Secretary of State. He would continue to keep a close eye on what actually happens under the new arrangements. He also stressed that it was important that people utilised the facilities that were still available at Honiton hospital.
- c) PT provided an update on the situation regarding superfast broadband within the Parish. As the Parish is served by 2 exchanges, Feniton and Honiton, he started with the Feniton exchange. The majority of properties are now able to get superfast broadband with the exception of Avenhayes and the whole of The Orchard's Farm development. These issues were being examined for possible solutions in conjunction with BT, Connecting Devon & Somerset and a number of other providers. The situation for those properties on the Honiton Exchange is more challenging and he was meeting the Regional Director of BT to discuss what can be done. The problem is that the nearest fibre enabled green box to these properties is located on the Heathpark which is too far for fibre to work. The question of whether there was anyway a link could be made to fibre at The Deer Park Hotel had been raised by a member of the public. It was suggested that the Deer Park should be asked if they would have any objections to people piggy backing onto their cable. PT also advised that a new voucher system may be coming out later in the year which could be used to fund other solutions such as WiFi.

9. Councillor Susie Bond's Report

- a) SB advised that EDDC were concerned about the way the issue of NHS beds had been handling to the extent that the matter has been referred to the Monitoring Committee. Unfortunately this will not change anything in relation to the inpatient beds.
- b) The new recycling contract appears to be working well and levels of recycling have increased dramatically. If any problems were experienced people should contact the EDDC Recycling team on 01395-571515 or go to the web site; <http://eastdevon.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/>
- c) The first stage of the development at Hayne Lane has been approved by EDDC and work will commence in the near future. SB confirmed that the site would be accessed via the road under the railway bridge. Traffic projections have predicted there will be no traffic issues.

10. Planning

- a) Summerhayes Farm 17/1459/FUL - Agricultural Livestock building - This application was fully supported by the council, RR to advise EDDC planning.
- b) Hackhams Farm 17/1614/FUL - Retention of replacement agricultural building - The council has no objections to this application as it is a direct replacement for an existing building however thought that planning permission should have been sought prior to the work being carried out. RR

11. Parishes Together Fund

It was agreed that CS would manage the project liaising with Mr Geoff Wright and C & C Plant Hire CS

13. Superfast Broadband

This subject was covered under Councillor Twiss' report.

14. Roads Report

- a) RP reported that the road up to Hembury Fort was deteriorating again.
- b) The need for people to report any problems relating to roads on the DCC website was discussed again, the website allows people to report many issues including hazardous or fallen trees, overgrown vegetation and potholes. It was agreed to include a piece in the next edition of The Bugle. <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>
- c) RR highlighted the need for a road sign to Honiton at the junction of Hayne Lane and Devonshire Road when coming from Weston. This matter was raised with Devon Highways about five years ago but there was no money available. It was agreed RR should follow it up with PT. RR

14. Definitive Map Review

RR advised that Nick Steenman-Clark was reviewing the old Parish minutes as part of the information gathering process. Nothing was likely to happen before November when the initial findings and submissions will go to a committee at DCC.

15. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and drains

- a) The entrance to the footpath between Splatts Cottage and Glebe Farm House had been raised by a number of people. There were two

problems, firstly the hedge was overgrown and secondly that vehicles were parked blocking access to the stile on a regular basis. The reason the hedge was overgrown was that at the time hedges were being cut, the contractor could not access the area to cut it due to vehicles being in the way. It was agreed to look at ways of keeping this area clear including seeking advice from the Police about what to do if people find access to the footpath blocked by vehicles.

- b) The situation regarding the maintenance of stiles was discussed. DCC are responsible for the actual stiles, whilst the landowners are responsible for clearing the area around the stiles.
- c) RR advised that EDDC were hoping to have Tree Wardens in each Parish. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

16. Village Maintenance

- a) David Wayne had been continuing with the maintenance schedule.
- b) The question of who was responsible for clearing around road signs was discussed. It was thought that warning signs such as speed or slow signs should be the responsibility of DCC but information signs the responsibility of the Parish. RR was asked to clarify the situation.

RR

17. Defibrillator

There had been no progress on this since the last meeting, WW/CS will present some information at the meeting in October.

WW/CS

18. Contribution to a Gas BBQ for Village

A request had been received from a member of the public for the Parish Council to contribute towards a replacement BBQ for the village. A brief discussion was held and it was agreed to provide a contribution of £100 provided that the BCA covered the rest of the cost.

19. Items for Next Meeting

- a) Tree Warden
- b) Stiles

24. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 7.00 p.m. at Doug's Shed.

Name	
Signature	
Position	
Date	