

BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at 8pm on Monday 10th November 2014 in the Reading Room, Old Road.

Present: Cllrs Day, Husband, Pryor, and Steed, District Councillor Paul Potter, the Clerk and local residents Anthony Neale and Rupert Gowrley (part). PCSO Dave Sadler attended for items 5 and 6 and Cllr Westwell joined the meeting during item 11.

1. Apologies for Absence

(150) Apologies and reasons for absence and late arrival were accepted from Cllrs Horden and Westwell respectively.

2. Declarations of Interest

(151) Cllr Husband declared an interest in the planning appeal that had been lodged relating to MO/2014/0821, having previously prepared designs for this site.

3. Requests for Dispensations

(152) None.

4. Minutes

(153) Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th September 2014, were agreed. Cllr Husband signed the minutes as a correct record.

5. Community Police Report

(154) PCSO Dave Sadler provided details of 4 crimes reported to have occurred in Buckland between 8th September 2014 and 10th November 2014. One burglary of quad bikes and go karts from a garage of a local residential property, one theft of money from the till in the Jolly Farmers, and two incidences of making off without making payment for fuel at the Shell garage.

6. Open Forum

(155) Cllr Husband welcomed Mr. Anthony Neale and Mr. Rupert Gowrley to the meeting and invited their input.

(156) Mr. Neale expressed concern about the impact the numerous concurrent road works are having on local traffic flows and journey times; and the frequency with which large vehicles are travelling through our rural villages. Cllr Husband empathised with Mr. Neale and Cllr Steed advised that the Parish Council, along with those of the other villages in Dorking Rural had discussed similar concerns to SCC Highways at the recent meeting of the Dorking Rural Highways Forum.

(157) The Clerk asked if PCSO Dave Sadler had any knowledge of road traffic accidents (RTAs) on the A25 between Dorking and Reigate for the period during which Pebblehill Road has been closed. PCSO Sadler advised that while he had not had any involvement in RTAs on this road he had recently had to deal with an incident at the junction of Headley Common Road and Boxhill Road that had caused lengthy closures. **Action:** Cllr Steed agreed to refresh the casualty numbers he had collated for the Decluttering Review.

(158) Cllr Steed took the opportunity to ask PCSO Sadler whether the police might be able to install equipment to record traffic flow and speed along the A25 through the village. All present agreed it would be extremely helpful to have sight of the analysis such a survey would provide. **Action:** PCSO Sadler agreed to ask his Casualty Reduction colleagues to consider the Parish Council's request.

- (159) Cllr Steed agreed to consider what traffic management options (if any) might have the potential to address Mr Neale's expressed concerns relating to the increasing incidence of larger vehicles on our small country lanes. Responding to a query from PCSO Sadler, Cllr Steed confirmed that Old Road, one route giving rise for concern, is a bus route and acknowledged that this limits the ability for any weight restriction to be imposed. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with and provide support to Cllr Steed.
- (160) Cllr Husband's suggestion, having established from Mr Neale that his concerns principally relate to Highways, to bring forward this Agenda item was approved by Council.

7. Highways, Transport and Rights of Way

Dorking Rural Highways Forum ("DRHF")

- (161) Buckland had hosted a meeting of the **DRHF** on Thursday 30th October 2014 in the Reading Room, Old Road. Cllrs Steed and Pryor and the Clerk had attended and Notes from the Meeting had been circulated to councillors.
- (162) Cllr Steed advised the Forum had, in addition to discussing issues experienced recently across Dorking Rural, discussed the problems residents are experiencing during the numerous concurrent road works and formulated questions for Cllr Helyn Clack to put to SCC Streetworks Officers and spent time scoping potential highway concerns relating to Gatwick Airport's proposals to construct a second runway.
- (163) The Clerk confirmed that having received confirmation that a second bid submitted under the **2014/15 Highways Localism Initiative** to undertake further hedging work in Highways Verges had been approved, Mattree Tree Care had been employed to complete the work, hopefully later this month. The £750 grant secured thanks to the support of Cllr Helyn Clack and SCC Highways Paul Manwaring had already been received.
- (150) Jim Docking ("JD"), the Parish Rights of Way Officer, having received mid-year feedback from his team of footpath monitors had submitted their **Half Yearly ROW Report** to Hannah Gutteridge the SCC Countryside Rights of Way Officer for Mole Valley. JD advised he had received an encouraging response from HG

SESW Outwood to Buckland Water Main

- (151) The Clerk confirmed that a date for a "snagging" walk to take in the public rights of way and highways verges had been arranged with SESW and Clancy Docwra for early December. The timing reflects the aim, on the part of SESW Project Manager Fiona Martin for SESW and Clancy Docwra to have the rest of November to address any concerns they already have logged. It was agreed Council will complete a preparatory walk during the week prior to the snagging walk. **Action:** Clerk to circulate dates to Council for both walks.
- (152) Cllrs Day and Steed queried SESW plans for progressing the reinstatement of the footpath between Old Road and Bromley field. The Clerk confirmed that "pre-work" photographs, taken by Cllr Day, had been forwarded to Fiona Martin together with a request for an update. **Action:** Clerk to circulate any update received to Cllrs Day and Steed.
- (153) Cllr Husband had received copies of an email exchange between residents living to the north of the railway line and along the track towards Wildecroft and SESW. The Clerk advised that Fiona Martin has agreed to follow up the issues raised with the residents who had contacted her

Transport Consultations

- (154) SCC is undertaking a Local Transport Review in order to make savings while still maintaining those services residents most rely upon, to travel to work, hospitals, schools and supermarkets. SCC is seeking the views of partners (including Parish

Councils) and individuals. It was noted that information had been included in a Parish Update. **Action:** All Cllrs to respond to the consultation and to provide feedback to the Clerk for points to be included in a PC response. Clerk to circulate a draft response for comment prior to its submission.

- (155) It was noted that SCC had commenced further consultations, as part of the development of the **Surrey Transport Plan**. Cllr Steed, having reviewed the documents had advised the current reviews do not have any direct impact in Buckland and agreed to continue to focus effort on lobbying SCC Highways for substantive repairs to the section of Old Road between Sandy Lane and the Red Lion and Sandy Lane.

East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership proposal for commuter bus service

- (156) The East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership has asked the Parish Council to help to publicise their proposal to offer a commuter link between Buckland and Brockham and Dorking Railway Station. The proposal is to run a bus service between 06.20 and 07.25 and 17.20 and 19.30, £2 per day for the first month and c. £3 per day thereafter.
- (157) A Parish Update, setting out the proposal had been issued and an article passed to Richard Wheen for inclusion in the December Parish magazine. Interested residents were advised to call 01883 732791 or to email rtp@tandridge.gov.uk. No further action required.

Airport Commission Consultation and Gatwick Airport

- (164) Cllrs Husband, Day and Steed advised they hope to be able to attend the **3Bs Public Meeting** to be held at Betchworth Memorial Hall, on Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 7.30pm, so timed to coincide with the Airport Commission Consultation.
- (165) It was noted that the November Parish Update had explained that this meeting had been arranged to provide an opportunity for local residents to gain a better understanding of issues and concerns relating to Gatwick Airport Limited's proposal to build a second runway and to encourage informed response to the Airports Commission Consultation.
- (166) Recent updates had also highlighted **GACC** (Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign) plans to hold a Protest Meeting on Saturday 22nd November 2014 to provide an opportunity for local residents to express their opposition to a possible second runway at Gatwick and to protest against recent flight path changes. The Clerk confirmed the information can be accessed via the village website, PC notice boards and was included in the November Parish magazine. As none of the councillors present were able to attend the GACC Protest Meeting Council agreed to the Clerk's suggestion that rather than attend the Public Meeting in Betchworth she attend the Meeting on 22nd November on behalf of Buckland Parish Council. **Action:** Clerk to circulate feedback from the Protest Meeting.
- (167) It was noted that Council, responding to a request from the Gatwick Coordination Group ("GCC") had reaffirmed its objection to Gatwick Airport Limited's proposals to construct a second runway and agreed to be included in the list of Parish Councils whose views are being represented by the GCC.

8. Planning

New Planning Applications

- (168) MO/2014/1209: Erection of two storey side extension at 1 Mount Hill, Mogador, Buckland. KT20 7HZ. No comment.
- (169) MO/2014/1357: Erection of two storey side extension at 1 Tranquil Dale, Buckland. RH3 7EE. No comment.

- (170) MO/2014/1407: Erection of single storey pitched roof rear extension following removal of shed, existing extensions and conservatory and replacement of garage doors at The Harvesters, Lawrence Lane, Buckland. RH3 7BE. No comment.
- (171) MO/2014/1410/LBC: Erection of single storey pitched roof rear extension following removal of shed, existing extensions and conservatory, replacement of garage doors, installation of internal insulation and various internal alterations to ground floor at The Harvesters, Lawrence Lane, Buckland. RH3 7BE. No comment.

Planning Appeal

- (172) It was noted that:
- (i) an appeal had been lodged against the MVDC decision to refuse consent for MO/2014/0821, the erection of one dwelling with associated parking and access at Beechwood, Dungates Lane, Buckland. RH3 7AA;
 - (ii) application MO/2014/0821 had been considered at the July meeting and a response asking MVDC to consistently apply its adopted policies when considering applications in Buckland and not to deviate from those policies when determining this application had been submitted.
- (173) Cllrs Day, Pryor and Steed agreed no further action is required.

MVDC Planning Notifications

The following Local Planning Authority decisions were noted:

- (174) MO/2014/0175: Retrospective application for erection of a detached stable block at Buckland Heights, Walton Heath, Tadworth, KT20 7HZ. Approved with conditions.
- (175) MO/2014/0217: Insertion of roof lights and first floor windows at south and east elevations at The Stables, Sandy Lane, Buckland, RH3 7AA. Approved with conditions.
- (176) MO/2014/1314: Removal of horse chestnut tree at Little Court, Reigate Road, Buckland. RH3 7EA. No objection.
- (177) MO/2014/1407: Erection of single storey pitched roof rear extension following removal of shed, existing extensions and conservatory and replacement of garage doors at The Harvesters, Lawrence Lane, Buckland. RH3 7BE. Approved with conditions.
- (178) MO/2014/1410/LBC: Erection of single storey pitched roof rear extension following removal of shed, existing extensions and conservatory, replacement of garage doors, installation of internal insulation and various internal alterations to ground floor at The Harvesters, Lawrence Lane, Buckland. RH3 7BE. Approved with conditions.

Planning Consultations

Buckland Liaison Group (“BLG”) – Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit

- (179) The latest update from SCC Case Officer Stephen Jenkins had advised he had yet to receive any formal submission from Hanson setting revised restoration schemes for either Tapwood Quarry or Park Pit.
- (180) Cllr Husband advised that representatives from Hanson, Buckland Estates, Surrey County Council, Buckland Parish Council and the Betchworth and Buckland Society are next due to meet on Thursday 27th November 2014, at which time it is hoped a revised timeline for determination of the application will emerge.

Buckland Estate - Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit

- (181) It was noted that Duncan Ferns (“DF”) had recently provided an outline of the Estate’s Vision to Council and had also confirmed that a preliminary planning meeting with SCC and MVDC had been held.

- (182) The Clerk advised that Buckland Estates had now booked a date for an Open Meeting, to be held in the Reading Room, at 8pm on Monday 8th December 2014. DF had forwarded a copy of a poster and accompanying article that had been submitted for inclusion in the December Parish magazine with a request for it to be shared via the email group. Council welcomed this update and supported use of the email group and notice board to publicise the event.
- (183) Council concluded that local residents can be expected to request an opportunity to visit Park Pit to better understand the Estate's proposals. **Action:** Cllr Husband and the Clerk to submit a request, via the Buckland Liaison Group for Buckland residents to be given priority on any visits the Estate might be willing to arrange.

Redhill Aerodrome

- (184) Council welcomed news that a Panel of 3 High Court Judges had upheld the appeal against the development of Redhill Aerodrome brought by the Government, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council and Tandridge District Council.

SCC Draft Statement of Community Involvement

- (185) SCC had contacted Council to invite views on how SCC should be consulting and involving organisations and individuals in preparing plans and when considering planning applications relating to minerals and waste development as well as the county's own development proposals. It was noted that Council had previously submitted feedback to SCC during an earlier review. **Action:** Clerk to circulate a draft response, consistent with previous feedback and to include on agenda for January meeting.

9. Amenities

Village Pond and Green

Event Feedback : Sunday 21st September

- (186) Votes of thanks were recorded for 18 Reigate Area Conservation volunteers and 9 residents who turned out to help, Simon Elson ("SE") and the Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers for leading the event and Buckland Estates for the provision of wooden posts and a trailer. SE asked for thanks to be expressed to Alan Pryor (who stayed the course to the bitter end), Nigel Husband (who was still setting in wooden posts alongside the north edge of the Green when everyone else had finished) and to Alan Horden for the use of his tractor and trailer. **Action:** Clerk to contact RACV to express Council's appreciation and to forward a donation of £75.
- (187) Simon Elson ("SE") had provided feedback on the completed activities. **Action:** Clerk to issue updated Management Plan Action Schedule.
- (188) SE advised that the degree of difficulty experienced by those volunteers trying to reduce, by hand, the volume of excess unwanted vegetation in the Pond is now sufficient to suggest a need to employ suitable contractors to undertake a mechanical clearance. The Clerk advised she had approached BKPH Ltd to establish the potential cost for such a task. **Action:** Clerk to include with list of potential projects when preparing 2015/16 budget projections.
- (189) Council had previously agreed that as the **Hawthorn tree**, positioned towards the rear of the village green, is now in a poor condition that a replacement should be planted this autumn. Cllrs Pryor and Husband had been approached by Mrs Wendy Lane with an offer to donate funds to the Parish Council to allow a replacement tree to be purchased and to care for a young tree until it becomes established. It was agreed to accept an offer from Cllr Pryor to involve Gaynor Day (who provides ongoing advice and support to Council in the management of the trees on the Village Green), to relay Council's appreciation for Mrs Lane's kind offer and to offer their assistance to progress this initiative. **Action:** Clerk was authorised to approve modest expenditure on items to support the initiative.

- (190) The Clerk had circulated pricing proposals prepared by G Burley and Sons Ltd (“Burleys”) to renew the current contract to undertake **grass cutting** on the Village Green for a one, three or five year term. It was noted that the pricing offered incorporates a 3.5% increase for a 1 year term, annual 3% increases across a 3 year term and 2.75% increases across a five year term. It was agreed that subject to the inclusion of a suitable performance clause drafted to allow a mid-term contract break to renew the contract for a 5 year term. **Action:** Clerk to progress with Burleys.
- (191) It was noted that the Clerk had liaised with SJ Newman who had confirmed that they were confident **enhancement work to the posts and rails** alongside the A25 can be completed without any requirement for short day working.

10. Finance

Account Payments and Receipts

- (192) It was noted that a payment for £72.00, including Vat of £12.00 had been issued, in accordance with minute 2014/88, to SSALC Ltd to secure a place for Cllr Husband to attend a Chairman’s networking event on 25th September 2014.
- (193) The following payments were approved:
- (i) CSP - £82.58 including £13.76 Vat
Contribution towards computer upgrades;
 - (ii) Betterlife solutions £18.96 including 66p Vat,
Two litter pickers for use during village tidy up events;
 - (iii) Surrey Hills Society £25.00
Annual Membership Fee;
 - (iv) G Burley and Sons Limited £420.00 including £70.00 Vat,
Three cuts of the grass during September and two during October;
 - (v) Buckland Reading Room £100.00,
Hire charges for 12th May, 14th July, 8th September, 30th October and
10th November;
 - (vi) Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers £75.00,
Donation for assistance with Village and Pond event on 21st September;
 - (vii) Sheena Boyce £45.47,
Re-imburement for council expenses.
- (194) It was noted that a Highways Localism grant of £750.00 had been credited to the Parish Council bank account.

11. Other initiatives

- (195) It was noted that following a request from MVDC to help encourage responses to their current **Have your Say** campaign information had been included in a Parish Update. **Action:** All Cllrs to submit a response.
- (196) Council had received an offer from British Heart Foundation (via MVDC) to offer a **Heartstart** Course to Buckland residents. The initiative aims to deal with emergencies that can arise at home, in the work place or whilst out and about in the community. The course provides two hours free training that teaches basic Emergency Life Support skills. The Clerk, having circulated the opportunity via the Email group had received sufficient expressions of interest to provide a full group (of 20 people). Council agreed to underwrite the hire fee for the Reading Room for a 2 hour evening training session. **Action:** Clerk to pursue with the Heartstart team.
- (197) Cllr Husband had attended a **SALC Chairman’s Networking Event** on 25th September 2014. He shared with the meeting key learning from a presentation given by Balcombe Parish Council that had outlined how Council had been affected by

the anti-fracking demonstrations. Council resolved to note the importance of ensuring appropriate best practice is followed in the event a village poll is undertaken.

- (198) Surrey Wildlife Trust had asked Council to encourage individual responses to the **River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans** consultations. These plans will set the agenda for work for the next 5 years at the River Basin Level, and include summaries for each of the 100 catchments including the River Mole. The information had been included in a Parish Update. No further action.
- (199) It was noted that a meeting of the **Local Forum of Parish Councils** on Thursday 16th October 2014 had been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. Cllr Steed had advised, following the DRHF that one possible lead agenda idea currently being explored by Cllr Helyn Clack is a meeting centred on the SCC Streetworks function.
- (200) Cllr Westwell provided a brief update from the most recent meeting of the **B&B Society**. He confirmed that the diary of events for 2015 is in place and includes plans for a BBQ on Buckland Village Green on Friday 10th July 2015. The Clerk advised that a request had been received from Dr Jo Howitt for permission to use the Village Green. **Action:** Clerk to issue a conditional approval, consistent with the letter issued to Trevor Cooke in 2012.
- (201) Cllr Pryor advised that when he had attended a meeting of the **Mole Valley Rural Crime Panel** (29th October 2014) that Inspector Richard Hamlyn had expressed an interest in attending a meeting of each Parish Council. Cllr Pryor reported key concerns arising at the meeting including antisocial behaviour issues along several routes used frequently by groups of visiting cyclists, poaching, and motorcyclists straying onto bridleways. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with PC Dom Loraine to extend an invitation to attend a meeting during the first half of 2015.
- (202) **Surrey Hills AONB Partnership Forum** plans to hold its Annual Open Meeting on Wednesday 19th November 2014 between 1.30pm and 4pm. **Action:** Clerk to register interest to attend and to forward the agenda to Cllr Steed upon its receipt.
- (203) It was noted that an invitation to attend a **Surrey Community Action Rural Housing Seminar** had been declined and that apologies had been submitted to the **Dorking and Leatherhead Citizens Advice Bureau Annual Public Meeting**.

12. Forthcoming Council Meetings

- (204) The **Parish Council** confirmed that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12th January 2015 in the cellar function room of the Red Lion and that subsequent meetings will hopefully return to a refurbished Reading Room, commencing Monday 9th March 2015.
- (205) It was noted that **Parish Elections** are to be held on 7th May 2015, to coincide with the next General Election and agreed that the 2015 **Annual Meeting** of Council shall be convened on Wednesday 13th May 2015, the earliest possible date (according to advice received from NALC) for the newly appointed Parish Council to meet. **Action:** Clerk to confirm the booking for the Reading Room for Wednesday 13th May 2014 at 8pm.
- (206) Cllr Husband and the Clerk will attend a meeting of the **Buckland Liaison Group** on Thursday 27th November 2014.
- (207) The next **Annual Parish Meeting** is due to be held on Monday 20th April 2015.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Sheena Boyce, Clerk

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