

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**OF BUCKLAND BREWER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2018 AT 7:30 AT**  
**BUCKLAND BREWER SCHOOL**

**Members Present:** Mrs Barbara Babb, Mrs Marie Douglas, Mr Andrew Hewitt, Mr George Heywood, Mrs Elisa Hurley, Mr Jim Lowe, Mr Trevor Mills and Mrs Rosemary Sanders.

**Also in attendance** -

**Parish Clerk:** Mr P Blossie

<b>KEY: Actions are shown in bold blue type    Decisions are shown in bold red type</b>
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600. **Apologies for Absence:** David Watson, Cllr Barry Parsons

601. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017:** The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 were agreed and signed, subject to changing 'Old Post Office' to 'Former Post Office and Shop' in item 596, Trevor Mills' Member's Report.

602. **Declarations of Interest:** The Clerk reminded members that there was a dispensation for all councillors to debate and make decisions concerning the setting of budgets and precepts.

603. **Public Participation:** None.

604. **Budget Monitoring Report as at 31st December 2017:** The report provided by the Clerk was noted. It included a forecast outturn for the current year that should result in a general reserve of about £6,000 by the end of the financial year.

605. **2018/19 Budget and Precept Setting:** The Clerk's report included a draft budget for 2018/19 which included the items identified at the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and allowed for some inflation and known changes to regular costs. It also included the annual rental income for the Stibbs Cross mast of £3,000 and an annual contribution from the Heywood family of £2,000 in relation to the wind turbine. It was agreed that the annual budget for a grant to the village hall should be increased to £1,000, otherwise the draft budget was supported as presented. The Clerk recommended an increase in the annual precept from £11,003 to £11,715. Some of this was generated from a slight increase in the taxbase as more new properties were added. It represents a 5% increase in the band D tax rate, equivalent to an increase of £1.70 per household per year. The Clerk pointed out that there had been no increase for 2 years and recommended that keeping in line with inflation could avoid a large increase at a later date. The draft budget, including the change to the village hall grant, is attached at appendix 1. There will be another opportunity to consider the budget and precept at the next meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January, but the Clerk reminded members that the precept submission must be made by 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018. It was thought that there was about £150 in the Jubilee Funds, held by that committee, and it was suggested by the Chairman, Jim Lowe, that this could be used to contribute towards the Battle's Over commemoration. **Barbara Babb will confirm the amount available.** Andrew Hewitt thought that black plastic sheeting for the allotments might come to about £100 but that he still needs to put some costs together. **Whilst discussing the budget for hall hires it was proposed by Andrew Hewitt, seconded by Barbara Babb and agreed unanimously, that future meetings should be held in the church school room,** if it is available when required. **The Clerk will try to arrange meetings there from February onwards. It was also agreed to**

**enter into a service agreement with MAT Electrics for the maintenance of the helipad switching, control and lighting column at a cost of £89.95 per year.** Andrew Hewitt suggested building a fund to provide money for a concrete path or surfacing along either Northwood Lane or through the churchyard for better pedestrian access to the playing field. This would be an expensive scheme and would require detailed costing before it could be considered more fully.

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:25 pm**

**Dates of Future Meetings:**

Public Meeting – November 2018 Commemorative Events, Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 (Village Hall)

Parish Council: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 (Buckland Brewer School)

Public Meeting – Parish Plan, Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 (Village Hall)

**Signed as a true record:**

**Chairman:** ..... **Date:** .....