

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
OF BUCKLAND BREWER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL 2018 AT 7:30 AT
PARISH CHURCH SCHOOL ROOM**

Members Present: Mrs Barbara Babb, Mrs Marie Douglas, Mrs Elisa Hurley, Mr Jim Lowe, Mr Trevor Mills, Mrs Rosemary Sanders and Mr David Watson.

Also in attendance None

Parish Clerk: Mr P Blossie

KEY: Actions are shown in bold blue type Decisions are shown in bold red type

669. **Apologies for Absence:** Andrew Hewitt, George Heywood, Cllr Barry Parsons

670. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th and 29th March 2018:** The minutes of the meetings held on 14th and 29th March 2018 were agreed and signed.

671. **Declarations of Interest:** None

672. **Public Participation:** None

673. **Clerk's Report: Correspondence:** 24 items of correspondence had been distributed by email since the last meeting. A message had been received via the website asking about an overgrown footpath. It was determined that this was Back Lane. The Clerk will advise the parishioner that they should contact Devon Highways. Jim Lowe highlighted the correspondence about the Dog Orders, which he had responded to, and the Sustainability Challenge', which he felt would not happen for another 5 years.

674. **Fields and Allotments:**

- a. **Works to School and Amenity Fields:** Trevor and Andrew are still waiting for good weather. Trevor had cut back the grass on the community field this week, but it was too wet to be cut right back. It was agreed that he should ask Tom Lloyd to spray it. It was reported that one of the residents of Orleigh Close were cutting through the hedge as a short cut to their property. It was thought that this problem would be resolved once the fencing was completed.
- b. **School Field Rental Agreement:** A message had been received from the school's consultant that he had noted the Council's comments about the school's refusal to pay the legal fees and was awaiting further instructions from them. The Chair and the Clerk had made applications to the County and District Councillors and both had offered to approve grants of £300, leaving a shortfall of £275 for the fees relating to the lease. It was reported that there would be a further cost of £650 to £750 in relation to amending the covenant that would permit the County Council to erect school buildings on the land. It was suggested that FOBBS (Friends of Buckland Brewer School) should be asked to contribute towards the total shortfall of about £1,000. The Clerk will write to FOBBS with copies to all relevant parties.
- c. **Job's Field: Advertisement for Tenders:** So far, only one tender has been received. The closing date for submissions is 30th April 2018.

- d. **Report of the Fields and Allotments Sub-Committee, 29th March 2018:** Elisa Hurley reported that no members of the public had been at the meeting on 29th March. The allotment holders appear to be generally content, except for the weather! It had been confirmed that the tenant who keeps chickens is registered with DEFRA and has stated that she is complying with the bird flu guidelines. It was agreed that black plastic should be laid on plots 2 & 3. Plot 2 has just been transferred to a new tenant, but the outgoing tenant had not left it in a usable state and his deposit had not been returned. Andrew and Trevor are still waiting for good weather to install the new gate, which should reduce the footfall on the path. See appendix 1 for a copy of the minutes of the meeting.
675. **Village Hall Update, Marie Douglas:** There had been no meeting of the trustees since the last parish council. Discussions were being held with the school about their possible use of the car park and of the hall during the daytime for main school activities. The trustees have not yet been approached by the Badminton Club. Trevor Mills reported that the final bill for the building of the new hall has been received.
676. **Parish Churchyard Path:** There has been no contact from the PCC, but it was reported that they are due to meet next week.
677. **Community Governance Review - Draft Proposed Boundary Changes:** Three proposals have been suggested following the Community Governance Review, affecting the following parish boundaries: Abbotsham / Northam, Bulkworthy / Abbots Bickington, and Littleham / Bideford South (Outer). Members had no comments to make.
678. **3rd Age Activities, Elisa Hurley:** PCSO John McGovern will be giving a talk on 'scams' at the ext 4 o'clock club on 12th April. Next month, Richard Haste will give a talk on the changes to the recycling service. Keep Fit starts again on 18th April and it is planned that TorrAge will take on the management of this group permanently.
679. **IntaGR8 Community Bus Service:** The Clerk had written to Parkham and Littleham Parish Councils inviting them to the meeting on 9th May 2018 but had received no reply so far.
680. **Flashing Speed Signs and Wireless Monitoring Systems:** The TAP Fund application had been successful, and the payment had already been received. Abbotsham's proportion of the grant had been sent them before the end of March. There had been no formal notification from Devon Highways about the results of the traffic survey, but it had been reported verbally that the average speeds recorded were higher than the 20mph limit in force. A report must go to a County Committee for approval before the Parish Council will be informed of the recommendation. Jane Lowe will be asked to write a short piece for the website and Village Scene asking people to observe the speed limit.
681. **Trees at Glebe Field:** Jim Lowe had spoken to the surveyors acting for the Diocese. A new tree surgeon has been appointed by them. The temporary TPO has now been made permanent, but it has been agreed by TDCs Trees Officer that some weight will be taken out of the tops of the trees.
682. **Parish Plan, Progress Report:** Jane Lowe had distributed minutes of the meeting on 20th March. See appendix 2. It had been a successful meeting with 7 parishioners and 5 councillors being appointed to the Steering Group. Its first meeting will be on 1st May with Martin Rich from Devon Communities Together present to guide them. The Parish Clerk will start off the meeting to ensure that officers are appointed, and he will then withdraw.
683. **Snow Warden's Report:** George Heywood was not present. The Chair had received one complaint that there had been no salting during the second fall of snow recently. He had explained that the stock of salt had been exhausted during the first snowfall and it had not been possible to replenish it. An offer to collect it ourselves from the depot in Parkham had been refused. The Clerk will email Cllr Barry Parsons to make him aware of the issue.

684. Grant Application: Thornhillhead Methodist Church Graveyard No further information had been received.

685. Long-Term Financial Plan This will be considered further at the next budget setting meeting in December 2018.

686. Members' Reports

Marie Douglas reported that the rubbish that had been fly-tipped has been removed.

Elisa Hurley spoke about the problem of traffic speeding through Hillpark, especially during school drop-off and pick-up times.

Jim Lowe had drafted a suitable 'no parking' sign for the village green, which it was agreed could be erected as soon as one could be manufactured. He also talked about the horse lorries and trailers that were parked in the passing places on the roads leading in to the village on the day of the Stevenstone Hunt. Finally, Jim announced that he would not be seeking re-election as Chair at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

687. Planning: Application: 1/0184/2018/FUL, Barcott, proposed one-bedroom holiday lodge
Trevor Mills said that he thought there could be a potential problem with parking. There are already three vehicles using the small hardstanding at the property and the property is situated at a narrow junction. It was proposed by Trevor Mills and seconded by Barbara Babb that the Council should object to the application on those grounds and this was agreed by 6 votes to none with 1 abstention.

688. Accounts:

a. Receipts and Payments:

- I. Bank balances as at 31st March 2018 (£46,683.14):
 1. Parish Council Current Account was £4,840.86
 2. Thornhillhead Moor Account was £13,699.19
 3. Savings Account was £28,143.09
- II. Fund balances as at 31st March 2018 (£46,683.14):
 1. General Account - £18,983.95
 2. Thornhill Head Account - £27,699.19
- III. Payments due (£2,109+ VAT)

The following list of payments was approved:

 1. Parish Clerk's salary, expenses and associated PAYE (March 2018): £477.72, including PAYE - £72.10 and reimbursement for defibrillator pads of £57.90 + VAT
 2. Holmacott Landfill, crushed concrete - £200.00 + VAT
 3. Abbotsham Council, TAP Fund Grant - £446.00
 4. Andrew Beer, steeping of hedges - £816.00 + VAT
 5. E.on, Electricity - £7.94 + VAT
 6. DALC, Annual Fee - £161.50 + VAT
- IV. Receipts (£2,355.00)
 1. Allotment rents - £200.00
 2. Field rents - £960.00
 3. TAP und Grant - £1,195.00

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:44 pm

Dates of Future Meetings:

Parish Plan Steering Group – Tuesday 1st May 2018, 7:30pm, Parish Church School Room

Parish Council – Wednesday 9th May 2018, 7:30pm, Parish Church School Room

Signed as a true record:

Chairman: **Date:**