

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**OF BUCKLAND BREWER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015 AT 7:45 AT**  
**BUCKLAND BREWER SCHOOL**

**Members Present:** Mrs Barbara Babb, Mrs Marie Douglas, Mr Andrew Hewitt, Mr Jim Lowe, (Part) Mr Trevor Mills, Miss Sally Nicholls, Mrs Shirley Tilley and Mr David Watson.

**Also in attendance** 13 members of the public, Cllr Alison Boyle (TDC), Stephen Harding (Village Hall Trustees), PCSO Liz Rendle and Beverley Cheeseman (Community Shop)

**Parish Clerk:** Patrick Blossie

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| <b>KEY: Actions are shown in bold blue type    Decisions are shown in bold red type</b> |
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**75. Apologies for Absence** Cllr. George Heywood and Cllr. Robin Julian

**76. Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015:** The minutes of the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015 were confirmed and signed.

**77. Declarations of Interest** Cllr Barbara Babb in respect of item 86a, Termination of Brian Chapple's Tenancy.

**78. Public Participation**

- a. PCSO Liz Rendle reported that there had been two crimes reported in the past 60 days, both involving dogs. One had been dropped due to lack of evidence and the other had been resolved, resulting in the death of the dog.
- b. Cllr Alison Boyle talked about the work she was doing in respect of the Burton Gallery and Bideford Library and her discussions with DCC about the future use of the buildings. She is also a trustee at Bideford College and reported that a new head should be appointed shortly. Lastly, she said that she was organizing a Locality Group meeting to be held in Woolserly Village hall at 7:00pm on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015, to which the parish councillors were invited with a view to developing closer working relationships between the parish councils and between TDC and the parishes.

**79. Defibrillator:**

- a. Presentation by Beverley Cheeseman      Beverley explained that, although the Community Shop was not prepared to take on the role of 'champion' for a community defibrillator, they felt that the best place for it to be situated would be on the decking outside the shop and that they were happy to help raise funds towards the scheme, not only for the initial purchase and installation but also to help maintain a fund for ongoing maintenance and replacement consumables. Beverley was aware that the scheme could cost up to £2,500 and hoped that the Parish Council would be accepting the offer of £1,000 from the Locality Budget offered by Cllr Robin Julian. The Clerk explained that he had been asked by Cllr Julian to submit a claim for that grant this week and it was agreed unanimously that the remaining funds ought to be raised by the parishioners. **David Watson offered to organise a meeting in September to raise funds for the scheme and Jim Lowe said that he would be organising a Quiz Night.** These will be advertised in Village Scene. Andrew Hewitt suggested that additional funds might be available from Cllr. Hicks **and the Clerk will write to him.** Trevor Mills reported that he had received an offer from a parishioner who wished to remain anonymous of an additional £1,000 towards the scheme. Given this information, **it was agreed unanimously to proceed with a scheme.**
- b. To consider a scheme to provide a community defibrillator      The Clerk explained the potential costs of a scheme, including the cost of a machine, a heated box, electrical installation and ongoing costs.

He had received quotations from various sources in the past year, one being the suppliers used by Frithelstock Parish Council. This option had the advantage that the machines supplied were those used by South West Ambulance services. **The Clerk was authorised to obtain an up to date quotation from this supplier and, provided that the costs could be contained within a total budget of £2,500, to proceed with an order for the works.**

#### 80. **Clerk's Report**

- a. **Correspondence:** A summary of 36 items of general correspondence and three publications had been provided. All of the correspondence had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. The following were specifically brought to members' attention:

**1.DCC Highways:** Parish & Town Council Conference 2015 - Save the date! To be held on 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October – further details to follow later.

**5. Devon & Cornwall Police:** Dog Related Sheep Attacks

**18. Launch of a Devon Social Enterprise Network – It was agreed unanimously to sign up to this network**

**36. DCC:** Bus Service Changes – members were disappointed to hear that the service now offered would be on Mondays and Fridays and not Tuesdays and Fridays as originally proposed. It was felt that this would be much less convenient for shoppers and **the Clerk was asked to write to DCC to express the Council's views.**

- b. **Complaints: Responses to Mrs Sandon and Mrs Hasler:** Letters of complaints from Mr and Mrs Sandon and Mrs Hasler and the responses sent by the Chairman were read by the Clerk.

#### 81. **Thornhillhead Moor:**

- a. **To consider proposals by Cllr. George Heywood for the future management of the moor** In the absence of George Heywood, this matter was deferred to the next meeting.
- b. **Report by Sally Nicholls about signage and website/Village Scene notices** Sally explained that, under the terms of the Crow Act, dogs must be kept on leads during the bird nesting season between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> July. She provided the wording for suitable signs. **Andrew Hewitt has a contact who will make up the signs for the Council. It was reported that the gate fastenings have not yet been repaired. Andrew Hewitt will take this up with Claire McIntosh.**

#### 82. **Hillpark Development**

- a. **Update from Cllr. Jim Lowe** Jim Lowe reported that topsoil has now been spread, as promised by Pearce.
- b. **Fencing request from a resident affected by the footpath development** Three councillors had inspected the footpath and also a location where the bank had been built up behind a property where the resident had previously asked to purchase that bit of land. None of these issues can be dealt with until the Parish Council owns any of the land in question.

#### 83. **S106 Land and Community Hall Monies Transfer**

- a. **Response to a letter of enquiry from Peter Sandon** The Clerk read out a letter that had been received from Peter Sandon expressing concern about interest liability on the s106 monies and his response.
- b. **Update from Jim Lowe/Trevor Mills** Stephen Harding, for the Village Hall Trustees, said that they were aware of the concerns about the delay in the transfer of the land and monies but that they were still in negotiation with Pearce over the clause restricting use of the access road by any other developers until such time as the road is adopted. He thought the adoption process might take up to 2 years. He also explained that prices were escalating and that, therefore, they were having to review their plans. A smaller hall will probably now be built and that will require a new planning application. The Trustees had found it difficult to obtain grants and they were obliged to keep the old hall open until the new hall was built but needed the money from the sale of the old hall to be able to afford the new one. Jim Lowe said that there was a big difference between the interest currently being earned in the solicitor's client account and what could be earned elsewhere. The Clerk pointed out that it should be possible to transfer the monies separately from the land and should only require a

separate transfer deed that recognised that the Trustees were accepting the terms of the s106 Agreement relating to the monies. Stephen Harding said that he would discuss this with the Clerk at a later date. Councillors were in agreement that the monies should be handed over to the Village Hall Trustees as soon as possible. Trevor Mills said he would report back once the Village Hall Trustees have discussed the matter again.

**84. Torrige Council: Consultation on Single Reception Point** Councillors chose to make no comment.

**85. Repair or replacement of boundary fence at Bowden Cross Corner** Item deferred in the absence of George Heywood.

**86. Fields and Allotments:**

**a. Termination of Brian Chapple's Tenancy** Item deferred in the absence of George Heywood.

**b. Removal of Football Pavilion** It was agreed that there were sufficient funds in the general reserve to meet the shortfall required to demolish the building. The Clerk was authorised to ask Ray Hoyle to resubmit an estimate for the works and to proceed with the demolition provided that any increase since the original quotation was reasonable. There will be some fencing works required following the removal of the building but this will be dealt with when a new tenant is found and it is known what the field will be used for.

**c. 'Football Pitch' Tenders** Advertisements will be issued for expressions of interest once the pavilion is demolished. The Clerk will ask Bob Hicks to draw up a suitable document once the expressions of interest have been considered.

**d. Vacant Allotments** The vacant plots will be advertised in Village Scene again.

**87. Overgrown trees affecting properties adjacent to Back Lane** These have been reported to DCC, who are going to inspect the problem shortly.

**88. Northwood Lane: Obstructions and condition of surface** Andrew Hewitt to check and photograph if appropriate.

**89. Christmas Market Road Closure** Sally Nicholls reported that 40 metres of Ashtons Row ( Village Hall end) will be closed for the Christmas Market between 8:00am and 5:00pm on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

**90. Grant Applications:**

**a. Northern Devon Foodbank Christmas Fund 2015** It was agreed to add this to the list of applications to be considered at the October meeting.

**b. Village Hall Annual Grant** It had been agreed that an annual grant of £500 would be made towards the Village Hall when this year's budget had been set. The Trustees wished to know when this would be paid. Although this would normally be dealt with together with other grant applications in October, it was proposed by Sally Nicholls, seconded by Barbara Babb and agreed unanimously to pay the grant straight away.

**c. Advertising for applications for grants for 2015** The Clerk advised that an advert should be placed in Village Scene asking local organisations to submit grant applications for consideration at the October meeting.

**91. Members' Reports**

**Barbara Babb** asked whether the Gardening Club could be given a grant or donation to undertake maintenance of the village green. They were advised to submit a grant application. Barbara also asked what was happening about Hymn's Peace. **Trevor said that he would talk to Richard Mills to find out what his plans were and report back.**

**Marie Douglas** said that there was another year before the terms of the Transparency Code would apply and that there were government grants available if the Council wished to take them up.

**Andrew Hewitt** explained that he had been elected on to the DALC Board and that he had attended his first meeting recently. He explained that the implementation date for the Transparency Code had been extended by 12 months. Affordable Housing sales had been discussed and the Board had not been in favour of these and wanted the legislation quashed. Apparently, many houses in Cranbrook and similar large developments are being brought up by large city corporations as overspill council housing. The housing exemption threshold had recently been quashed by a judge so the lower limit of 10 properties requiring the inclusion of affordable housing no longer applied. On a separate matter, he asked whether any Highways Maintenance training had been identified. The Clerk explained that this could only be obtained for free through DCC if we signed up to the Road Warden Scheme. It was agreed to add the Road Warden Scheme to the next agenda. Andrew also reported that Andrew Gadd had been cutting the village green and ought to be paid. The Clerk will investigate.

**Sally Nicholls** said that she would not be able to attend the next meeting as she will be on holiday.

**Shirley Tilley** noted that a BT superfast broadband was being installed in other local villages and asked if it would be coming to Buckland Brewer. Andrew Hewitt said that Western Power were asked to provide a fibre-optic cabinet and we should be pressing to get it here. Shirley also said that the lane up to Moorhead Cross ought to be for non HGV only except for farm traffic. Andrew Hewitt mentioned that the traffic lights along there should be removed

**David Watson** complained about the large numbers of people on pushbikes using the Landcross to Bradworthy Road.

## **92. Planning**

- a. Decisions: 1/0508/2015/FUL, Bowden Farm, Variation of condition 2 of planning application 1/0017/2013 revised infrastructure (substation, crane pad and turning head) – Granted  
Permission - Noted

## **93. Accounts:**

### i) Cash book balances:

- Parish Council Current Account was £15622.17 as at 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015
- Thornhillhead Moor Account was £11,720.16 as at 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015

### ii) Payments due (£1,160.28 + VAT)

- Parish Clerk's salary, expenses and associated PAYE (June and July): £601.78
- Buckland Brewer Village Hall, Hall Hire 24/06/15: £8.50
- DALC: Effective Councillors Courses, 21/07/15 - £50 + VAT
- Buckland Brewer Village Hall – Grant: £500.00

### iii) Receipts (£2,555.23)

- Allotment rent /deposit- £190.00 (£15/£175)
- VAT Reclaim 2014/15 - £2,365.23

### iv) Transfer of Funds

- VAT Reclaim 2014/15 – Transfer to Thornhillhead Moor Account - £2018.89

### v) Changes to Bank Mandate

- A bank mandate amendment form was authorised by Trevor Mills and Jim Lowe to add Marie Douglas and Sally Nicholls as signatories to the bank accounts

**Date of Next Meeting:**

Parish Council: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 (Buckland Brewer School) (7:45pm)

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:50 pm.**

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