

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
OF BUCKLAND BREWER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7:30 AT  
PARISH CHURCH SCHOOL ROOM**

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

**Also in attendance** Cllr. Barry Parsons

**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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627. **Apologies for Absence:** Elisa Hurley, PCSO Liz Rendle

628. **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018:** The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were agreed and signed.

629. **Declarations of Interest:** None

630. **Public Participation:** None

631. **Clerk's Report:**

- a. **Correspondence:** 23 items of correspondence had been distributed by email since the last meeting. The Clerk highlighted one item, a Planning Information Session being held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, which he will attend. The Village Hall had submitted a set of audited accounts, as requested, and the Clerk suggested that the remainder of their annual grant of £706.11, could be released. **This was agreed unanimously.** Jim Lowe reported that the 372 bus will run on the Thursday before Easter and that the idea of rerouting the bus to include Atlantic Village was being investigated. He had also determined that there are no National Bus offices so their timetables are now only available online. Andrew Hewitt said that it was becoming more important that the whole community has access to the internet. Trevor said that Rogers Waters is negotiating with Airband to try to get a free broadband connection at the village hall but this is dependent on the repair works to the church tower. Jim Lowe suggested that the Community Shop might be a suitable location for community internet access and that this could be something to be considered for the Parish Plan. Andrew Hewitt said that mobile telephone technology should also be considered. A late item of correspondence had been received about consultation on Dog Control Orders. Jim Lowe had spoken to Torridge Council about the Community Field and it had been agreed that the field would be included in the consultation. The Clerk was also asked to check whether the Playing Field was also included as a dog exclusion zone.
- b. **Big Thing Project:** This is television programme that will be developing an art project to be developed and behalf of a displayed in a small local community. The Clerk suggested that it might be a suitable project for the Parish Plan Steering Group to consider as a 'quick win' item but the scheme was not supported by the parish council.

- c. **Churchyard Path:** Members noted an email from Roger Walter, in his capacity as church warden, pointing out that any plan to create a new path in the church grounds could not proceed as all of the grounds are consecrated for burials. Andrew Hewitt and George Heywood pointed out that the path is shown on old maps. **It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Bishop of Exeter with a copy to the PCC.**
- d. **Preparation for the Annual Parish Meeting:** The village hall has been booked for the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018.
- e. **Police Report:** PCSO Liz Rendle had sent her apologies but had informed the Clerk that no crimes had been reported in Buckland Brewer since the start of this year.

**632. Fields and Allotments:**

- a. **Works to School and Amenity Fields:** Trevor Mills reported that the hedge laying has been finished and that a woodchipper is now needed to help with the removal of the debris. There is still a little trimming to do.
- b. **School Field Rental Agreement:** Gina Finch will be attending the next parish council meeting. **DCC had asked whether the Parish Council would agree to an agreement being drawn up without the use of solicitors, but it was agreed unanimously that this was not appropriate.**
- c. **Other Field and Allotment Issues for the Next Sub-Committee Meeting:** The replacement gate at Bromell's field has yet to be done. The Clerk confirmed that the DEFRA notices about bird flu had been publicised on the website and all allotment holders have been notified individually. **Jim Lowe and George Heywood will talk to other individuals who they know keep birds to ensure that they are complying with the guidance.**

**633. Village Hall Update, Marie Douglas:** Marie has been without a computer for a few weeks and was unable to forward copies of minutes, but she will do this shortly. She reported that the Big Brunch had made £800.

**634. 3<sup>rd</sup> Age Activities, Elisa Hurley:** Elisa Hurley was not present. There is a change of date for the 361 Energy event. They have had to cancel the event previously organised for 15th March, due to a shortage of staff. Elisa is awaiting confirmation for it to take place on 22nd March. Jim Lowe reported that the last 4 o'clock club had attracted 25 people and that Richard Haste will be attending the next meeting to talk about waste recycling.

**635. Plastic Waste:** Jim Lowe said that he had added this to the agenda to help make people aware of a number of campaigns aimed at reducing plastic waste. **The Clerk said that he would write an article for Village Scene and the website.**

**636. Flashing Speed Signs and Wireless Monitoring Systems:** The traffic monitoring had been completed and it was hoped that the results would be published very soon. The Clerk had been told that TAP Fund monies cannot be carried forward this year, but that it would be acceptable **for an application to be submitted straight away, which he will now do in collaboration with Abbotsham Parish Council.**

**637. Devon County Traffic Sensitive Street Review, Consultation:** The Clerk asked members to review the information supplied by email and on the relevant website in preparation for making a response at the next meeting.

**638. Parish Plan, Report of the Meeting Held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018:** 24 parishioners had attended. Martin Rich from Devon Communities Together had given a presentation on the benefits of a Parish Plan and how to go about writing one or revising our existing plan. Parishioners were asked to provide some ideas for future discussion. There are no longer grants available to help with producing 'glossy brochure' style publications so the new plan will probably be internet based, in a form that people can download and print themselves if they want to. The next meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, when a Steering Committee will be formed. It was agreed to wait until the Parish Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March before agreeing which councillors (probably up to 4) will be appointed to join the Steering Group.

**639. Snow Warden's Report:** George reported that he had still not had to salt any of the roads. An email had been received from DCC asking for **up to date contact details for the Snow Warden, which he will complete and return.**

**640. Members' Reports**

George Heywood reported that the condition of the road in Monkleigh Mill Lane was still atrocious. **The Clerk will report it again.**

Jim Lowe Reported that no reply had yet been received from Bob Hicks about the trees at the Glebe Field. **The Clerk was also asked to write to Bob Hicks to ask him to chase up the Enforcement Officer regarding the Former Post Office and Shop.**

David Watson asked whether Andrew Heywood could be asked to attend a future meeting to give an update on Thornhillhead Moor. **The Clerk will arrange.**

Cllr Barry Parsons said that he would be attending a DCC Cabinet meeting the next day where they would be discussing next year's budget. He was concerned about inequalities in funding, stating that core funding for Devon is £161 per person, compared to a national average of £266 and £459 in London. He felt that more could be done by our local MPs who he said should "stand up and be counted". On more local matters, he said that he would take a look at Yeo Bridge which had recently been damaged and asked for details of any other local highways issues as he would be meeting with Meg Booth, the Head of Highways, shortly. He said that Skanska was behind on some of its maintenance programme due to the bad weather. David Watson asked if any of the Route 39 money could be diverted to other schools in the area. Andrew Hewitt pointed out the disparity between the hospital closures and the ambitious house-building plans in the area, which Barry concurred with. George Heywood complained that too much funding was going to Scotland. Jim Lowe pointed out that there is an MPs Lobby Day on 20<sup>th</sup> May. Barry said that all the South West MPs need to band together to show a consolidated approach. Barry reported that there will be a bit more money available for grants to Parish Councils. In addition to the £10,000 Locality Grant, there will also be a further £10,000 Investing in Devon Fund. The TAP Fund will continue but is to be renamed the Communities Together Fund. Barry agreed to come to the Annual Parish Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May as guest speaker.

**641. Accounts:**

**a. Receipts and Payments:**

- I. Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 (£47,815.44):
  1. Parish Council Current Account was £5,564.59
  2. Thornhillhead Moor Account was £4,155.19
  3. Savings Account was £38,095.66

- II. Fund balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 (£47,815.44):

1. General Account - £19,660.25
2. Thornhill Head Account - £28,155.19

- III. Payments due (£1,314.70 + VAT)

The following list of payments was approved:

1. Parish Clerk's salary, expenses and associated PAYE (January 2018): £655.26, including PAYE - £68.40 and purchase of a projector of £233.32 (inc. VAT)
2. BB Village Hall, Grant - £706.11

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:00 pm**

**Dates of Future Meetings:**

Allotments Inspection – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Fields & Allotments Sub-Committee – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018, 7:30, Parish Church School Room

Parish Council – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 7:30pm, Parish Church School Room

Parish Plan Meeting – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018, time and venue to be confirmed

**Signed as a true record:**

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