

BUCKLAND DINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 2 April 2015 in the Village Hall, Buckland Dinham

3139 Present: Councillors Tamsin Aston, Judy Annan, Peter Corbett, Mitzi Harrington and Will Phippen; Pauline Short, Clerk: 1 member of the public

3140 Apologies: Councillor John Reckless

In the absence of a chairman, Deputy Chair, Cllr Aston, took the chair

3141 Minutes of the meeting on 19 February and planning meeting 25 March: Minutes were agreed, with one correction made by the clerk, and signed

3142 Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest: None

3143 Tribute: Cllr Aston led a tribute to Jim Phippen who had sadly died two days before. Jim had served the village for many years as a parish councillor and parish council chairman. Sympathy was extended to the family and particularly to Jim's son, Cllr Will Phippen, who was present

Unminuted open forum for the public and council: Cllr Aston closed the meeting for the public and council to discuss topics of their choice and then reopened it

<p>3144 Matters arising from the last meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Police Speed Checks– Cllr Aston had written to PC Ball as agreed, and some Speedwatch checks had been done, but there was more to progress to fully restart the Speedwatch Group 2. Update on situation with introduction of superfast broadband to Buckland Dinham – Cllr Corbett had made a Freedom of Information request about the fibre optic cable installed through the village in the 1990s but had not yet received a reply. Neil Lanning was continuing to talk to BT about possibilities for improved service from them at cost to the village, although figures were not available at this meeting. Cllr Corbett agreed to contact Matt Ballard at the Connecting Devon & Somerset Programme with the findings and quotes from BT. He would also ask Mr Ballard for an update of the situation as he had outlined it at last years Annual Parish Meeting 3. Confirmation of the return of the strimmer to Somerset County Council and the plans for future footpath maintenance – The clerk advised that all the strimmer equipment had been collected by Somerset County Council. She had also met Mendip Rights of Way Officer, Clare Haskins, who had confirmed that she would ask the Ramblers to add the sections of FR3/8, including the bus stop area, and FR 3/16 to their cutting programme twice during the season. This will probably be in May and July 4. Plans for the Annual Parish Meeting – It was agreed to have a discussion and general open forum on Broadband, to be led by Cllr Corbett after he had the results of his research outlined above at point 2. Also, after discussion of Matters Arising 3 below, Cllr Aston agreed to talk about the help needed by Somerset to develop a new database of Emergency Community Contacts <p>3145 Matters arising:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultation from Mendip District Council on a new House Extension Design Guide – At this point Mendip are asking for comments on the Old Guide and councillors agreed to take part by completing the on line survey as individuals 	<p><i>Action</i></p> <p><i>Cllrs Corbett, Annan and Reckless</i></p> <p><i>Cllr Corbett</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p>
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<p>2. Request from Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Unit for help with development of a new database of Emergency Community Contacts to be first point of contact in an emergency in our area – Council agreed that there would be a benefit in having such a database and, as shown in Matters Arising 4 above, Cllr Aston agreed to address the Annual Parish Meeting about it</p>	<p><i>Cllr Aston</i></p>
<p>3. Question of ownership of, and responsibility for, the footpath from Rogers Close to the playing field – A request to Somerset Highways in March to repair an inspection cover on this footpath had met with an unexpected response! Although repairs have always been done by Highways they are not responsible for that path because it has never been adopted by them! Mendip District Council were consulted, had studied their deeds for the sale of the remaining social housing in the village and advised that the path is in fact now the responsibility of Aster Communities. The clerk was waiting for a response from Aster. She had stressed to all concerned that the repair was needed urgently as there was a risk of injury</p>	<p><i>Ms Short</i></p>
<p>3146 Clerks Report:</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning Consent had been granted for an extension at Murtry Hill Cottage and revised siting of the proposed new dwelling at Park Bungalow 2. A request had been received from Bill Lowe for the chairman to speak about the plans for Dangerfield at the Mendip Planning Board on 15 April. Cllr Annan was available 3. There was still no decision on the Bell Inn camping site 4. Somerset County Council had adopted the new Somerset Minerals Plan to 2030 5. Cllr Phippen had attended a councillors training course 6. Nick Merry had agreed to repair the noticeboard by the Bell Inn as the person who had agreed to do it is ill 7. Councillors were reminded that they all retire on 11 May and that the newly appointed council would take over on that day 8. A thank you letter for the councils donation had been received from Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance 	
<p>3147 Finance:</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new endorsement to the councils insurance policy required that weekly inspections should be made of the playground equipment. Cllr Harrington agreed to arrange this and the clerk would send her a copy of the policy 2. Cheques were agreed to be signed on receipt of the precept for:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £454 for the hall committee for annual £400 maintenance grant and hall rental of £54 for November to March • £400 for the annual playing field grant • £250 to the Parochial Church Council to help towards churchyard maintenance 	<p><i>Cllr Harrington</i></p>
<p>3148 Dates of next two meetings: Agreed as Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 14 May and ordinary meeting on 18 June</p>	
<p>This meeting closed at 8.51pm</p>	