

BUCKLAND DINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 10 August 2017 in the Village Hall, Buckland Dinham

3349 Present: Councillors, Tamsin Aston, Will Phippen, Peter Corbett, John Reckless, and Paul Sherrin. Pauline Short, Clerk.

3350 Apologies: Cllrs Alan King and Viv Street. District Councillor Edward Drewe

3351 Minutes of the last meeting on 29 June: Minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed

3352 Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest: None

3353 Consultation on retrospective planning application for single storey rear extension built in 2011 at 8 Rogers Close: Council agreed to recommend approval of this application as they felt it was in keeping and they would have recommended approval if it had been presented in 2011 (proposed Cllr Corbett, seconded Cllr Phippen)

3354 Matters arising from the last meeting:

- 1. Control of vegetation on the playing field walls-** Cllr Phippen confirmed that he had completed this work and was thanked by the council
- 2. Update on the situation with the upkeep of the land and wall west of the bus shelter** – The clerk was pleased to report that Mendip Highways had agreed that, due to the fact that the main purpose of the wall at this point is to retain the footway, they would undertake any necessary repairs to it. The site had been added to their 2017-18 works programme, subject to funding approval
- 3. Situation with the repairs to the surface of Elm Lane** – Further repairs had been made to the surface of the lane and council agreed that it is now in a generally satisfactory condition
- 4. Investigations into the possibility of a 20mph speed limit in Buckland Dinham-** Cllr Corbett had made a number of useful contacts to investigate this topic with Norton St Phillip parish council and Mendip Highways and had circulated his findings to council. The results were discussed and it was generally agreed that investigation of the possibility will continue. Council also looked forward to seeing the results of the residents traffic count and survey made in July

In

3355 Matters arising:

- 1. Review of the procedure for consultations on planning applications concerning trees in the Conservation Area** – The clerk reminded all of the policy in Standing Orders for considering these applications outside of meetings and a further policy adopted in 2013 to give more guidance on agreed approaches to the subject. Cllr Reckless, as the coordinator of the team handling these applications, talked about the recent experience of an application and the things that had not worked smoothly in dealing with it. The topic then side-tracked to an application received that day for trees in the garden of his own home and he pointed out that he would obviously need to declare an interest in that and withdraw from the process for it. Cllr Aston agreed to lead the planning team on that one
- 2. The BT phone box at The Cross** - After a consultation by BT at the end of 2016 it was agreed that the telephone would be removed as it had not been used for a year. The phone equipment had been taken out earlier this year but the box still remained and the site had not been made good as expected. It was agreed that the clerk would follow this up

3356 Clerks Report:

1. Since the last meeting the parish council planning group had recommended approval for the felling of one of two trees in an application for Hillside Cottage Froggs Bottom as the tree was dead. A second tree on the site was healthy but was referred to the trees officer to make a decision as it could be the cause of damage to a land drain
2. Also since the last meeting Mendip had approved an application for felling of a conifer at Mulhins
3. The application for pruning the yew tree at the church, which is subject to a Tree Preservation Order, had been partly been refused and partly approved by Mendip. The reduction of the tree by 2 to 3 metres all round was refused as this was considered excessive and unnecessary in arboriculture terms. However permission was given for a crown lift to give moderate clearance over the adjacent road and boundary wall and to give an equal more balanced level of ground clearance to improve visual appearance of the tree
4. As yet there had been no further request about naming the lane to the Old Vicarage
5. Cllr King has been liaising with residents of St Michaels Close, and Cllr Aston had approached Somerset Highways, over a request for parking restrictions there
6. A letter had been received from a non-resident about building social or affordable housing on his land in the village. The clerk would reply advising him that this is land outside the areas identified for housing in the Mendip District Local Plan and refer him to planning officers at Mendip
7. The dog waste bin had been almost overflowing again and the litter bin in the playing field overflowing. Both problems were resolved very quickly by Gavin Fear the contracts officer, but this is the 4th time we have had this problem since October last year. Apparently a study is being made of ways to help the contractor improve service and is being presented in the next month

3357 Finance:

1. The annual report of the playing field had been received from Playsafety and circulated to the committee and council. A cheque was signed for the cost of £88.20 to Playsafety Ltd

3358 Dates of next two meetings: Agreed as 21 September and 2 November.
This meeting closed at 8.35pm