

BUCKLAND DINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 11 April 2019 in the Village Hall, Buckland Dinham

3505 Present: Councillors Peter Corbett, Alan King and Viv Street

3506 Apologies: Councillors Will Phippen, John Reckless

3507 Resignation of councillors: Since the last meeting Councillor Tamsin Aston, Chair of the Council, and Councillor Bob Tucker had both resigned. The priority was to appoint a new chair. Councillor Peter Corbett was proposed by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Street and he agreed to take on the role until at least the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 16 May

3508 Election: The clerk reported that there would be no parish council election in Buckland Dinham as there had only been three nominations made. Councillors Corbett, King and Reckless had all been “elected councillors without contest”. The clerk pointed out that all current councillors retire 4 days after the 2nd May election and newly appointed councillors come into office on the same day which, due to the bank holiday, will be 7th May. That meant that there was an urgent need for four others to join the council as co-opted councillors and it was agreed that this should be addressed as soon as possible

3509 Minutes of the last meeting on 21 February: Minutes of the meeting were agreed and signed

3510 Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest: None

Open Forum for the public and council: The meeting was closed for this session and then reopened

3511 Matters arising from the last meeting:	Action
<p>1. Further progress on plans for a traffic management scheme for Buckland Dinham and restarting of a Speedwatch programme- In the absence of Cllr Reckless, Cllr King updated council on progress since the last meeting. This included the meeting with Tim Gibbs, who presented his newly developed speed cameras that could replace speedwatch, and the recent further speed testing of vehicles outside the village hall to add to the previous readings at The Bell and Fountain Inn. On the potential reintroduction of Speedwatch to Buckland Dinham, Cllr Corbett had not heard whether the old speedwatch kit had been returned to the police or not. He would follow this through with the resident who had it</p>	<p><i>Cllr Reckless King & Street</i></p>
<p>2. Progress with replacement of our village owned speed visor- This was postponed while awaiting further progress with the traffic management plan, although councillors would continue to look at options for replacement</p>	<p><i>Cllr Corbett</i></p>
<p>3. Response to submission of Mendip Local Plan Part II- Councillors had studied this and agreed that lack of flexibility for building in our village was the main problem to address. Cll Street agreed to contact Mendip to establish when and how council could comment on this issue</p>	<p><i>Cllrs Reckless King & Street</i></p>
<p>4. Village website, bucklanddinham.com – Nothing to report. This subject would be dropped from the agenda for now</p>	<p><i>Cllr Street</i></p>
<p>5. Final plans for the Annual Parish Meeting in May – It was agreed that the plan would still be to concentrate on traffic management and this would be led by Cllr Reckless. Cllr Corbett would chair the meeting and there would be the usual open forum at the end for all to raise issues. The clerk would make a suitable entry in the parish magazine and Cllrs Corbett and King would concentrate on Facebook</p>	<p><i>Cllr Corbett</i></p>
	<p><i>All</i></p>

and a leaflet drop to encourage residents to be there. It was also agreed to provide the usual refreshments

3512 Matters Arising:

1. **Condition of Village notice Boards and the Bus Stop** –The clerk had raised this topic. Most of the boards are in need of care and attention, as is the bus shelter. A resident had volunteered to do occasional cleaning of the shelter (which is very welcome) and to tidy up the board inside. That board is in a particularly bad state and the one by the Bell Inn has a cracked, but still safe, panel of glass. All need oiling or varnishing depending on their current coating. It was agreed to get estimates to rectify and generally tidy up. Cllr Corbett suggested a possible source for a first estimate and will investigate that but others are still needed
2. **Parish Councillors Planning Training-** Details of Mendips plans for this had been circulated but the topic was left for discussion at the next full meeting when, hopefully, more councillors will have been co-opted

*Cllr
Corbett &
Ms Short*

All

3513 Clerks Report:

1. Since the last meeting councillors had recommended approval for the felling of dead trees, subject to Tree Preservation Orders, at Orchardleigh and the felling of a eucalyptus tree at the village hall. The decision was made using the out of meeting system approved in bylaws. The clerk had also written to the trees officer pointing out the amount of other work that appears to be needed at Orchardleigh and asking for identification of the trees covered by TPOs in the part of the estate within our parish.
2. Notification had been received from Mendip that the application for works to alter the road frontage and repair the steps to Hoopers Lodge and Hawthorn Lodge has been withdrawn and no further action will be taken
3. The clerk had written to Highways regarding the road surface condition and condition of verges in banks in Elm Lane and an inspection had been arranged. The road appears to have been marked up for repair
4. It is unknown whether anything had been done to help Lower Street drainage
5. Notification received of closure of Elm Lane from 13 May to 7 June for bridge work. The clerk had queried the description with "Road Closures"
6. The clerk had cancelled her booking for a clerks briefing session with SALC due to pressure of other work. There was no cost involved in this one
7. Cllr Corbett had circulated various local police reports
8. Among mail, the Rural Services Network had launched a campaign calling on the Government to develop a rural strategy. This had been circulated to councillors to make their own individual decisions on whether to respond
9. Following a previous enquiry, council was advised that the historic name for the A362 on the Frome side of the village is "Peckingtolly Hill". (Spelling of the name questionable) The meaning of the name relates to an old toll gate there

All

3514 Finance:

1. The requested precept sum of £7090 for 2019-2020 had arrived in the bank account on the previous day
2. The clerk had arranged to delay presenting the full accounts for the year from the AGM as normal to the council meeting on 20 June due to holidays and other current pressures. The internal auditor has agreed she could accommodate that and the later date was still within the regulations
3. The clerk's salary increase was approved using new pay scales which increased her level on the scale by 2.6%.for 2019-2020. As the precept calculations had allowed only for a 1% increase this would produce an overspend against estimate of £57.20
4. Dorset & Somerset Ambulance sent thanks for the £100 donation, with a personal note from the Chief Executive

*Cllr
Reckless
&Ms Short*

5. Since the last meeting the following agreed payments had been made by BACs:-
 - a. Clerks salary £738.28
 - b. PAYE £184.40
 - c. Came& Co insurance for the 2019-2020 year of £338.40
 - d. Stellasoft for computer maintenance and general help through 2018-19
This was £135 against last year £117 and Cllr Aston agreed that increase out of meeting
6. It was agreed to pay the following, by cheque or BACs as relevant, before the next meeting :-
 - a. Hall fees November to March (estimate £66)
 - b. Clerks office expenses October to March (estimate £20)
 - c. 3 maintenance grants to village organisations for 2019-2020 as also agreed previously - Village Hall £400, Playing Field £400, PCC for churchyard maintenance £250
 - d. Stellasoft for website and domain through 2019-20 - £360.

Ms Short

3515 Dates of next two meetings: Agreed as Annual Parish Meeting and Annual meeting of the Parish Council on 16 May and ordinary meeting on 20 June

This meeting closed at 8.50 pm