

## BUCKLAND DINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 27 February 2020 in the Village Hall, Buckland Dinham

**3587 Present:** Councillors, John Reckless, Alan King, Ian Blair and Sue Palmer; District Councillor Alison Barkshire; Clerk Pauline Short ; One member of the public

**3588 Apologies:** Councillor Jonathan Swift and Viv Street. Cllr King took the chair as Cllr Reckless was absent for items 3587-3591.

**3589 Minutes of the meeting on 16 January:** Minutes were agreed and signed

**3590 Co-option of a new councillor to replace ex-councillor Tucker:** Elisita Kemp was proposed as a new councillor by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Palmer and appointed unanimously. Councillor Kemp was then welcomed to join the council and she signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**3591 Code of Conduct - Declarations of Interest:** none

**Unminuted Open forum for the public and council:** Cllr Reckless joined the meeting at this point. The meeting was closed for discussion and then re-opened

#### **3592 Matters arising from the last meeting:**

1. **Update on A362 road speeds and continuing negotiations with Somerset County Council-** Cllr Reckless updated all there on a step forward in progress towards a traffic management scheme. Jeff Bunting from Somerset Highways had sent a proposed plan for a 20mph scheme that would be put to the police. Council had welcomed that step but had not agreed with all aspects of the plan and so they had put forward suggested alterations and were awaiting a response
2. **Other progress towards a traffic management scheme, including restarting a speedwatch programme, recording of local road incidents and replacement of the village owned speedvisor-** In the absence of Cllr Swift there was no update on speedwatch or recording of incidents and these still needed to be addressed. Decisions on replacement of the village owned speedvisor could not be addressed until the proposed plan had been progressed with Somerset Highways and the police
3. **Reallocation of councillors interests and responsibilities to replace those held by ex-councillors –** Cllr Kemp agreed to join Cllrs Reckless, King, Palmer and Street in the Speed and Traffic Group and Cllr Blair agreed to take on the role of neighbourhood policing liaison

#### **Action**

Cllrs  
Reckless  
King,  
Kemp  
Palmer  
Street

Cllr Swift  
& above  
list

Cllr Blair  
&  
Kemp

**3593 Matters Arising:** None

#### **3594 Clerks Report:**

1. Two planning applications had been considered by council since the last meeting and responses made to Mendip Planning as follows:-
  - a) Application for change of use of land from agriculture to allotment with greenhouse and terracing at Hoopers Lodge had been agreed by the planning group out of formal meeting as this application, except for this change of use, had been recommended for approval before. The group agreed to recommend approval but add a comment to say they felt strongly that a condition should be included to ensure that the terrace walls should be retained as local rubble walls with local stone facing to match the existing main walls to the road
  - b) The planning group, using the special arrangement in by-laws for tree

- applications, also recommended approval of tree and beech hedge pruning at Riverside Cottage. Mendip has since given approval as well
2. There has been no progress from Highways on the situation on the hill, where water is crossing the road again, or on the frequent flooding in Lower Street
  3. The clerk had reported a number of lamppost problems using the SCC on line system and all have been resolved very quickly. Council should now be encouraging our public to use the web if they can for similar minor problems on roads, fly tipping, etc etc
  4. As well as regular mail other recent mail to councillors has included:-
    - a) Planning Training dates for councillors dated 24 and 28 January
    - b) Presentation slides from Parish Forum dated 24 January
    - c) Various mails on climate change including a Climate Emergency drop in session on 3 March at Frome Town Hall
    - d) Recycling briefing with plans for the changes this summer
  5. The noticeboard renovations were progressing very slowly – largely due to weather and other work load
  6. The website still needed to be updated with councillors pictures and profiles
  7. Declaration of Interests has been submitted to the monitoring officer for Sue Palmer.

All

### **3595 Finance including agreement of the annual grant to charity:-**

1. Council discussed the annual grant of £100 to a charity. The Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance was proposed by Cllr Reckless, Seconded by Cllrs King and Kemp and agreed by all. As only one cheque signatory was present the cheque would be completed out of meeting
2. Nick Merry had reported that responsibility for insurance and maintenance of the defibrillator would be covered by Friends of Frome Hospital. That would include the regular checks on it, plus any other maintenance required, and both would be carried out by their maintenance volunteer scheme. However they would appreciate donations from the Parish Council of £100 per annum from 2020 to 2021 onwards and £50 for 2019-2020. This was unanimously agreed as already covered in next years budget
3. There was an initial discussion of ideas for content of the annual parish meeting on 14 May. As usual It was agreed to spend a small amount on light refreshments for residents attending
4. The clerk reported that The Coventry Building Society was holding more signatories than the three needed for the council and it was agreed unanimously (proposed Cllr King and seconded Cllr Blair) that this should be rectified as soon as possible.
  - a) Peter Corbett, Tamsin Aston and William Phippen, who are no longer councillors, would be removed from the list
  - b) Current signatories, Cllr Alan King and clerk Pauline Short remain,
  - c) The third signatory was agreed as the chair of the council John Reckless
5. The bank also needed a change of signatories to be done shortly (*Cllr Kemp left the meeting at this point*)
6. A BACs payment agreed at the last meeting had been paid and was signed off. This was to refund the clerk £62.17 for minor items needed for the noticeboard renovations
7. Further BACs payments would need to be paid before the April meeting and these would include:-
  - a) Clerks salary and PAYE to end of tax year
  - b) Insurance for 2020-2021. The clerk had reviewed the insurance and was waiting for the final quote. This was expected to be very little more than last years £338.40 due to the three year contract the council is in.
  - c) Stellasoft IT support for the year. Last year was £135

**3596:** Next meetings dates agreed as 2 April and 14 May. Meeting closed at 8.45pm