

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
OF BUCKLAND BREWER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2022
AT BUCKLAND BREWER METHODIST CHAPEL

Members Present: Mrs Barbara Babb, Mr Andrew Hewitt, Mr Jim Lowe, Mr Trevor Mills, Mr George Heywood and Mr David Watson

Also in attendance: One member of the public

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jo Miles

KEY: Actions are shown in bold blue type Decisions are shown in bold red type

765. Apologies for Absence Mr Richard Hooper, Mr Frits Takken, Miss Rosie Beer

766. Declarations of Interest None

767. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th October 2022:
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th October 2022 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

768. Public Participation

769. Clerk's Report

- a. Correspondence: There had been 42 items of correspondence forwarded by email and 3 by mail since the last meeting. The Clerk highlighted:
 - I. **Torridge Council:** Fire Service budget related survey and consultation. Closing date 30 November. Survey is open to everyone. Is a submission required specifically from BBPC? Options: No increase; 1% £0.92 Band D, 1.99% £0.98 BAND D; £5
 - II. **Devon Communities Together AGM:**
 - a. AGM 17th November. Councillor Watson volunteered to attend.
 - b. Survey completed re proposal to have a subscription service for social media and engagement support. Monthly subscription declined due to proposed rates and availability of information online. The former started at £100/month unless business is a start-up going up to £200/month and the latter £60 - 150 for 3 hours.
 - III. **Torridge DC:** Queried status of Emergency Plan as equipment grant has already been paid.

IV. **Avian Flu:** Legal requirement to keep birds housed and to follow strict biosecurity measures from 7th November. Notice added to website and noticeboard.

V. **Planning:** See 782

VI. **PurpleFish – Zoe Fawcett:** Followed up meeting proposal and offer of a donation. Awaiting a reply.

VII. **South West Heritage Trust:** Request for additional funding. Sent by email.

VIII. **Air Ambulance:** Amenity Field is currently offline pending consultation with pilots regarding a skip let in the field.

IX. **HELAA Sites Submission:** Forms received to amend a previous submission – all sites must be registered individually.

X. **Barclays Bank** – “Know Your Customer” questionnaire received.

- b. Progress Report re Defibrillator for Thornhillhead Sand delivered 10/10. Awaiting completion of groundworks prior to installation by an electrician.
- c. Progress Report re Adult Fitness Equipment Company has advised that the equipment without domes on the base doesn't have them – only bolt covers, which are already fitted. Formal “opening” included in fireworks event. Path from gate to be completed by the Parish Council when weather allows. Requested removal of skip as a matter of urgency.
- d. Litter bins for Amenity Field Installation to be undertaken now that the fitness equipment works are complete.

770. Fireworks Event – Summary/Learning Points

- a. Very positive public feedback received. Several comments received on the night and more messages on Facebook.
- b. Thanks also received from North Devon Hog Roast. They were very surprised by the attendance, so acknowledged service was a bit slow, but were delighted with the event.
- c. Village Hall – Hall trustees provided a bar and drinks were served from the kitchen. The Chair expressed disappointment that, aside from access to toilets, the hall itself was not opened.

771. Fitness Equipment Insurance

Existing insurance will need to be extended to cover the fitness equipment, i.e. public liability and damage cover. [Chasing an update from the insurance company.](#)

772. Remembrance Sunday – 13th November

RBL wreath has been collected.

773. Emergency Plan Meeting Confirmation – Thursday 24th November

774. Coronation of King Charles III

- a. Bank Holiday announced for the Coronation. The Parish Clerk will arrange a meeting in the New Year to seek ideas and volunteers regarding a community celebration.
- b. **Mugs: Enquiries to be made regarding price and availability of Coronation mugs.**
- c. Flagpole: Various locations and options were discussed. The PCC agreed that a temporary flagpole could be erected in the churchyard during official events only, subject to a review of the insurance implications. A permanent flagpole would require planning permission and incur significant legal and practical expense.

Decision: Unanimously agreed not to install a flagpole. 6 against 0 for

775. Fire Service Survey: Annual Council Tax Precept Survey Proposal open to all residents. Survey is largely general questions regarding the quality of service, plus level of funding increase householders consider to be reasonable for 2023/4.

776. Devon Communities AGM: Councillor Watson agreed to attend the AGM.

777. Fields & Allotments Sub-Committee: A meeting will be arranged in January.

778. Branding & Profile: Proposal shared with the council. The design encompasses geometrical shapes present in local landmarks and reference BB's farming history.

779. 2023 Budget & Planning: A draft budget is in progress. Enquiries will be made regarding the potential precept impact of new housing in 2023. Key PC dates when all Councillors will need to be present to discuss and ratify the budget prior to formal submission: 2nd Wed (11th January) to set budget, 4th Thursday (26th January) to finalise.

780. 2023 Parish Council Elections: Looking at how to encourage interest in being a parish councillor. Marketing and examples from other parishes are being reviewed.

781. Members Reports:
Dave Watson

- Youth project – Having a drop-in for year 6 – year 10 Friday 20th January to see whether there would be any support.

Trevor Mills

- Foxglove View – Queried the name given by developer instead of Yeo Lea? Alternative proposal submitted by PC. No consultation for Foxglove View.
Clerk to query with TDC
- Village Hall – Fireworks photos requested for Village Scene.
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment: Suggestion made that a height line is put on a post to discourage small children from using it. **Agreed**

Andrew Hewitt

- Salt bags have been distributed around the parish in readiness for the winter. Disappointingly some have already been removed.
- Rural Prosperity Fund opportunities: **Action: Letter to Torridge re progress of industrial units and invite Steve Sherry to December meeting to provide an update.**
- The PC has proposed purchasing a generator in case of emergency. Previously identified has already been sold.
- Hedge at bottom of amenity field requires attention. TM to obtain cost to address.
- Thornhillhead Moor – AH will invite Andrew Haywood and Councillor Rob Hicks to a future meeting.
- HELAA / Social Housing: Buckland Brewer may have land which can be built on to create more social housing. **Action: Contact TDC**
- Allotment: The position of some sheds was questioned. **Action: Allotment rules to be reviewed at the next meeting.**

Barbara Babb

- Phone box – The internal light appears to have been removed.

Jim Lowe

- Foxglove View – Signage is all over widespread area to advertise development. Concerns raised that commercial traffic will follow using unsuitable roads.
- Speed camera is now working. (AH to call Devon CC re 20mph road painting.)
- Recent correspondence confirmed that police offices had been reopened in 3 locations. Disappointed that none are in North Devon. **Action: Write to Policer Commissioner cc MP to request that one should be opened.**
- Devon CC statement re financial pressures and likelihood of governmental resetting of budgets. Concerns raised re potential loss of bus service.

George Heywood

- Hedging needs to be addressed at Back Lane. Landowners to be contacted.
- Generator identified in Bude. GH would like a feasibility study re capacity etc required for Village Hall. **Motion agreed.**

Action: Letter to R J Gilbert Orleigh Close) and RW to get permission to conduct study in BBH.

782. Planning: 1/1032/2022/FUL (1 Nov 2022) - East View, Bulkworthy Moor, Stibb Cross
Part retrospective application for the conversion of part of the existing building to
offices and welfare accommodation and replacement domestic garage

Supported Unanimously

Planning: GE/0934/2022 - Removal of RM post box. Track leading up to Bromell
Dairy Farm off Gorwood Road, EX39 5NB (241166, 120025) **Unanimously agreed**
subject to relocation - Gorwood Cross suggested.

783. Accounts:

a. Receipts and Payments for October/November 2022

i) Bank balances as at 30th October 2022 (£73,438.90):

- (1) Parish Council Current Account was £18,022.53
- (2) Thornhillhead Moor Account was £8,106.30
- (3) Savings Account was £47,310.07

ii) Fund balances as at 30th September 2022 (£73,438.90):

- (1) General Account - £54,332.60
- (2) Thornhill Head Account - £19,106.30

iii) Payments for October/November 2022 (Since last meeting: £9439.32 + VAT)

- P G Blossie, October salary - £636.64 (including £121.30 PAYE and expenses)
- J Miles, October salary - £1281.96 (inc £112.20 PAYE and expenses)
- W Ainscough, October salary - £146.52 (inc £29.30 PAYE)
- British Gas, electricity - £12.47 + VAT
- D Aldis, Allotment Deposit Refund - £62.50
- Fresh-Air Fitness - £7418.00 + VAT (2nd instalment)
- M J Baker, Grass cutting - £1050
- DALC, AGM/Conference - £162
- BBHG, Bookings - £31.98
- Richard Hooper, mileage - £28.20
- Royal British Legion, wreath/Grant - £50

iv) Receipts for October/November 2022 (£0)

(1)

The Parish Clerk highlighted that the balance of the general account will be very low (c
£2.3k) after all cheques have been paid. **Action: Field rents and other income due between
now and year end to be assessed and a YTD budget summary to be provided. The PC
agreed that £20k should be transferred from the savings account immediately to cover
expenditure for the rest of the year.**

**The payment schedule was proposed by Councillor David Watson, seconded by Councillor
Jim Lowe. The schedule was approved unanimously.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10 pm

Dates of Future Meetings:

Emergency Plan Meeting Thursday 24th November (7pm Methodist Church)

Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 14th December (7pm Methodist Church)

Signed as a true record:

: **Date:**